

8 Must-Dos for a Successful Smart City Deployment

Launching a successful smart city initiative requires, at the highest level, expanded system design, up-to-date technology, and active stakeholder involvement – including not just city officials, but your citizens, as well. Drilling down deeper, smart city technology initiatives have some specific key requirements. Here are eight must-dos for a successful smart city deployment.

✓ 1. Connect Intelligently

Intelligent connectivity is a combination of high-speed wired and wireless networking (including 5G), broadband internet connectivity, and devices that can intelligently buffer data to optimize network bandwidth usage. For successful smart city deployment, develop a sound networking plan and verify your infrastructure can handle it. Make sure to document the planned intelligent use of your existing network infrastructure and any new infrastructure you plan to add as the project progresses.

✓ 2. Scale Simply

Your city will inevitably grow. Consequently, you'll need a technology infrastructure that's expandable and easily manageable even as it grows many times over. Have a vision of what you want your smart city infrastructure to evolve into and document how the solution you're considering today will satisfy not only current needs, but this future vision, as well.



✓ 3. Ensure Device and System Interoperability

Simply stated, interoperability is the ability of two or more components or systems to exchange and use information. When launching a smart city initiative, you'll want to identify the immediate interoperability requirements. For example, do you want your citizens to be able to receive available parking space information, report service issues like potholes, and track a child's school bus? Such applications require reliable real-time information exchange between many devices, systems, and citizen mobile smartphones and tablets. Work out and document how these interoperability needs will be addressed by current and/or near-future product capabilities.

✓ 4. Use an Open Systems Architecture

With an open architecture, you can quickly and affordably modify and extend your system's functionality to meet your specific needs. Creative, strategic infrastructure design is particularly key to elevating citizen and visitor experiences.



5. Glean Actionable Data and Analytics

To rank your community among the world's smart cities, you need actionable data and insights to improve things like mobility, healthcare, security, water, waste, and citizen engagement. Case in point: New York, which is continually recognized for its smart city initiatives, launched a program that placed hundreds of smart sensors and a low-power wide-area network throughout several business districts. Collected data helps manage trash pickup; waste containers fitted with sensors monitor when the cans are full and relay that information to disposal crews.



6. Implement a Data Governance Program

Data governance refers to the people, processes, and technology used to manage and make proper use of an organization's data. Data governance assures that cities achieve their data confidentiality, data integrity, and information availability goals, enabling confident decision making, improving planning, and optimizing staff effectiveness.



7. Security Fault Tolerance

Smart cities expect their security applications to be fully functioning and accessible 24/7. A true cloud application offers the kind of compute, data storage, and networking redundancy, as well as computing fault tolerance best suited for a city's emergency response capabilities. Be sure to engineer end-to-end fault tolerance in smart city technology deployments. Also, specify fault tolerance as a requirement for any data sources or systems integrations your technology deployment will depend on for real-time operations.



8. Be Future Ready

Future readiness is achieved through the key requirements in this checklist, and the product and system capabilities that fully support them. In addition, you should expect manufacturers' commitment to continuous product advancement and dedication to maximizing product and service value. Future readiness also includes engineering the means for current deployments to accommodate planned and likely future integrations.

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