Modernizing Our Communications Infrastructure Has Never Been More Critical Than It Is Today

As the world begins to realize the challenges that we face when we must restrict our daily routines into a more isolated, untethered community, we turn to technology to enable us to interact, educate, and collaborate in new ways. Modernizing our communications infrastructure has never been more critical than it is today. It is the duty of our municipal and government leaders to understand the importance of communication and information services to provide civic technology innovations for every citizen – as we work to maintain normalcy for our families under conditions such as the COVID-19 threat.

One of the most pressing needs to cope with these type of conditions is Community Wide WiFi.

Parents who are now educating children at home have realized very quickly how difficult it can be to keep young people indoors, in front of computers and tablets, motivated, and happy. How much better would this experience be if we could move it outdoors? With fast and reliable access to WiFi connections in public outdoor spaces, we can relieve our children's "cabin fever" by studying at picnic tables, parks, and backyards instead of our kitchen tables and counter tops. Outdoor public WiFi also provides much needed support for lower income families who may not have the same internet access at home that their children experience in schools.

Public access to WiFi also enables health and human service agencies to communicate critical public health services to all citizens. Telehealth, testing locations, transportation options and care services reach our residents first through a wireless portal. And, it is likely that remote health care models will evolve at an accelerated pace following the current crisis.

As our ways of living changes to adapt to the COVID 19 threat, we are developing new models for healthcare in the future. As an example, Human Care Systems (HCS) is an internet based provider of integrated health services that delivers access, use and outcomes using a platform that is purpose-built to optimize patient services. By delivering personalized patient support through a localized data sharing medium, companies like HCS can send critical information to hospitals, doctors, and emergency responders to improve preparedness and positive outcomes.

Ubiquitous outdoor WiFi for cities and communities is relatively easy to deploy. LED streetlights serve as the backbone, with networked controls that are capable of providing WiFi access to the public.

Open architecture urban network technology is readily available today, and provides for expansion in the future. Now is the time for our elected officials to move forward with upgrading city infrastructure to provide access for all our citizens.

Create, then Innovate.

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About Paradox Engineering
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