Smart and connected communities use technology to better manage their urban energy systems and improve the quality and performance of government services by leveraging big data for data-driven decisions. NREL helps these communities reach their clean energy goals through cutting-edge expertise with data, models, planning, analysis, and technology implementation.

**Challenge:**
Communities around the world are setting clean, sustainable energy goals, but transforming energy systems is a complex challenge. Reaching goals will require transforming aging electrical systems, improving mobility while decreasing energy use, building charging infrastructure for electric vehicles, and improving building efficiency. Technology is evolving, costs are decreasing, and options are expanding. Planning a path to reach aggressive goals in the context of this rapidly evolving landscape can be overwhelming for officials in any size jurisdiction.

**Solution:**
NREL's experts help cities work with their unique challenges and resources. We help communities understand their full range of options to reach aggressive goals through designing, planning, and implementing practical deployment strategies. Leveraging edge computing to control the data explosion from the internet of things, NREL helps cities harness the proliferation of data using advanced data analytics to drive better decisions. Mapping needs and resources against likely technology development trajectories helps cities identify near-term steps toward long-term goals while keeping options open to emerging new technologies. Informed by cutting-edge urban, computational, and data science, NREL's 40+ year expertise with advanced energy systems, data collection, modeling, and analytics can position your city at the leading edge of energy transformation.
Partner With Us
Contact NREL and discover how we can apply NREL’s capabilities to your most difficult, smart, and connected community challenges while building capabilities that can inform work with cities around the globe.

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