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Smart Cities Now

The world's go-to source for smart city news & trends

Special Theme Edition:
Build the city your citizens want

5 keys to delivering the city (or state) your citizens want

As Illinois embarks on a journey to become America's first smart state, it got valuable advice through a Smart States event about how to identify and build people-centered solutions, which is at the heart of governance. Read on for five tips that you can put to work as you craft your own strategies.

Planning your smart city projects? Don't forget who they're for

Citizen engagement — city residents participating in the decisions that affect their lives and future — is an essential part of smart city planning. But if you're a little fuzzy on its importance, read what the deputy mayor of a mid-sized city said about the benefits of doing it well and the possible consequences of doing it poorly or not at all. We also share some tools to help you get to know your citizens better.

Disaster built this community (but the tips work for everyone)

Can you imagine building a community master plan in just three months? Constitucion, Chile, did it and the results are something truly to behold. While disaster gave it the sense of urgency, its approach and the tactics it used are worth considering to build engagement even if times are good in your city.

Organizing your smart city: how one Canadian community found its way

The Canadian city of St. Albert has numerous smart city services and projects in place and an ambitious goal of becoming a "smart city centre of excellence." But in the beginning there was no plan of action, no roadmap to guide St. Albert's smart city transition. If your city is planning a smart city transformation, St. Albert's experience and how its city leaders chose to proceed may give you some ideas you can use.

Effective data governance helps you reduce

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costs and be more transparent

To govern effectively and earn the public's trust, government has to be transparent. But how do you share everything you can while protecting what you must? Learn how an effective data governance strategy helps you cut your costs while better serving the public.

Smart Cities Readiness Guide

How do you build an effective governance plan? The Council's Smart Cities Readiness Guide, now available as a web-based resource, shows you how. It's full of ideas, best practices and case studies that will help you plan your smart cities initiatives, get the most from them and chart their success.