

Governance and Underserved Communities

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Community Issues

Challenges

- Abandoned houses
- Trash dumping & litter
- Bad actors (theft, violence)
- Code violations
- Bad schools
- Dangling electric lines
- Dangerous street crossing
- No transit
- Police use of excess force

Opportunities

- Grants/CFPs
- Job training & recruitment
- Coordinated sidewalk repairs
- Liaison with police
- Access to health care
- Better service delivery
- Favorable city budget allocations
- Improved street lighting

Doesn't government handle these?

- Yes, but...
- Government is competitive
 - Democratic competition for resources
 - Budgets, grants, attention
 - The best-organized communities
 - Get the most resources
- Government is only one solution
 - Communities can solve some problems on their own
 - The best organized communities
 - Solve the most problems
- One solution: Organize the community

The Organized Community

- Governance
 - The capacity to make and implement collective decisions
- Internal: Govern the community
 - Challenges: Make and enforce rules
 - Opportunities: Promote collaborations
- External: Advocate for the community
 - A collective voice
 - toward the city and toward other communities
 - Challenges: demand what is fair
 - Opportunities: advance community interest
- Not the only solution for underserved communities
 - But can make a big difference

	<u>Challenges</u>	<u>Opportunities</u>
<u>Internal-facing Governance</u>	<p><i>Enforcing</i></p> <p>Leash your dog! Board up your house! Remove that abandoned car! No drug dealing in our neighborhood!</p>	<p><i>Coordinating</i></p> <p>Let's board up houses! Let's carpool to healthcare! Let's volunteer at school! Let's plant flowers! Let's organize neighborhood watch! Let's adopt storm drains!</p>
<u>Internal-facing Governance</u>	<p><i>Defending</i></p> <p>No waste disposal in our community! No highway through our park! NIMBY!</p>	<p><i>Advocating</i></p> <p>More transit! More policing! More food vendors! More health care delivery!</p>

Governance: Capacity for Collective Action

- Residents
 - Individuals, isolated, atomized
- Create a collectivity
 - Association, community
 - The basis of collective action
- To order themselves
 - Internal
- And to confront others
 - External
- The capacity for governance



Functions

To achieve Governance Capacity

- *Constituting: Who governs?*
 - Formal authority
 - Representation
 - Informal
 - Existing social capital (churches, mothers, businesses, landlords)
- *Scanning: identify challenges and opportunities*
 - Information about internal community affairs
 - Information about external developments
- *Designing*
 - Formulating rules and plans of action
 - Learning from others
- *Implementing/Enforcing*
 - Promulgation, oversight, evaluation, correction

Smart Services: Realizing Governance Functions with Technology

- Information technology figures prominently
 - For all functions of governance
- Networking
 - Constituting, designing
- Sensors
 - Scanning, enforcing
- Mobile computing
 - Sensing
- Data
 - Scanning, designing
- Expert systems
 - Designing

The Challenge for Cyber Physical Systems

- Design systems
- To realize governance functions
- To empower communities to self-organize
- To address challenges
- And to seize opportunities.