

---

# Building Blocks of Agile

Make your deadlines, finish in your budget,  
and build a team that works together



David Leonard (@davidleonardii)  
Frontend Developer  
Code for America

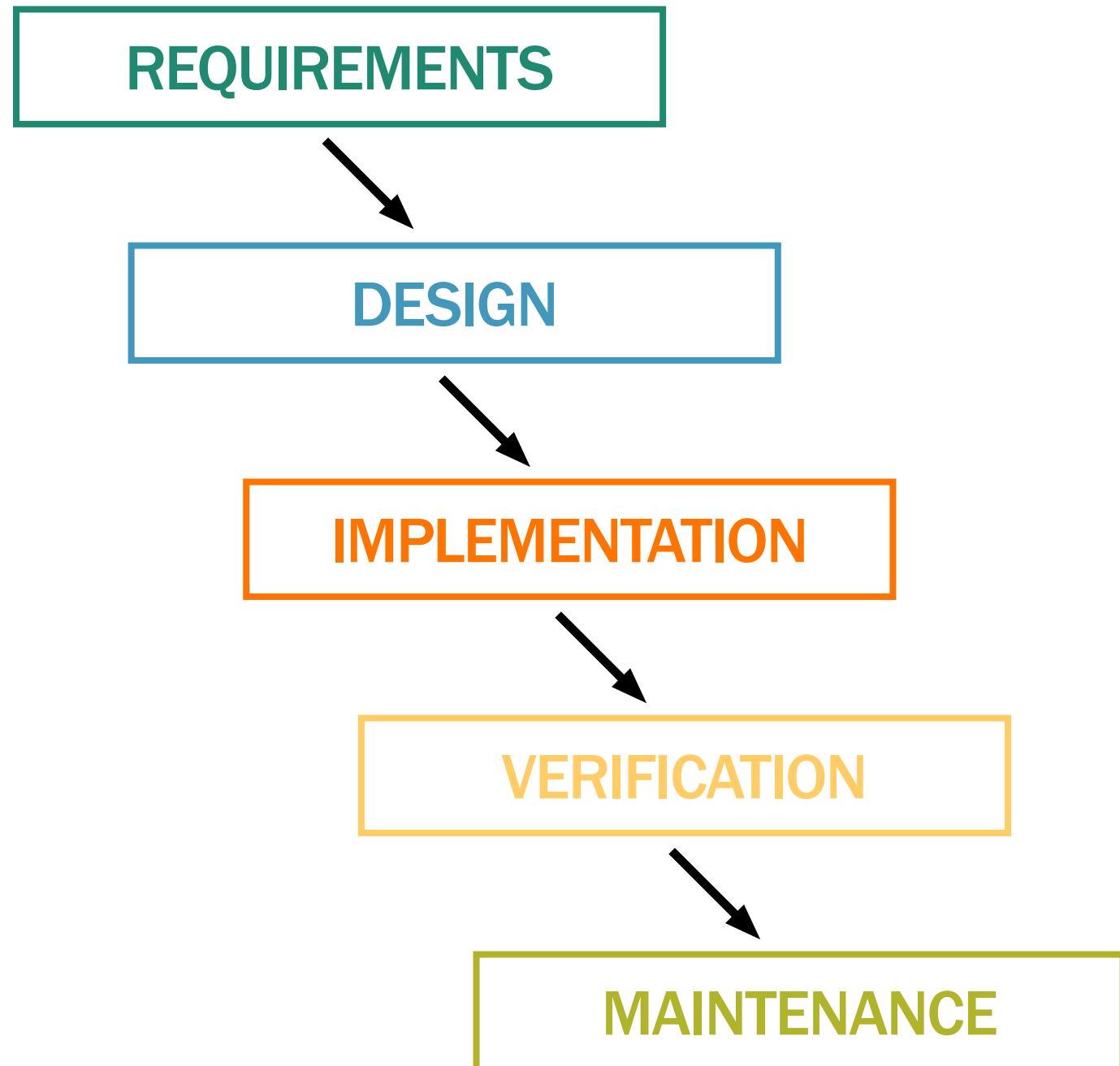


Amy Mok (@amymok)  
Software Developer  
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

---

# Waterfall Model

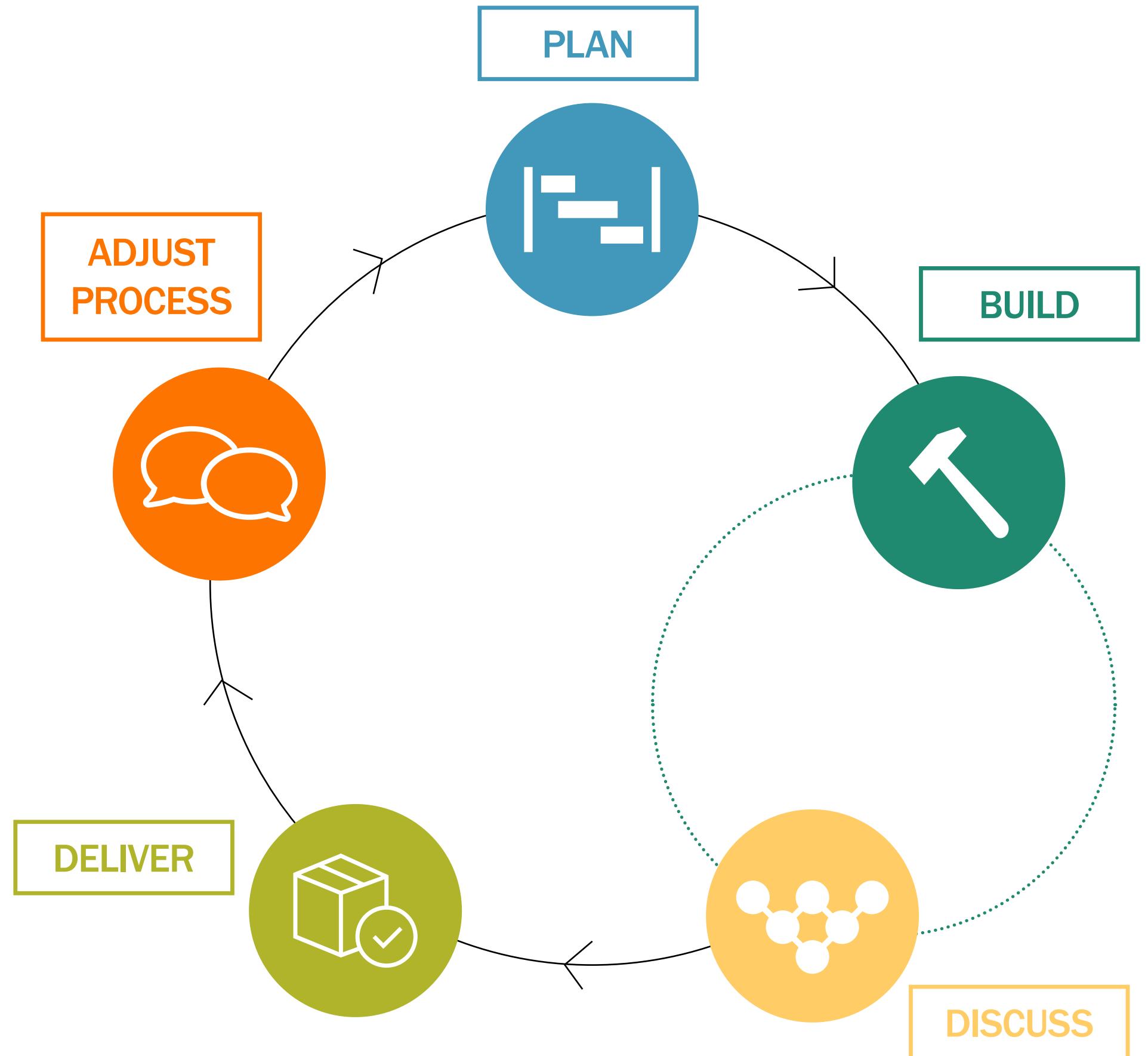
- \_ Sequential design process
- \_ Progress flows downward



---

# Agile Model

- \_ Flexible cycle of steps
- \_ Embrace and respond to change



---

# Waterfall

---

# Agile

---

## SCOPE

\_ Full scopes are known at the beginning of a project

\_ Scope is flexible, focus instead on goal you want to accomplish

---

## USER

\_ User is involved only in requirements and delivery phases

\_ User is constantly involved and collaborated with

---

## SCHEDULE

\_ Tasks and deliverables are rigidly scheduled for project up front

\_ Delivery date known up front, work is scoped in small chunks

---

## CHANGES

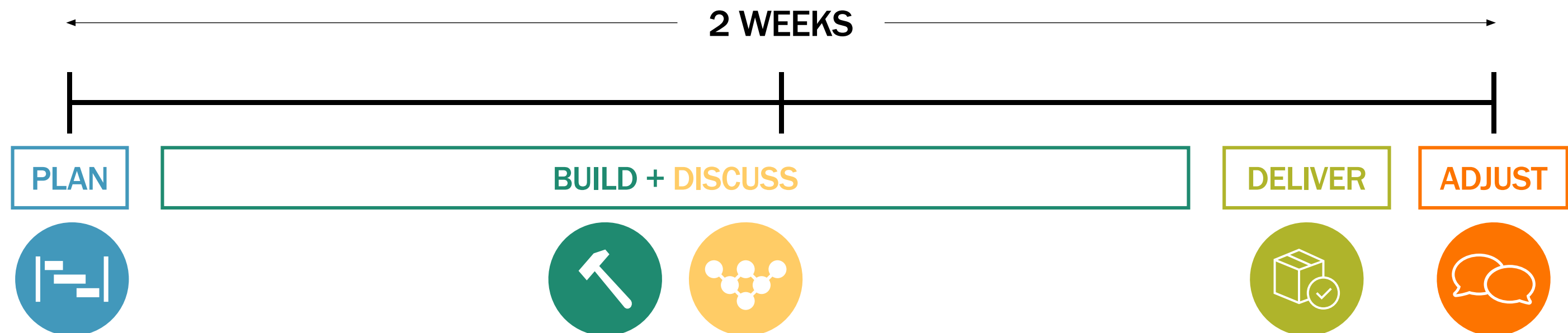
\_ Scope changes are slow and difficult to respond to

\_ Scope can be adjusted based on needs from the user

---

# Using Agile

- \_ Divide work into time chunks, deliver working product at the end
- \_ Over communicate
- \_ Know your user
- \_ Engage your team
- \_ Focus on output



---

# Terms

\_ User stories

\_ Backlog

\_ Roles

## User stories

\_ Describes what the user needs to accomplish

\_ Ex: As a homeowner, I want to apply for a permit so I can get permission to add a new room on my home

---

# Terms

- \_ User stories

- \_ Backlog

- \_ Roles

## Backlog

- \_ A list of user stories

- \_ All together, this list describes the features in your end product

---

# Terms

\_ User stories

\_ Backlog

\_ Roles

## Roles

\_ User: Internal client or resident who needs something

\_ Product owner: Liason between the user and team building something

^ Translate user needs into user stories

\_ Agile team: The team that builds something to solve user needs



---

# You're the Agile Team

\_ Your task:

Build a phone stand with legos.

\_ User:

An on-the-go professional who needs to be able to see their phone on their desk more easily while they work.

\_ Product owner:

David and Amy, who talk to the user

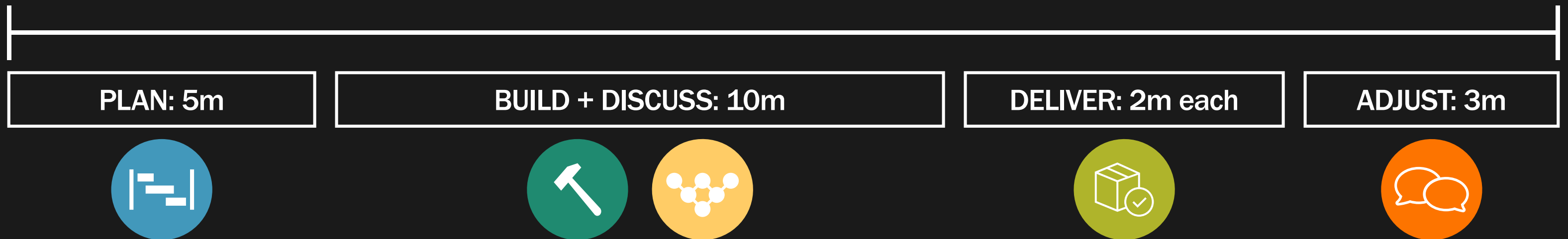
\_ Backlog:

^ As an office worker, I want a phone stand so I can use my phone more easily

^ As a mobile office worker, I want my stand to be sturdy and not fragile so it doesn't fall apart when I move it

---

# How It Will Work



---

# Thanks for coming

Slides and notes <http://c4a.me/legos>

And thanks to Zac Cohn and Dave Zvenyach from 18F for inspiring the legos exercise.



David Leonard (@davidleonardii)  
Frontend Developer  
Code for America



Amy Mok (@amymok)  
Software Developer  
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau