# Creating and Nurturing a Smart City Ecosystem

Rob Phocas Director, Energy & Sustainability Charlotte, NC

## "Team Work makes the Dream Work" Stevie Wonder

- A Smart City cannot be just about Data and Technology
- Needs to be about People, about Quality of Life for Citizens
  - What do people want?
  - Who will make it happen?
- Smart City = Community
- Does "Smart City" replace "Sustainable City?"

### Building the Smart City EcoSystem

- Ecosystem: a system, or a group of interconnected elements, formed by the interaction of a community of organisms with their environment.
- **Mutualism:** A type of symbiosis where both species benefit from the interaction.
- Smart: using a broad, integrated approach to improving the efficiency of city operations, the quality of life for its citizens, and growing the local economy. Data and technology form the fundamental platform.

### Smart City Wheel





### **Envision Charlotte**

A unique Public Private Plus partnership building a smart city that will lead to the most sustainable urban core in the country. Using data & technology to find efficiencies that will reduce the cost of doing business in Charlotte while driving reductions in Energy, Water, Waste and Air Pollution.





## Energy Program Goal – 20% reduction in energy use

**Partners**: Duke Energy; Verizon; Cisco.

## 16% Reduction in energy use!





### Water Program



**CH2MHILL**®

- •Equipment Installed
- •Baseline to be set
- •Programs to be implemented









### **Envision Charlotte: Energy**

ENERGY, CHARLOTTE, LOCAL, ENVISION, UPTOWN, ECONOMY



### **Envision Charlotte: Water**

#### ENERGY, WATER, ENVISION, CHARLOTTE, LOCAL



- Launched June 1, 2015 during the Global Cities Teams Challenge Event.
- Eight cities from Europe, U.S. and Asia announced their commitment to build a coalition.
- Coalition aims to involve local and regional authorities, universities, research organizations, NGO's and businesses to voluntarily commit to share smart city and community solutions.
  - Solutions that have shown real tangible economic and societal benefits.
- Through new partnerships within the Global Smart City and Communities Coalition, these solutions can accelerate smart city and smart community deployments around the world.

### **Charlotte Smart City Cabinet**

• Vision: Charlotte, North Carolina is recognized as a global smart city leader using innovation, partnerships & collaboration, data science, and technology to improve the quality of life and economic opportunity for all citizens.

• *Mission: Proactively applying innovation, technology and data to enhance, transform and improve citizen services.* 

## Charlotte Smart City Cabinet

### Goals & Objectives:

- Achieve internal efficiencies between departments by providing ready access to City departmental operational data;
- Use data to improve and enhance the City's portfolio of services;
- Support the City's strategic initiative for *Citizen Engagement* by providing citizens with open, transparent access to public data;
- Support the City's High Growth Entrepreneurship Strategy by enabling civic technologists and other parties to leverage public data for new products, services and markets; and
- Integrate and participate with the larger external smart city effort in Charlotte.

# Charlotte Community Smart City Cabinet

Key Components for a Successful Smart City Ecosystem

- Organizational Support –visionary leadership & champion(s) to create a smart city road map and foster cross-entity communication, coordination and alignment.
- Focus Areas- energy, water, transportation, citizen services, etc.
- Data & Technology- Building a modernized infrastructure to allow for data collection, analytics, reporting and smart city technology applications in focus areas.
- Education Building the infrastructure & curriculum from cradle to cap and gown in STEM.

# Charlotte Community Smart City Cabinet

Key Components for a Successful Smart City Ecosystem

- Financial Resources- funding for short and long term projects through a variety of resources.
- Economic Development- pioneering new system models that will change business development and fuel economic growth.
- Citizen Engagement- empowerment through smart technology applications to facilitate citizen's access to resources and services. Conquering the digital divide.
- Marketing letting community know of the opportunities to participate and benefit & looking for national/international partners.





## Conclusion

- Smart City has to be more than just data & technology
- Must include citizens & entities
- Build an ecosystem as the platform to host your smart city
- What will you put on that platform? What pillars?
- How to make it sustainable? Where are the resources from?
- Don't reinvent the wheel
- Team Work makes the Dream Work



# **Questions/Comments?**

### **Contact Information**

Robert Phocas, JD, MEM, LEED AP Energy & Sustainability Manager City of Charlotte 704-336-7558 rphocas@charlottenc.gov

www.envisioncharlotte.com www.power2charlotte.com www.envisionamerica.org

