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Subject: Special Theme Edition: Lessons and opportunities from Smart Cities Week

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More than 1,500 leaders took a giant step forward to advancing cities this week at our second-annual Smart Cities Week. Both the **Council and the federal government** announced new investments in cities. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx delivered an **impassioned plea for inclusiveness**. Experts shared **international success stories, tips and winning traits**, as well as strategies for leveraging **microgrids** and **communication networks**.

Now let's get to work,
Jesse

How the Council and federal government are investing to make cities smarter. The Smart Cities Council and federal government kicked off Smart Cities Week with announcements of new investments to help cities leverage smart cities technologies. Learn about the White House's new \$80 million dollar investment and how you can get one of the five Smart Cities Council challenge grants.

Don't waste this opportunity: You can make transportation inclusive. U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx says it's time for a transportation revolution. The U.S. hasn't had one in a half-century. And for the first time in our history, we have the opportunity to make our new system inclusive from the start. Learn more.

The world comes to Washington to talk smart cities. A panel of international experts came to Washington, D.C. to share smart cities progress in far-flung regions. Click for a few quick insights from smart cities practitioners from Dubai to India, Australia, Japan and Europe.

4 ideas to jumpstart your smart cities transformation. In any transformation, the first step is often the most difficult one. At Smart Cities Week, technology leaders from all levels of government offered great advice for getting started and making your initiatives successful. Read on for their top four tips.

What you can learn from the world's top cities. What do the world's most successful cities have in common? It turns out they share four key traits. Simone Brody, executive director of Bloomberg Philanthropies, shared them with leaders at Smart Cities Week and you can see her advice through the link.

Why microgrids will be essential for smart cities. Microgrids aren't quite center stage yet, but they will be critical to ensuring the strong, reliable electric networks smart cities and their all-important communications systems will depend on in the not-so-distant future. Read our dispatch from Smart Cities Week to learn more about the role microgrids will likely have in our energy future.

How do you build a solid communications network (and build value on top of it)? A city can't be smart without a resilient, strong communications network to tie it together. But how does a city go about deciding the right path to success? Read the story to get advice on the topic from some of the experts speaking at Smart Cities Week.

Promoting innovation in our cities – risks and all. Innovation involves risks – but innovation is also improving our communities. That message came through loud and clear at a Connected Cities event hosted by the Washington Post and Qualcomm.

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