



2017 Year in Review

Dear Joerg,

2017 is the year that Leading Cities cemented our position as a global thought leader in the Smart Cities and City Diplomacy arenas. From Mayors around the world stepping up to combat climate change to bold leaders who have turned their communities into test beds for innovative solutions to urban challenges, the work Leading Cities has pursued for the last eight years has come into focus on a global scale. It has been an amazingly productive and powerful year. As a part of the Leading Cities community, we want to thank you and share some of the many exciting accomplishments you helped to make possible. And we look forward to working with you in meaningful and valuable ways this coming year and beyond.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Lake".



Leading Cities Pavilion

Leading Cities was proud and excited to host our very first pavilion at the [Smart City Expo and World Congress](#)-- the world's largest Smart City event. This venue is a critical must-attend event in the field of Smart Cities and can be a valuable marketplace for cities to discover the best solutions to urban challenges. We were honored to be joined by the United States' most senior diplomat in Spain, Chargé d'Affaires Benjamin Ziff who opened our inaugural Leading Cities Pavilion with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Four exemplary examples of Smart City solutions providers filled our pavilion and attracted countless attendees to their booths and presentations.

iParque is a complete, innovative integrated solution for managing on street parking and off street. It includes



enforcement software and terminals, mobile app for parking and features a rich back-office.



DigitalTown helps people search, connect, and buy local in over 22,000 cities globally keeping funds in local economies. People-centric solutions for smart cities.

SUIPHOS delivers a full maintenance operational platform for all IoT assets in the private sector while providing the public sector full awareness, control, and understanding of urban technology deployed in the city and its required maintenance to avoid IoTash (electronic trash).



ThoughtWorks City as a Platform (CaaS) model helps organizations come together to create a secure, open data platform that amplifies innovation.



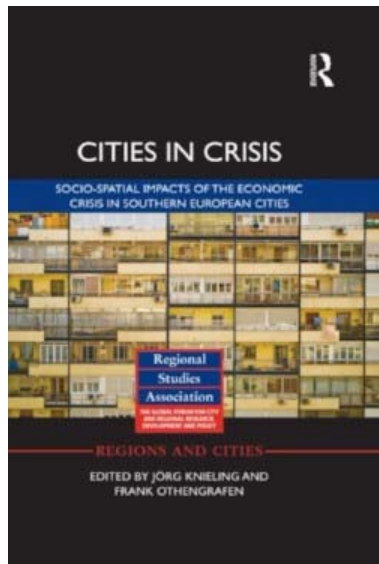
CLICK to register for the 2018 Leading Cities Pavilion

Thought Leadership

Leading Cities' valuable insights and experiences were shared in workshops, conferences, summits and other events worldwide. Our research and sharing of best practices were highlighted in books and articles published and celebrated globally.

Follow us on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) and receive [#SmartCities Headlines](#), our daily briefing of Smart Cities news from around the world.

See More



Book of the Year Award

Two of our Local Coordinators, Jörg Knieling (Hamburg) and Joaquín Rodríguez (Barcelona) for winning the Best Book of the Year Award issued by the Regional Studies Association with their book *“Cities in Crises, Socio-spatial impacts of the economic crisis in Southern European cities.”*

Other Publications:

- [Smart Agriculture in Boston: The Frontier for Industry Growth, Community Engagement, and Food Security](#)
- [Co-creation: The Key to Value Creation in the Digital Economy](#)
- [Smart Cities, From Trend To Future Reality](#)
- [The “Smartness” of Smart City Ecosystems](#)
- [The Smart Evolution of Living Buildings](#)
- [Inaction: The Greatest Threat to Cities](#)
- [Smart Accessibility: Unlocking Potential](#)

Leading Cities Global Advisory Board Members, Moura Quayle and Parag Khanna, publish their newest books:



Speaking Engagements

Recognized globally for the impact of our work and the collaboration we facilitate among cities worldwide to advance Smart City solutions and city diplomacy, Leading Cities was selected to keynote conferences, moderate panel discussions, and lead workshops from Dubai to



Barcelona, and from China to Italy.



Leading Cities' President and CEO, Mike Lake, delivers keynote address at the Arab Future Cities Summit in Dubai.

These are some of our recent speaking engagements:

- **Smart City Expo World Congress:**

Leading Cities had a Pavilion at the 2017 Smart City Expo in Barcelona, the world's largest smart city event with over 18,000 participants from 700 cities across 120 countries. [Watch "How Startups are Innovating Cities" Panel featuring Leading Cities and New York City.](#)

- **Arab Future Cities Summit 2017:**

The 4th Annual Arab Future Cities Summit was hosted by the Ministry of Infrastructure Development in Dubai. The Summit emphasized the future opportunities and evolving technologies available to counter challenges and achieve the city's ambitions in being one of the world's most connected and sustainable Smart Cities – in time for Expo 2020. [Watch Mike Lake's keynote address.](#)

- **Smart City Innovation Workshop:**

Leading Cities, in collaboration with the Future Cities Show, organized a workshop in Dubai on how innovation, government, and the private sector play an important role in creating functioning smart cities. [Video overview of the event.](#)

- **Responsive Cities Symposium- Active Public Space:**

The European Union and IAAC organized this symposium to focus on the applications and implications of the advancements of technologies of information, interaction and fabrication in the redefinition of public space, as a catalyst for achieving urban resilience and high quality of life. [Read more here.](#)

- **Tbilisi, Georgia Local Economic Development Forum, Progressive Cities:** *The International Local Economic Development Forum takes place annually since 2007 and provides a high-end dialogue platform for local authorities and experts to discuss common challenges and share best practices.* [Read more here](#) or watch a [video overview of the event.](#)

- **Genoa Smart Week:**

Genoa, Italy hosted "The Power of Innovation," the third edition of Genoa Smart Week, a week of conferences, educational and technical workshops,



expo and networking events attended by national and international players in the development of livable cities.



New Partnerships

Collaboration, from the very beginning, has been critical to Leading Cities. The success we have achieved in our first 8 years has been in large part due to the quality of our partners and their commitment to our mission. We continue to develop exciting new partnerships that deepen our connection to the communities we serve and increase the impact we create across our networks. Here are a few recent partnerships that have been launched this year:

- [TM Forum](#) is the global industry association that helps communications service providers (CSPs) and their suppliers to digitally transform and thrive in the digital era. As a neutral, non-profit member organization, TM Forum represents over 850 member companies generating US\$2 trillion in revenue and serving five billion customers across 180 countries. Our partnership is built around the City as a Platform Manifesto and the upcoming AcceliCity program. Leading Cities will leverage our network of smart city startups and municipal governments to adopt open platforms, while TM Forum provides valuable insights and support from their member organizations to advance Leading Cities in the development of smarter cities.
- [Wireless Broadband Alliance](#) (WBA) is the world's foremost organization driving the adoption of wireless broadband and leading the development of the converged Wireless Broadband Ecosystem. The partnership between Leading Cities and WBA will serve to cross-promote our respective events and open participation to our members and also to engage in joint efforts in publishing best practices, white papers and recommendations focused on interoperability and other Smart City-related issues.
- [US Department of Commerce](#) promotes job creation and economic growth by ensuring fair and secure trade and works to provide US-based companies and entrepreneurs invaluable tools for growth and expansion. Together with Leading Cities, the Department of Commerce launched its own pavilion at the Smart City Expo. Each organization coordinated events, delegation visits to the pavilions and cross-promoted other activities during the Smart City Expo.
- [Continental Automated Buildings Association](#) (CABA) is a global not-for-profit industry association dedicated to the advancement of connected home and intelligent building technologies, supported by an international membership of over 300 organizations involved in the design, manufacture, installation and retailing of products and services relating to home and building automation. Each party has agreed, whenever possible, to share information and work in a collaborative manner

on connected home and intelligent building issues.

This is just a sampling of the many activities and successes that were achieved in 2017. With the launch of new programming and initiatives in 2018, we are eager and excited to continue to work with you and to further achieve our mission of improving the quality of life in cities worldwide. Thank you for your steadfast support. Most importantly, from our Leading Cities family to your family, we wish you a safe, happy and healthy new year!

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Leading Cities is recognized globally as a leader in Smart Cities innovations and best practices. Working with leaders around the world, we make smart cities smarter.

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