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To: Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov
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Subject: From streetlights to vibrant downtown / How to build engagement / New STEM strategies

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In Kansas City, what started with streetlights is now a **downtown worth salivating over**. There's a new **recipe for building citizen engagement**. And want to give kids a great education? **Get them out of class**.

Now you're caught up,
Jesse

150 experts want to help your city. Have you made your plans to join us for Smart Cities Week, September 27-29 in Washington, D.C.? More than 150 speakers and advisors have helped us develop a can't-miss program that will help your city become more connected, sustainable and compassionate. Register today.

Why Kansas City leaders want a smart city (and how they're doing it). When Kansas City moved forward in May with a smart city pilot project, city leaders went with a small section of the city's core area because they wanted to be sure it worked before committing to a more ambitious smart city upgrade. Read the story for details on phase two, which will add new services and expand the area covered.

Citizen engagement in the digital age: What works? Engaged citizens are at the very heart of what it means to be a smart city. In the first of a three-part series, we take a look at what works for crafting your own strategies to build engagement.

Developing the smart city workforce: It doesn't always happen in the classroom. CH2M, the Nature Conservancy and a Pennsylvania high school have won a prestigious mentoring award for a program they developed to teach STEM skills to students. But the important part of the story is what the program is accomplishing and how it and others like it can contribute to the skilled work force smart cities need. Click for details.

Donation platform gives Chicago renters an easy way to support a local nonprofit. Amazon has its AmazonSmile program; grocers often ask for charitable contributions at checkout. Now owners of Chicago's largest rental property are making it easy for their residents to donate to charity when they pay their rent. Click for details (and share them with rental property owners in your town).

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