



THE CODE FOR SMART COMMUNITIES

Scoping Paper
July 2017

Smart**Cities**Council®
Australia New Zealand

About the Council

We are the world's largest network of smart cities companies, practitioners and policy makers, embracing technology, data, and intelligent design to accelerate liveability, workability, and sustainability in our cities and towns.

About this Scoping Paper

This scoping paper provides information about the Council's aspiration to develop The Code for Smart Communities, a tool for catalysing smart community and precinct development.

The purpose of this scoping paper is to engage, and seek feedback. This paper is the start, tell us what you think.

Our Partners

The Council is fortunate to have a range of partners supporting this exciting project. Additional partners will be announced in the coming months.

Strategic Partner



green building council australia

The GBCA is Australia's leading authority on shaping a sustainable built environment, and global leader in the development of frameworks and certification tools for market transformation.

Technical Partner



Place Design Group is one of Australia's leading planning and design practices shaping cities and communities across Asia-Pacific, with a commitment to embracing technology and data as a catalyst for urban transformation.

Why are we developing the Code?

Without definition, anything is success. Without this Code, any community could be a smart community.

This is why the Code is so important. It will provide definition, guidance, boundaries, and support. Without which, we cannot make the greatest impact possible in shaping the communities of the future.

And this is needed more than ever, as the smart cities marketplace emerges as a force for helping shape cities to be more liveable, workable, and sustainable.



Who is the Code for?

The Code for Smart Communities is a reference document for local government and the urban development industry, first and foremost.

It is also a resource for those who have significant influence over the outcomes of how we develop our communities, and what we develop.

This includes state government planners, designers and policy makers, developers of all sectors (public, private and non-profit), and the deep value chain of product and service providers that are engaged in urban development.

This ecosystem of stakeholders shapes the investments we make in vertical and horizontal infrastructure, and the places and spaces in between. They are responsible for service and program delivery, and asset management. They help create the conditions for human development.

Ultimately, and most importantly, citizens will be the beneficiary of the Code.

And having a common language for smart communities is therefore important if we are to shape the best possible communities for our citizens, both now and next.

What do we mean by 'Community'?

We are of the view that neighbourhoods, precincts and districts are the building blocks of cities. If these 'communities' are smart, and sustainable, only then can we have smart and sustainable cities.

The Code is seeking to influence multiple development types, including greenfield master planned communities, existing neighbourhoods, and brownfield redevelopment sites.

...and what about the meaning of 'Code'?

Don't get too distracted by the word itself, but rather embrace the idea around it - a document that provides definition, and guidance.

It is also important to note that the Code is being developed as a voluntary, best practice tool.

What's the Code trying to achieve?

The objectives of the Code are to:

- Establish a common language for government, private sector, and community stakeholders on the definition and scope of a smart community
- Provide guidance to policy makers and project planners and developers on the core outcomes a smart community should aspire to achieve
- Provide a suite of goals, principles, and metrics that can be used in shaping smart technology solutions and data management investments for urban development projects

What might be in the Code?

Documents of this kind often provide an overall framework for the subject matter, along with a more detailed level of definition. The Code will provide this for the concept of a smart community.

We know the smart cities lexicon includes a range of ideas and issues important to its success, such as:

- Smart cities are about people
- Technology is the enabler, not the driver
- Digital disruption is transforming almost everything
- Digital democracy must be a core goal
- The smart cities 'verticals' are diverse, including water, waste, energy, transportation, finance and payments, health, safety and security, agriculture, and more
- Leadership and governance is a critical success factor, and a necessary investment
- Procurement and lack of funding are considered some of the biggest barriers to effective implementation of smart cities strategies

What do you think should be in the Code?

How can technology and data benefit our urban development practices?

What urban development outcomes should guide the Code?

How can this Code help embrace equity and inclusion within our communities?

YOU'RE INVITED

Keen to get involved?

There are three options:

1. Join a studio session and engage with other peers to help scope the Code;
2. Join the reviewer panel, and be on stand-by to provide feedback; and/or
3. Demonstrate your leadership and associate your brand with the Code by becoming a sponsor.

If you are interested in any of these options, contact Adam Beck on:
+61 (0)422 496 043 or adam.beck@anz.smartcitiescouncil.com



@smartcitiesanz

www.anz.smartcitiescouncil.com





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