CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

CITIZENS AND GOVERNMENTS WORKING TOGETHER

Municipalities are initiating smart technology programs to broaden civic participation, foster economic development, efficiently manage public services and improve the lives of people living in their communities.

GROWING NEIGHBORHOODS ONE SOLUTION AT A TIME

Connected communities can be hyperlocal—as small as one residential building—or larger-scale deployments that encompass an entire neighborhood. The new technology solutions used can promote economic development and civic engagement by improving public safety and infrastructure, while also providing better transportation and public utility management.

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SOLUTIONS FOR CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

Connected communities create a healthier, happier and more engaged population. Typically, sensors connected to networks are used to monitor activity such as traffic flow, parking space availability, utility usage and public streetlight management. The data the sensors collect can be analyzed to drive efficiencies and help municipal planners make better decisions regarding long-term planning.

With greater connections to municipal leadership and services, as well as local healthcare centers and schools, residents and businesses can interact more easily with more people across the entire community.

The solutions deployed allow for customization of services for specific community needs. If, for example, there are many seniors in a community, smart traffic signals can be programmed to allow more time for pedestrians to cross busy intersections. These customizations can be continually refined as data is received and analyzed.

GREATER INTERCONNECTIVITY CAN TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES

Perhaps the most important aspect of connected communities is that citizens gain unprecedented access to municipal leaders, enabling direct communication and new ways for citizens to have their voices heard through online forums and feedback channels.

Connected communities also foster innovation, by providing data and measurable outcomes that can be used to improve existing services. For example, municipalities can analyze data to formulate a better balance between development and environmental preservation.

Connecting schools, hospitals and other resources can help citizens get the care they need and provide easier access to social services. Education—and resulting employment opportunities—can also be expanded as local technology-driven schools offer new ways of learning.

As communities continue to grow, they face increasingly complex challenges. By leveraging technology, connected communities can find practical solutions to conserve energy, optimize water and power resources and reduce environmental impact. Minimizing traffic congestion and improving waste management will attract new residents and increase economic opportunities, creating stable communities that can last for generations.

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