BoF - Front End session summary

12/12/19

Summary:

Topic discussed

- Creating new rules, supporting new things, extending Bazel macro
- Migrating FE devs without disrupting them too much - Wix is concerned their Frontend developers will get stuck and require too much hand-holding to be able to switch to Bazel workflow
- Some companies want a Bazel-idiomatic workflow even if that affects the frontend developer use cases
- Projects using legacy builds eg. using gulp (outside-in)
- Source of truth package.json, using code generation like Gazelle to create Bazel rules from it
- "yarn workspaces" model of nested package.json
- Bundling performance at scale - use webpack?
- JS ecosystem depends on having things in a certain location
- Dealing with unused dependencies

Specific Requests and Action Items

- Support for yarn workspaces, generally allowing packages to declare dependencies to the package manager rather than hoist them all, or install separate external workspaces for them
- Support for workflows using "scripts" declared in the package.json, directly reusing these in Bazel
- Use frozen lockfiles and npm ci use case (error if package lockfile out-of-date)