What is a smart city?

Look for new apps that add business value and social impact.

Choose your first use case carefully. Then extend your solution to new areas and applications that improve the lives of your citizens.

Prioritize high-value use cases for AI and IoT deployment. Even if you have enough time to take action, don’t wait until you have all the resources. Start on a modest scale.

AI’s potential to increase efficiencies with automated processes. Citizens can receive alerts in real-time. For example, license plate recognition can reduce traffic congestion at choke points.

Reduced costs and optimized business processes. Citizens can access services even when their government is closed.

What can AI and IoT do for you?

By 2020, in 30% of smart city implementations, artificial intelligence (AI) will become a critical component of smart city solutions. By 2021, government organizations will invest at least $80 billion in smart city solutions.

Chart: What is a smart city? Chart created by Microsoft based on Gartner research.

Some AI technologies are immature. Some technology choices are overwhelming. Test new technologies in a project that can provide business value quickly. Be sure to manage technology risks.

Think big but start small

Share the long-term vision for your city, but start on a modest scale. Be sure to manage technology risks and department leaders to create a roadmap for the future. Underpromise, overdeliver. Take a look at the resources you have and make the right choices.

Explore the full potential of AI

Ready. Set. Grow.

To explore the full potential of AI and IoT with smart cities, read the report, "Three Rules When Using AI to Add Value to Your IoT Smart Cities," by Milly Xiang. Gartner research shows that by 2021, government organizations will invest at least $80 billion in smart city solutions.

Learn more about how smart cities can add business value and social impact. Explore the full potential of AI with Microsoft. Powering AI and IoT with smart cities. Ready. Set. Grow.

A smart city uses information and communication technologies to improve the health, safety, efficiency, and overall quality of life for its citizens. To do so, it needs robust business processes, which every city government. But where do you start? The answer: place the highest priority on initiatives that accomplish both.

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