From: Jesse Berst <chairman@smartcitiescouncil.com>

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Subject: Self-driving cars? Not so fast / Urban farming the Microsoft way / Healthier cities courtesy ICT

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Updates on smart city progress around the globe

NEWS & TRENDS

Will self-driving cars solve your city's traffic woes? There's a lot of appeal in self-driving cars – and also a lot of hype about how soon we'll see them. A new IBM survey of auto industry execs found considerable skepticism about fully autonomous vehicles being commonplace on your city's streets any time soon. Click for the details. MORE >>

How ICT promotes healthier populations: A Danish craftsman losing his sight inspired a free app that connects blind people with sighted volunteers via live video chat. In Indiana, data analytics helped pinpoint why the state's infant mortality rate is so high. Cisco is showcasing how the IoT is an ally in the battle against breast cancer. Read about these fascinating strides in smart healthcare. MORE >>

Get bright ideas for your city in Smart Street Lighting 101
Our new eBooklet highlights case studies on street lighting initiatives from cities around the world. For example, you'll read how the Canadian city of Ottawa installed a light pole-mounted surveillance system in a park riddled with vandalism and illegal drug use. Once up and running, the number of calls to police about park problems fell to zero. Download your copy now >>

PILOTS & PROJECTS

Urban farming? Microsoft shows how it's done: The tech giant's Redmond, Washington campus is almost like a city unto itself and the company says its dining hall experiment in hydroponic farming is all about offering its "citizens" healthy foods that make them happy and productive. It's a lesson in sustainability that real cities may want to study. MORE >>

Serving up fuel and fish: A research project in Abu Dhabi proposes to create a closed system that uses seawater to raise fish and shrimp for food, and then circulate the wastewater to fertilize plants rich in oils that can be harvested for aviation biofuel production. CH2M HILL did the design work. MORE >>

POINT OF VIEW

What charities really need: As cities look for help to solve tough community problems, a cash donation to a local charity may not be the best approach. See why UST Global executives say that engagement is what really matters in building more sustainable communities. MORE >>

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JESSE'S PICKS

Toward a circular economy

I saw a tweet the other day with a great quote attributed to Itron CEO Philip Mezey during a DistribuTech speech: *"Waste is what you have when you run out of imagination."* Isn't he so right? And that's my segue to a brief video we just posted from Veolia about work they're doing in Rostock, Germany to convert a billion plastic bottles a year into granulate that's being used to make new bottles. That's a lot of bottles landfills aren't getting. Imagine if cities everywhere did the same.
Watch the video >>

SMART CITY EVENTS

2.17: GreenBiz 2015 -- Phoenix

2.20: Smart Cities Summit 2015: From Concept to Reality – Mumbai

3.3: India Smart Grid Week-- Bangalore

Get details on these and

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