

A GLOBAL TELEPRESENCE CONVERSATION ON SMART CITIES

AMSTERDAM - DETROIT - SAN JOSE - BOSTON

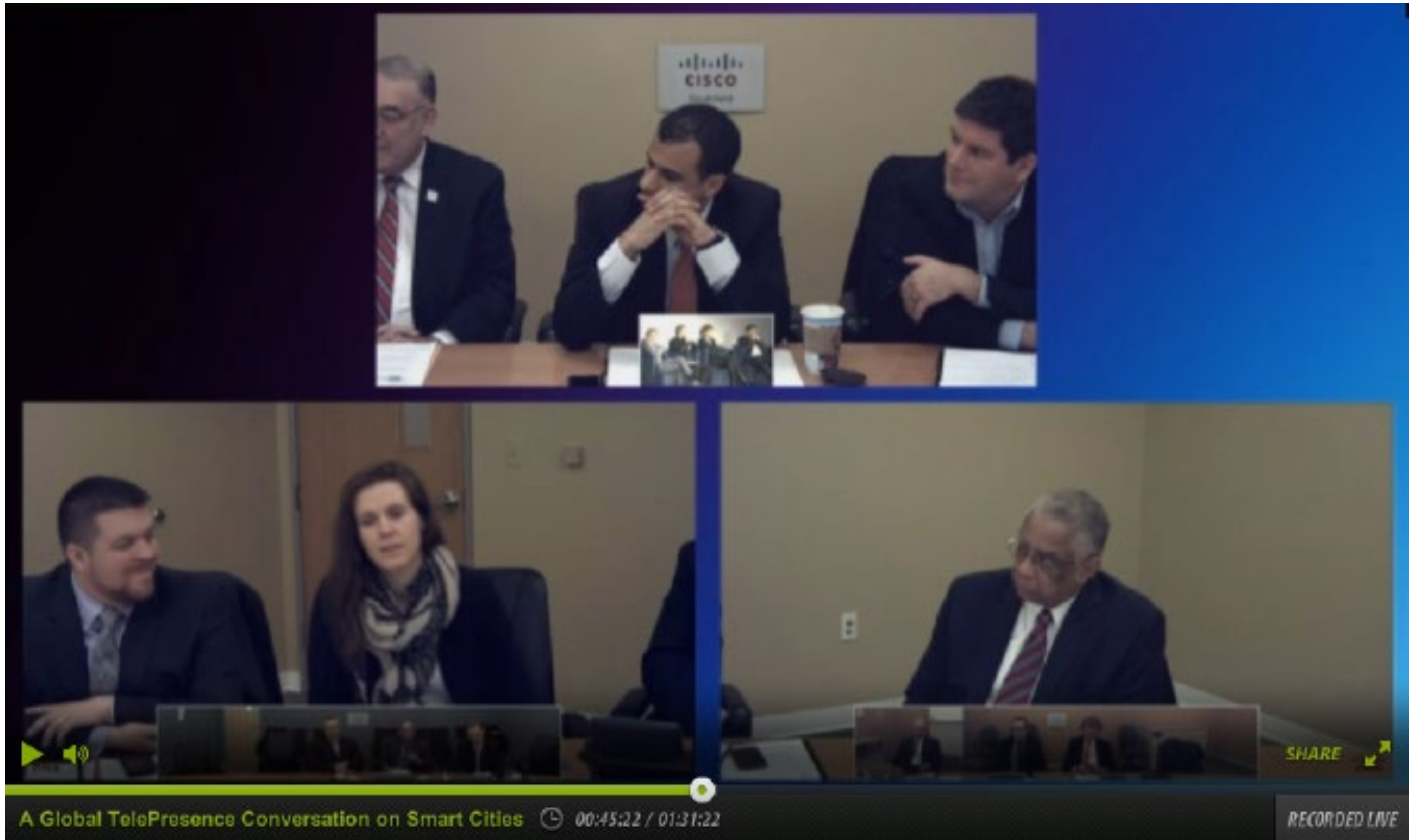


Bring international experts in > they take new ideas home with them > globalizing great urban ideas #cityminded

[@MaureenMcLeod66](#)

Meeting of the Minds
An initiative of Urban Age Institute

A GLOBAL TELEPRESENCE CONVERSATION ON SMART CITIES



For an archive recording of this event, please visit:

CityMinded.org/Dec-11

Are Smart Cities Real?

On December 11th, 2013, **Meeting of the Minds**, in collaboration with the **City of Amsterdam** and **Cisco Systems**, organized a ninety-minute TelePresence conversation with urban sustainability leaders from Amsterdam, San Jose, Boston and Detroit to share best practices, challenges and opportunities related to smart cities. A live audience of 100+ participants joined the event in Amsterdam (as part of the coinciding *Minds of Amsterdam* conference) as well as 270+ webcast viewers.

Key themes of the event:

- Are smart cities real?
- What is the biggest challenge to smart cities? Is that challenge also an opportunity?
- What is the return on investment for smart city technology and innovations?
- How is the city of Detroit embracing new technology and innovation while at the same time distributing the benefits as widely as possible?
- What are some fresh ideas regarding public financing for smart city initiatives?
- How can we better communicate the benefits of smart city investment to citizens?
- How can we encourage more citizen engagement and collaboration in the smart city movement?

This event was made possible, in part, by a generous grant from the Barr Foundation.

Notable tweets

Comments from the webcast audience



The new “return” on Smart City investment will be quality of life, community cash flow and job creation

@LoopDataRail



Technology can create change by providing meeting point between bottom up & top down approaches in #smartcities

@suzanneballard



“The city is not a problem, it is a solution.” – Jamie Learner

@perculia



If u asked citizens abt the benefits of the Internet 20yrs ago they would be perplexed. Education key for smart city investments

@tdoveyfishman



Excellent forum @MeetoftheMinds. Innovative leaders from Amsterdam, SJ, SF, DET, BOS discussed ways tech creates smarter cities

@TransitScreen



“Detroit has to compete with Amsterdam, San Jose, Boston and has no choice but to be a smarter city.” - Benji Kennedy @kresgefdn #cityminded

@jessiefeller

Participating delegates

Amsterdam

- Carolien Gehrels, *Deputy Mayor*, City of Amsterdam
- Wim Elfrink, *Executive Vice President, Chief Globalization Officer*, Cisco Systems
- Bas Boorsma, *Director*, Cisco Systems
- Ger Baron, *Program and Clustermanager IT*, Amsterdam Economic Board
- Mark Vernooij, *General Manager*, THNK. The Amsterdam School of Creative Leadership

San Jose

- Gordon Feller, *Director*, Cisco Systems
- Dave Hahn, *Director of Communications*, Urban Age Institute
- Hugo von Meijenfeldt, *Consul General*, Dutch Consulate San Francisco
- Patrick Consorti, *Project Director*, Paris Region International Mission Enterprise (PARIS)

Boston

- Cliff Thomas, *Managing Director*, Cisco
- Phil Primack, *Consultant*, Barr Foundation
- Joel Olicker, *CEO*, Powderhouse Productions

Detroit

- Graig Donnelly, *Director*, Detroit Revitalization Fellows Program
- Aniela Kuzon, *New Mobility Manager*, NextEnergy
- Douglass Couto, *Senior Fellow*, Center for Digital Government
- Paul Toliver, *Director*, Detroit Department of Transportation
- Brad Frost, *Director*, Woodward Corridor Initiative
- Benjamin Kennedy, *Senior Program Officer*, Kresge Foundation