

CTIA Smart Cities Quarterly Meeting Kansas City, July 2024



CTIA Smart Cities Working group in front of the Union Station Streetcar stop.

Meeting Highlights

The CTIA members gathered at Union Station and boarded the KC Streetcar for a ride-and-learn, gaining insights into data analytics and its impact on economic development. A NoTraffic smart intersection demo followed as members viewed mobility platforms and the capabilities of this traffic-reducing, safety enhancing technology.

Burns & McDonnell hosted our final stop at their World Headquarters with a discussion focused on best practices for design, implementation, and the deployment of smart utilities. We concluded the day with a member reception. T-Mobile hosted the Day 2 Workshop at their Overland Park campus, sharing their intelligent transportation innovations at Curiosity Lab. We heard from local leaders regarding Kansas City's deployment challenges and goals, and CTIA shared 2024 milestones and reviewed what to expect for Q4. We concluded the meeting with a certification update with a glimpse into an upcoming campaign to, "Be an IoT VIP."



Arriving at Union Station for the Day 1 lineup of smart cities field trips.

Day One – Field Trip Day

Union Station was the backdrop as our members arrived to start the Day 1 activities. Tom Gerend, Executive Director of the Kansas City Streetcar Authority, greeted our group as they boarded a reserved car to ride the two-mile route through downtown Kansas City. Tom shared the deployment challenges, economic growth of the downtown business, and revealed expansion plans.

Data was a driver for improving this free-to-ride public transit. Real time analysis of passenger counts, and travel times, helped to improve the riding experience by providing locals with reliable and quick transit options.

Day One – Field Trip Day, Continued...



Top to Bottom: Tom Gerend, KC Streetcar Authority; Chris Blachley, NoTraffic; Burns & McDonnell visit; Scott Wales, Burns & McDonnell

From streetcar to smart street, our members visited the NoTraffic smart intersection deployment next where they deep dived into the data behind this technology. Chris Blatchly and Matan Nir led demonstrations at their nearby Operations Center as cameras, sensors, radar, and their AI mobility platform analyzed traffic and pedestrian movements. Real-time analysis of traffic flow, vehicle speed, and pedestrian activity by their mobility platform helps to optimize traffic signals, reduce congestion, and enhance safety. Connectivity including Wi-Fi and cellular communications enable the real-time data flow, allowing NoTraffic to scale these smart intersection deployments to over 400 locations in North America.

The final field trip took our members to the Burns & McDonnell World Headquarters. Led by Scott Wales, Senior Business Development Manager, our members took a deep dive into connected utilities. Playing a pivotal role in deployments, Burns & McDonnell shared how industry collaboration and baseline standards can help increase adoption and security. Connectivity from cellular networks such as Private LTE provided the scalability for such deployments and spurred certification discussions for deploying connected devices on critical infrastructure.

To conclude Day 1, members stayed for a BBQ reception and enjoyed the views from Burns & McDonnell's headquarters before shuttling back to the hotel.

Day Two – Smart Cities Workshop

Tim Johnson, Director of IoT Sales, welcomed members to their Overland Park campus and started discussions with a peek into their work at Curiosity Lab in Peachtree Corners, Georgia. Known for their innovations around smart transportation, Curiosity Lab is a testbed for intelligent transportation systems, connected car experiences, autonomous vehicle testing, and 5G-enabled technologies. From smart traffic management systems to advanced IoT applications, Tim shared T-Mobile's impressive portfolio and how 5G networks are bringing intelligent transit solutions to communities today.

The Kansas City Smart Cities Vision discussion reviewed deployments to-date, challenges, and goals for the next 3-5 years. Led by Mike Grigsby, Ubicquia, Aaron Deacon, KC Digital Drive, and David Rowe, MetroLab Network, these innovators are veterans of the KC smart cities landscape and shared how KC will be transforming to host the 2026 FIFA World Cup, how the city has proceeded with advancements in public safety, and their goals for continued innovation in intelligent transit systems.

Michelle James, CTIA, hosted the next session focused on the CTIA smart cities program. With the successful launch of the IoT Network Certified for Smart Connected Infrastructure™ program in February, and hosting our first two connectivity workshops this year, we had many accomplishments to celebrate. Michelle shared the continued efforts to educate, raise awareness, and increase adoption of trusted, certified devices across vertical deployments.

Mark Sargent, CTIA, and Steve Lowe, Ericsson, concluded Day 2 discussions with a certification session. Reviewing the developments of the IoT Network Certified™ program, and the opportunities for expansion. Members were eager to discuss certification onboarding, business requirements, and how these standards are transforming deployments today.



Top to Bottom: Mike Grigsby, Ubicquia; Michelle James, CTIA; T-Mobile Working Session Overland Park Campus

Upcoming Meetings

October 16-17, 2024 | Milwaukee, WI
hosted by Badger Meter

December 11, 2024 | Year-end Virtual Meeting
2:00 PM – 3:30 PM EST