



SMART CITY INITIATIVE NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Smart City Initiative Newsletter, the central hub for news and updates on pilot programs, partnership opportunities, events, upcoming challenges!

Long Beach Co-Lab

Join the LB Co-Lab!

The City of Long Beach recently launched the Long Beach Collaboratory (**LB Co-Lab**), to engage residents with civic technology design and equip them with technology skills to thrive in our “smart” economy. The LB Co-Lab will engage local Long Beach stakeholders in a collaborative community engagement process to implement new pilot technology projects in four targeted neighborhoods of focus: Hamilton, Ramona Park, Willmore, and the Lower Westside.



Selected LB Co-Lab community members will receive the following benefits:

- You will participate in a collaborative process to design and implement a technology infrastructure project in your neighborhood
- You will receive a technology certificate and career guidance in a technology area that interests you
- You will receive a \$1,000 stipend
- You will serve the public good and help your city

To participate in the program, individuals must live, work, study, or have some affiliation with one of these neighborhoods. Those interested in participating in the program are encouraged to submit an interest form on the LB Co-Lab! Apply before **January 27, 2023!**

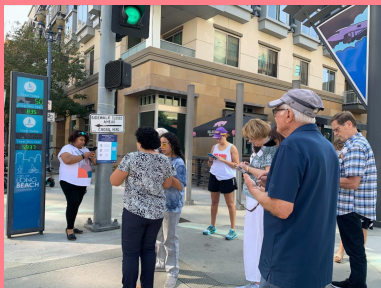
[Apply here today!](#)

Supporting Small Businesses with Data!

The City partners with Bloomberg Philanthropies to support local businesses!



When the COVID-19 pandemic began, small businesses in Long Beach, California reported a 63% drop in sales. Using a data-driven approach, the City is now able to support hundreds of businesses to help them succeed. The Smart City Initiative manages the [Data Learning Community](#), a forum to support other City Departments use of data and evidence to make decisions. Watch the latest video to learn more about the impacts of our [BizCare program](#)!

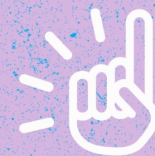


Read our new Long Beach Data Walks Blog Post!

The Smart City Initiative in collaboration with CSULB Professor, Gwen Shaffer, conducted a series of Data Walks through Downtown Long Beach to showcase the City's emerging technologies, data privacy policies, and the new [Digital Rights Platform!](#) We are now excited to share what we heard from you and other community members!

Head over to read our latest [blog post!](#)

PITCH LONG BEACH!



Pitch Long Beach! in 2022

Since Launching in March 2022, [Pitch Long Beach!](#) has received [over 80 submissions](#) addressing accessibility, the digital divide, climate change, and improving transportation. One pilot has been successfully launched with more on the way in 2023! Submissions to the program are always open via the idea form.

[Apply today!](#)



Long Beach was recognized as a Top 10 Digital City for the 11th Consecutive Year!

The City of Long Beach has been recognized as a Top Digital City in the Center for Digital Government (CDG)'s [2021 Digital Cities Survey](#), which evaluates how cities across the nation use [technology](#) to advance city goals, operations and services to the community. This is the eleventh consecutive year the City has been recognized as a Top 10 Digital City, this year ranking first in its population size nationwide.

Learn more about our newest recognition [here!](#)



LB Polytechnic High School STEM Auto Pathways Workshop with Mercedes - Benz

On Thursday, December 8, the Smart City Initiative collaborated with the Long Beach Unified School District and Mercedes-Benz to host a workshop with high school students enrolled at Long Beach Polytechnic High School's STEM Auto Pathways program. Students learned about careers in the automobile industry and had the opportunity to interact with three state-of-the-art connected Mercedes-Benz vehicles right on campus.

This workshop was held as part of the City's [connected vehicle / intelligent traffic signal pilot partnership](#) with Mercedes-Benz and Xtelligent.



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