



TECHNOLOGY HORIZONS 2011 FALL CONFERENCE

A SPECIAL PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

**A PLANET OF CIVIC LABORATORIES:
BOTTOM-UP INNOVATIONS FOR THE SMART CITY**

October 26 2011

Cavallo Point

601 Murray Circle | Fort Baker | Sausalito, CA 94965

Computing away traffic jams. Reducing blackouts with smart power grids. Visualizing patterns of crime in real-time to improve policing. These are just a few examples of how top-down designs – provided by global technology companies and paid for by government – will transform our cities in the coming decade. But in a [recent *Scientific American* article](#), IFTF’s Anthony Townsend and MIT’s Carlo Ratti challenged us to ask how we go about crafting a smarter city, “if we focus on sociability as the starting point for design and tap citizens as the source of innovation”. Please join us, and a select group of public officials, community technologists and urban scholars as we explore the following questions:

- What new urban data streams are being created by smart technologies?
- What new service innovation opportunities are emerging?
- What is the right balance of top-down and bottom-up design and innovation – how can companies, government agencies, and NGOs work together?
- What emerging dilemmas and risks are coming into view?
- How can we accelerate the transfer of new ideas and solutions amongst cities?
- Where are the hot spots and models of innovation to watch?

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2011

- 1:00 P.M. **THE FUTURE OF CITIES, INFORMATION AND INCLUSION**
Contemporary visions of the smart city of the future mostly come from big companies, but a grassroots movement of startups and citizen hackers are crafting a more inclusive smart city. In this session, IFTF researcher Anthony Townsend will overview our research forecast developed for the Rockefeller Foundation, which provides a holistic view of how smart cities will be built from the bottom-up.
- 2:15 P.M. **CIVIC LABORATORIES: RETHINKING CITY SERVICES**
Building on IFTF solution templates, participants will break into smaller groups to brainstorm innovative approaches to urban services that cut across existing institutional boundaries.
- 3:30 P.M. **BREAK**
Go create your own urban social network!
- 4:00 P.M. **REPORTS FROM CIVIC LABORATORIES**
- 4:45 P.M. **NEXT STEPS**
As IFTF develops its ongoing research on the future of cities and informatics, what should be on our research agenda? What did we miss in our forecast? Where are the hotspots we should dive deeper?
- 5:30 P.M. **RECEPTION**
- 6:00 P.M. **DINNER**
- 6:45 P.M. **SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER DISCUSSION**
Please join us for cocktails and a presentation by Jay Nath, Director of Innovation for the City of San Francisco, and Peter Hirshberg, Chairman of the Gray Area Foundation for the Arts on The [Summer of Smart](#), an intensive, three-month experiment in urban innovation bringing together urbanists of many disciplines – developers, designers, planners, journalists, civic leaders, community activists, and more – to address the most pressing issues facing cities today.