

Miami-Dade is selected for Smart Cities Initiative

First in Florida

Miami-Dade County has been selected as one of 10 spotlight "cities" across the country - and the first in Florida - where AT&T is deploying its Smart Cities framework. Miami-Dade is on the cutting edge of innovation by using technology solutions to address public policy issues. Solutions could range from smart lighting and Wi-Fi to tools like gun fire detection technology to enhance public safety and digital signage to improve public transportation. Other spotlight "cities" include Atlanta, Chapel Hill, NC, Chicago, Dallas, and Montgomery County (MD). Florida is the third largest state in the country and Miami-Dade is the largest county with a population of 2.7 million.

The announcement was discussed at eMerge Americas where Beacon Council President & CEO Larry K. Williams led a panel discussion during the Government Innovation Summit entitled, Cities Made Smarter with Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez and Mike Zeto, General Manager and Executive Director of AT&T Smart Cities. The panel focused on issues that enable economic development and how communities can use data to improve the well-being of residents.

"This announcement is one more step in Miami-Dade being recognized among the great communities of the world," The Beacon Council President & CEO Larry K. Williams said. "With its large, diverse population and welcoming business-friendly environment, Miami is a model community for companies like AT&T to explore all the possibilities of the Smart Cities initiative. We applaud the County for its forward thinking policies which embrace the Smart Cities concept."

The Beacon Council also hosted a program this week, "Accelerating Smart Cities", with the FIU Jean Monnet Center of Excellence and representatives from the European Union visiting Miami for eMerge.

According to AT&T Smart Cities initiative, in the future, traffic lights will help to reduce idling in traffic jams by communicating with connected cars about trouble spots; lampposts will detect flood zones and air quality; and leaks in city water pipes will be detected and corrected faster to prevent water waste. For example:

* Intelligent lighting, water, parking, energy grid and public transport management solutions enable cities to remotely monitor and control public assets. With this capability, cities can save money, preserve natural resources, and build better relationships with their citizens.

* Pay-As-You-Go to Save Energy - Utility companies are beginning to adopt Internet of Things (IoT) technology. With IoT, they can give users real-time information on usage and the option to prepay their bill. Homeowners can then monitor usage reports and make on-the-spot decisions to save energy and money.

* Monitor Pipelines to Conserve Water - Using sensors and acoustic technology we can detect water pressure, temperature and leaks to help cities make more informed decisions and extend the life of their water systems. They also get a complete view of past, present and potential future performance.

* Manage Street Lights Remotely - Smart lighting lets maintenance crews remotely manage a city's entire street lighting system. An app shows every faulty street light in a city. Maintenance crews no longer waste time and fuel driving around town to find and replace broken bulbs.

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