

Atlas of Urban Tech: WeHo



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West Hollywood's Hard System

Key

- Supernetwork
- Networks

SMART City Infrastructures



Smart Bus Shelters



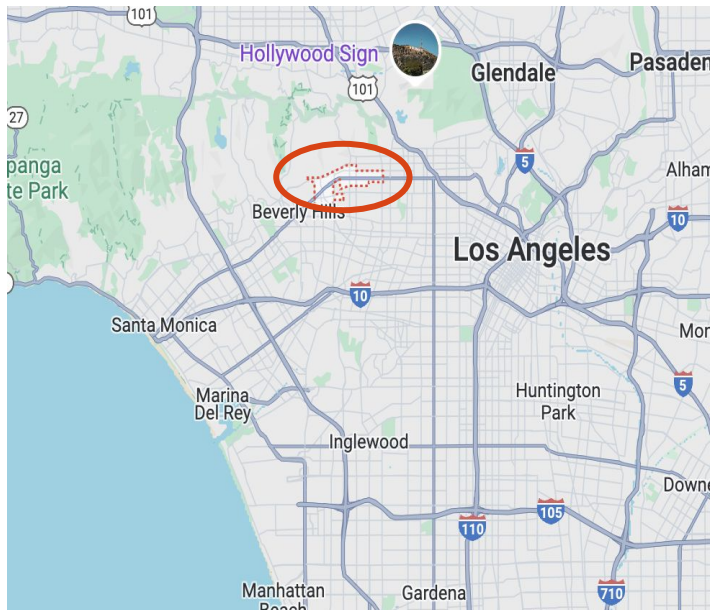
Smart Lights



Digital Governance



WeHo's Economy



Centrally located in LA County, bordered by Hollywood and Beverly Hills, and home to Sunset Strip and Chateau Marmont!

	WeHo	LA city
Population	38k (~1%)	4M
GDP	\$7.5B (~2.5%)	\$300B
Median Income	\$71k	\$67k
Poverty Rate	11%	18%
Cost of Living Index	200	150
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	5.0%

*Sources: US Census Bureau, Data USA, California Employment Development Department

- **Economies:** Tourism, entertainment, retail, and hospitality
- **Revenue streams:** Sales, hotel, and property taxes
- **Government Structure:** City Council-City Manager system
- **Progressive Policies:** Advocacy for social justice, LGBTQ+ rights, and sustainability

West Hollywood's Soft System

The City as a Business

The System

*The **economic** process by which a city gets something done, by reaching out to vendors, closing deals, and delivering services to its citizens*

Phases

1. RFI / RFP
2. Competitive Bidding
3. Selecting a Vendor
4. Budget Allocation

Request for Info (RFI)

When: Early in the process

What: General information about services, products, or suppliers

Why: Figuring out what's out there helps defines the needs and specs

Who: The city publishes it to the public

How: Through the city's website, portal, 3rd party platforms, or privately to selected vendors

Notices of Requests for Proposals, Requests for Qualifications, and Bids

Many RFQ, RFP, and Bidding Opportunities listed below can be submitted electronically through Planet Bids. To register as a vendor and view these available opportunities, please visit our [Planet Bids Portal](#).

[REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - OUTDOOR ICE SKATING RINK PRODUCTION & MANAGEMENT](#) [PDF]

Submittal Deadline: 11-8-24 by 5:00 P.M. (PT)

Click here for [COMPLETE RFP](#)

[REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR LA BREA AVENUE PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT](#) [PDF]

Submittal Deadline: 11-21-24 by 5:00 P.M. (PT)

[NOTICE INVITING SEALED BIDS - 8305 SANTA MONICA BLVD. BUILD OUT PROJECT](#) [PDF Updated 10/25/24]

Submittal Deadline: 11-07-24 by 1:00 P.M. (PT)

[NOTICE INVITING SEALED BIDS - BATTERY BACK-UP SYSTEM \(BBS\) INVENTORY & MODERNIZATION PROJECT, CIP 2502](#) [PDF]

Submittal Deadline: 10-31-24 by 5:00 P.M. (PT)

[NOTICE INVITING SEALED BIDS - CONCRETE REPAIR PROGRAM PHASE XIV CIP 2503, CDBG PROJECT 602685-24](#) [PDF]

Submittal Deadline: 10-24-24 by 5:00 P.M. (PT)

[NOTICE INVITING SEALED BIDS - EMERGENCY POWER GENERATOR & AUTOMATIC TRANSFER SWITCH MAINTENANCE SERVICES](#) [PDF]

Submittal Deadline: 9-20-24 by 1:00 P.M. (PT)

[NOTICE INVITING SEALED BIDS - MELROSE AVE. & NORWICH DR. WEAVER'S WALK PROJECT CIP 2501](#) [PDF]

Submittal Deadline: 10-17-24 by 5:00 P.M. (PT)

[NOTICE INVITING SEALED BIDS - CITYWIDE WATER FEATURES MAINTENANCE SERVICES](#) [PDF]

Submittal Deadline: 8-29-24 by 1:00 P.M. (PT)

[NOTICE INVITING SEALED BIDS - FIRE LIFE SAFETY MAINTENANCE SERVICES](#) (Revised Notice - 8.30.24) [ADDENDUM 1](#), [ADDENDUM 2](#), [ADDENDUM 3](#) [PDF]

Request For Proposals (RFP)

When: The city is ready to act

What: Detailed proposals including scope, timeline and proof of all necessary criteria

Why: To get the best offer available

Who: Public notice to all vendors

How: Through the city's website, portal, and 3rd party platforms

WeHo Smart City – Data and Governance Requirements Due 7/26

WeHo Smart City – Data and Governance Requirements Due 7/26

By **Editor Manager** | July 16, 2021

0 Comment

City of West Hollywood Request for Proposals (RFP)



West Hollywood Smart City

Data Sharing Standards and Data Governance Guidelines

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of a Request for Proposals to develop an internal data sharing

Formal Bid Technicals

WeHo's Smart City initiative

What: Detailed proposals including scope, timeline and proof of all necessary criteria

- Over \$25,000
- Obtain at least three quotes
- 4% incentives for local vendors
- Living wage compliance requirement:
Vendors must comply with the city's living wage (\$20 per hour in WeHo)



How does it work?

WeHo's Smart City initiative

The city of West Hollywood launches an **RFP** calling for a smart mobility strategy building vendor to put SMART on the map.

Jan 2017

Execution: SMART **Strategy, Digital governance & Prototypes** for Smart bus shelters and street lights.

2020

Mar 2017

24 firms responded to RFP. **CityFi**, a smart city service provider, unanimously won the RFP. The contract came with a **\$75,000 budget**, funded by WeHo's Innovation Fund.

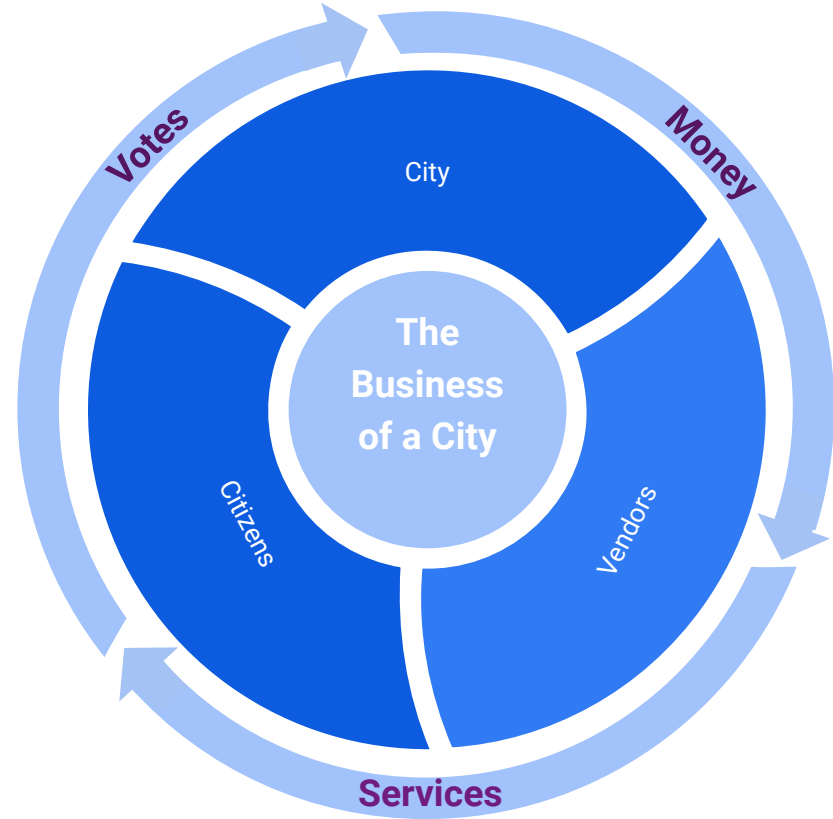
2021

A **\$40,000** contract is offered for a smart data infrastructure, the execution CityFi Strategy. ([Link](#))

The Power Dynamics

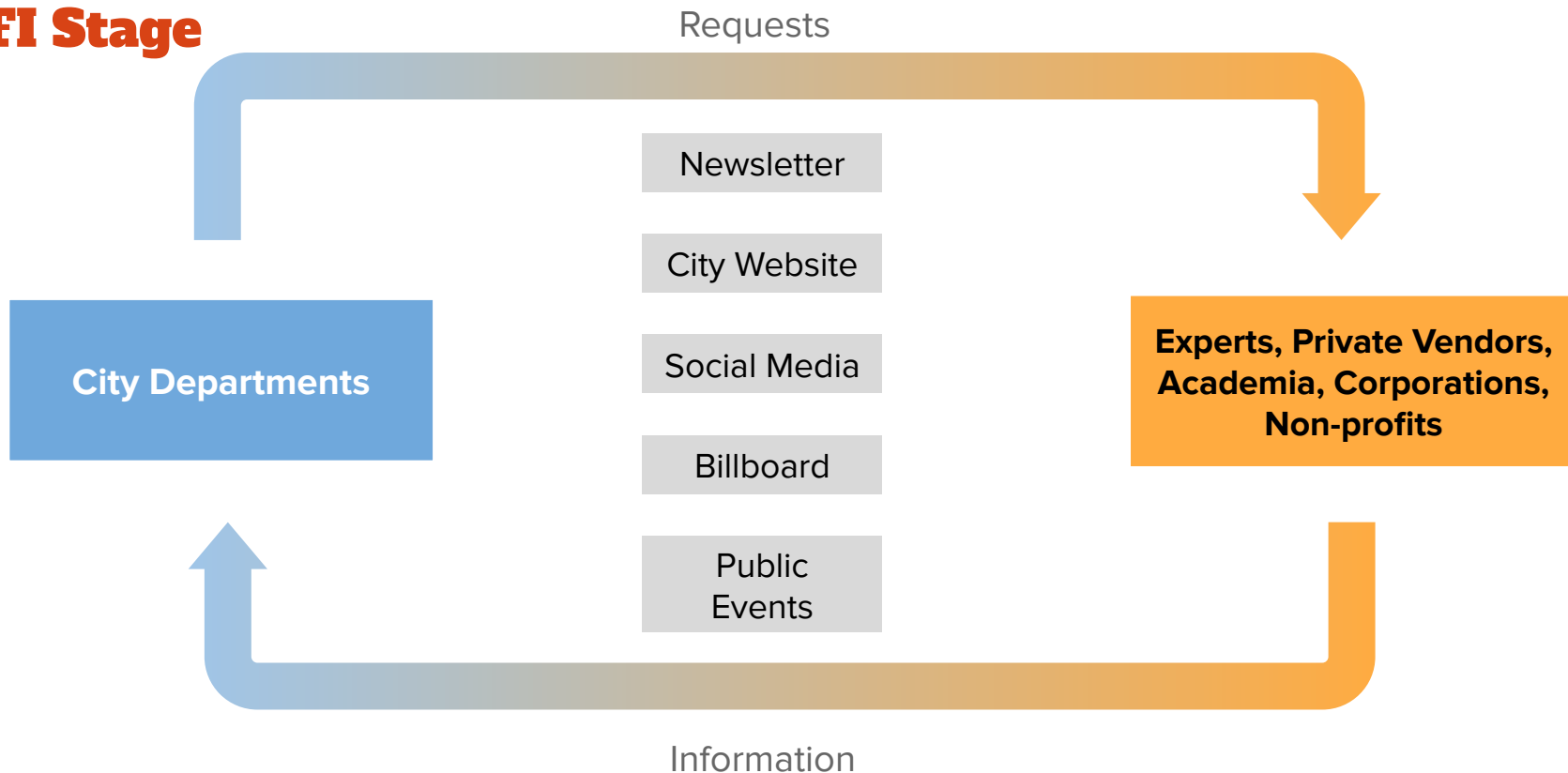
In most cases, the city is not a maker of amenities, services or goods. Hence, vendors come into play, providing useful outputs back to the people.

The community then votes, choosing their representatives based on the services given by the government



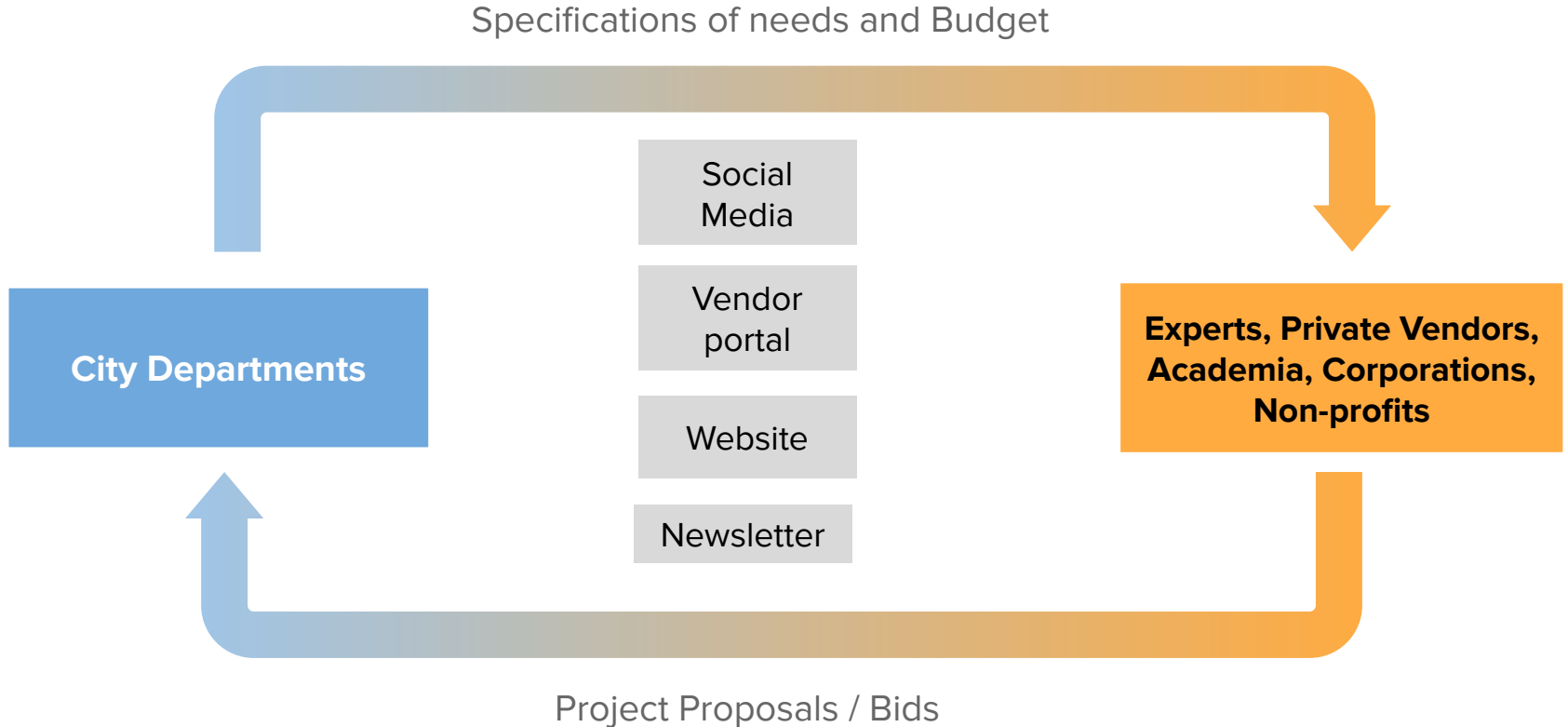
Soft System Structure

RFI Stage



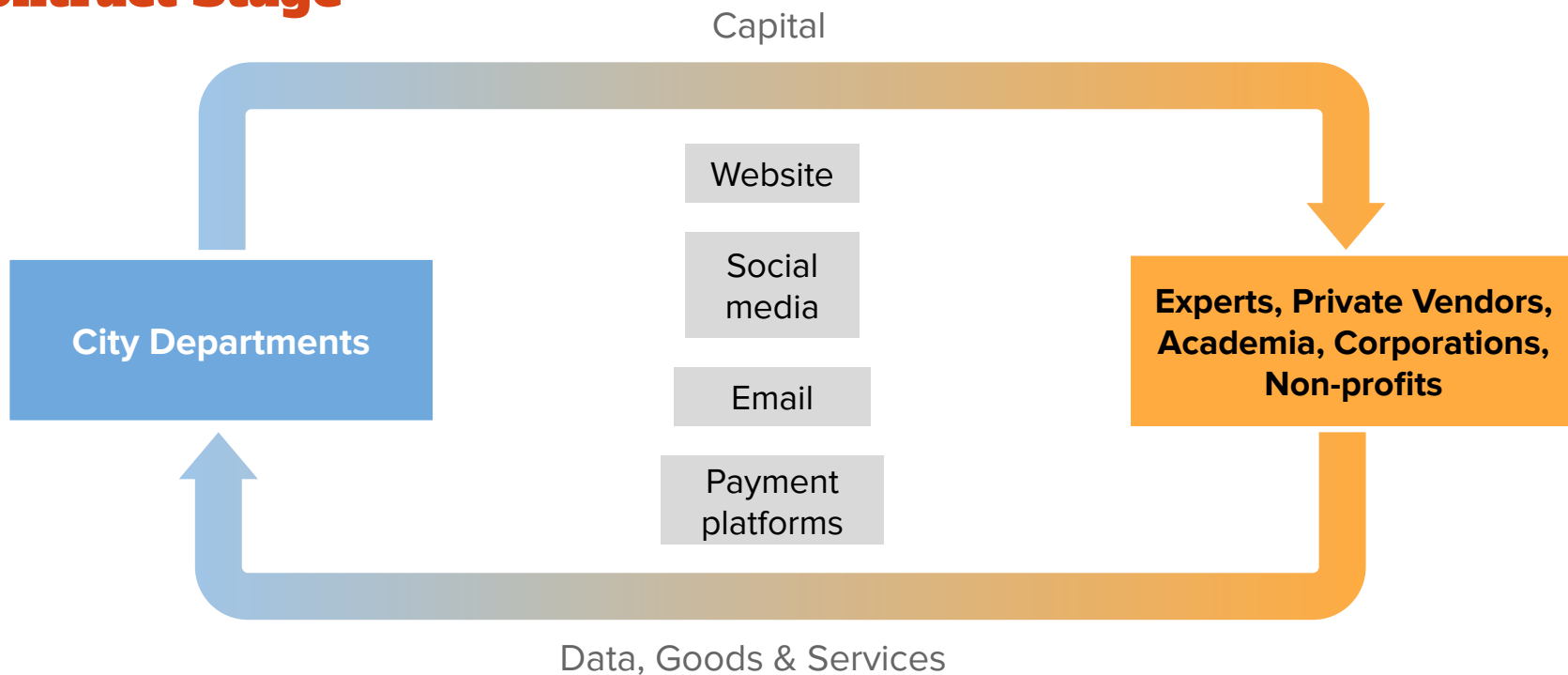
Soft System Structure

RFP Stage



Soft System Structure

Contract Stage



Accomplishments

*Won American Planning Association (APA)
Technology Division's Smart Cities Award*

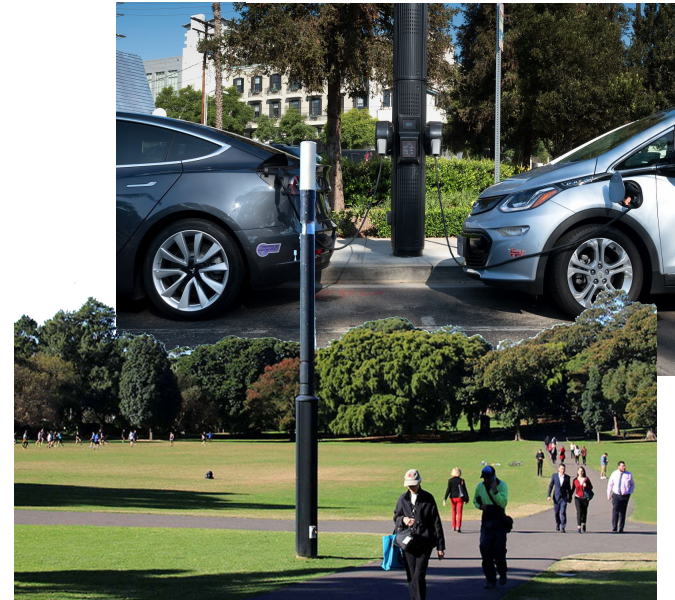
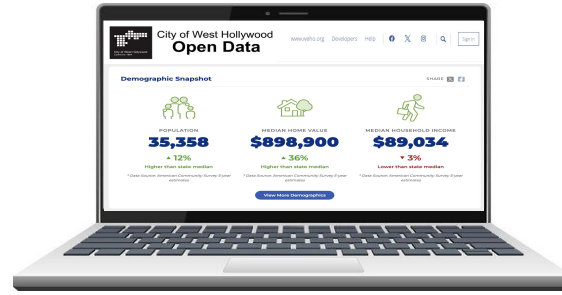
1. Physical Infrastructure Deployment:

- 2 Smart Bus Shelter prototypes
(50 were planned)
- 2 Smart.Nodes
- Smart cameras and sensors at 5 intersections in
partnership with Verizon Wireless, Konica Minolta, and
BoulderAI

2. **Dashboards:** Publicly track, manage, and report data using
Envisio software

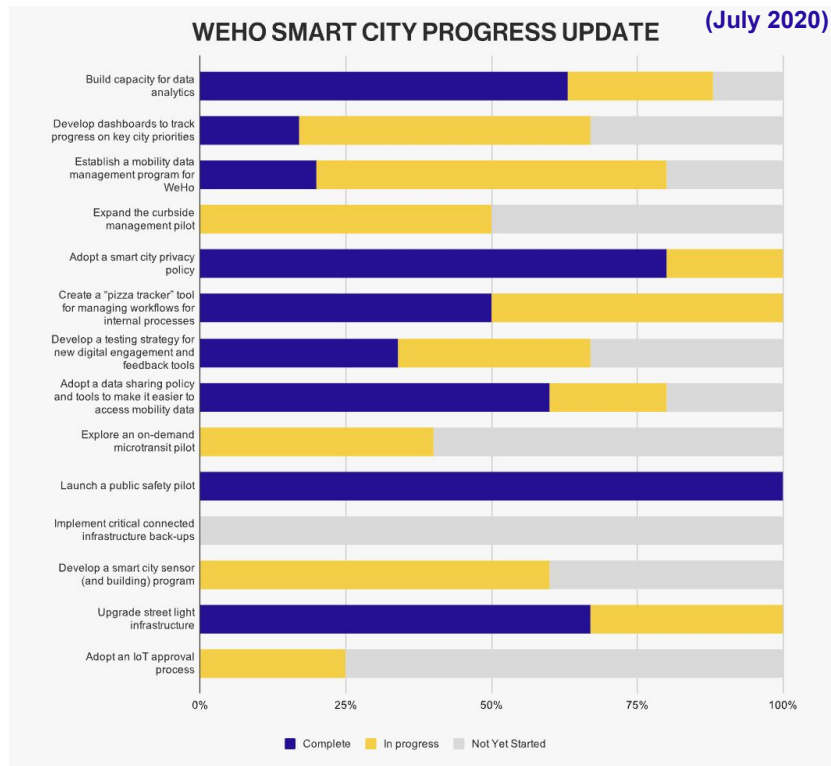
3. **Digital Contract Portal:** Cut down contract processing
time from 10 to 4 business days

4. **Employee Data Education:** Launched WeHo Data
Academy



In Progress...

Ensuring Public Accountability and Transparency



Where are we now?

1. Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic

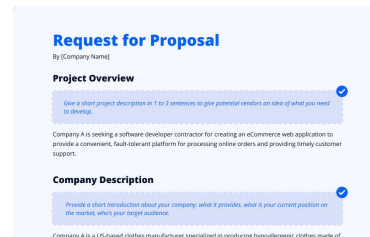
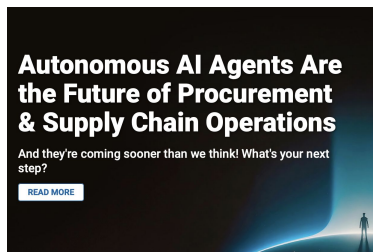
- Adopting digital strategies early-on prepared WeHo
- Shifted priorities away from physical infrastructures (Smart.Node and Smart Bus Shelters) to digital tools

2. Political Leadership Changes

- Mayor John D'Amico (2015-15, 2019-20) championed smart city initiatives
- Concluded service on city council in Dec 2022

3. CityFi contract expired July 2024

AI is steadily transforming procurement



Application
Impact
Risk

AI-driven Procurement
Forecasting

Improve operational
planning for contracts

Inaccurate forecasts,
misguided planning

AI-driven Contract
Discovery

Democratize access to
contract info

Biased
recommendations

LLMs for RFP
Responses

Accelerate end-to-end
RFP process

Unfair advantage to
vendors with access

Bibliography

- [Envisio technology](#)
- [Progress Report | Progress Report Think Piece](#)
- [Urban planning alum tackles pandemic-era challenges as West Hollywood city manager Article](#)
- [WeHo Smart City – Data and Governance Requirements Due 7/26](#)
- [CityFi \(Contract\)](#)
- [Transportation Commission Chat minutes](#)

