



CALL FOR INNOVATORS: Now accepting registration

Fairfax County Pitch and Pilot: Carbon Neutrality and Climate Action

OCTOBER 19, 2022 1-3:30pm

About the competition

In partnership with the Fairfax County Department of Economic Initiatives, Smart City Works will hold a regionally focused virtual Pitch and Pilot to find the best solutions to support Fairfax County's goals, including decreasing carbon emissions, improving air quality, promoting clean energy, and improving health outcomes especially among underrepresented populations. Fairfax County hopes this process will result in a viable pilot project. The County is agreeable to partnering with participants who offer innovative solutions that are aligned with County goals and policies. There are no preconceived notions about any specific technologies, but we do ask that the solution further the County's goal of being a leader in smart community innovation.

Smart community innovations can utilize a variety of technologies to improve the accessibility, opportunity, and sustainability of a region. As people's environments become more supportive, trust and curiosity can grow, and a healthier, more connected, and equitable society can be created. The idea is to reimagine how we design and utilize our current resources and services, in a way that increases our ability and resiliency to, a host of issues, including climate change. Examples of smart community innovation, in the context of carbon neutrality, include but are not limited to (1) green infrastructure that utilizes creative architecture designs and plants to regulate temperature and maximize space & comfort and (2) concrete and pavement materials that reflect heat as opposed to absorb it, decreasing the urban heat island effect.

Technology startups from around the world are invited to present their cutting-edge solutions to improve energy efficiency, increase use of renewable electricity and accelerate use of electric vehicles to shift from a carbon-based economy to a carbon-neutral community.

The winning solution will be considered for implementation as a pilot project in Fairfax County.

Eligibility

Companies and entities of all sizes and from all over the world may submit a proposal.

Company solutions or ideas must:

1. Incorporate an existing or future technology product, program, or process
2. Consider existing data on carbon output
3. Be able to be implemented within two years
4. Maintain data privacy and security
5. Align with the [County's Sustainable Initiatives](#)

Criteria

A selection committee will evaluate and score proposals and select finalists. The selection and evaluation process will be based on specified criteria, to include:

- ✓ Innovation: How innovative is the solution? How differentiated or unique is the solution?
- ✓ Regional Impact: What is the impact of the solution (e.g., reduction in carbon output; improved quality of life; increase in renewable energy)? How are health outcomes considered?
- ✓ Practicality and Scalability: Can the solution be implemented in near-to-medium term (within two years)? How easily can it be replicated or scaled to a larger market?
- ✓ Social Responsibility and Equity: What impact does this solution have to addressing racial, accessibility, age, gender, or other inequities? How does it prioritize vulnerable populations and disadvantaged communities?

About the organizers

Smart City Works, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that empowers communities to solve urban challenges and improve economic growth, through technology innovation. Working with partners in government, universities, businesses, and nonprofits, we lead the Northern Virginia Smart Region Initiative. The Smart Region Initiative's goal is to help establish Northern Virginia as a world center of excellence for urban technology innovation, and a destination for digital technology companies to build and grow their businesses. Smart City Works is a proud winner of and is supported by regional innovation and economic development grants from the U.S. Department of Commerce and GO Virginia.

Fairfax County is Virginia's largest county with 1.1 million residents and the home of eleven Fortune 500 companies, making Fairfax the go-to place for smart technology. Professional, scientific, and technical services account for 25 percent of employment in the county (four times the national average), and Fairfax is home to innovative startups, hundreds of companies from other countries, and a vibrant minority business community.



REGISTRATION

To sign up please complete this form: [Registration to Compete](#)

For details visit: <https://www.smartcityworks.org/fairfax-challenge-oct-2022/>

For inquiries, please email us at: Fairfaxinnovates@gmail.com