BUILDING A SMART + EQUITABLE living lab

NYC Mayor's Office of Tech + Innovation

Jeff S. Merritt
Director of Innovation
City of New York

The smart city journey
is about making
people's lives better.

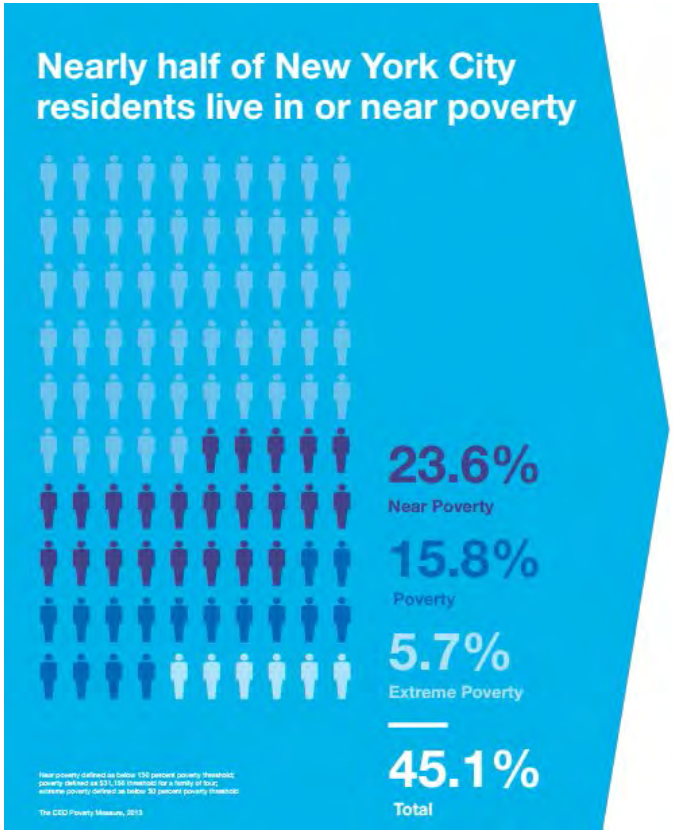
The “rising tide” of technology doesn’t necessarily lift all boats.

New York City is the capital of millionaires

By John Aidan Byrne

March 12, 2016 | 7:30pm

More than 389,000—roughly 1 in 22 New Yorkers—are millionaires



HUDSON YARDS

ENGINEERED CITY

Hudson Yards will be far more than a collection of tall towers and open spaces. It will be a model for the 21st century urban experience; an unprecedented integration of buildings, streets, parks, utilities and public spaces that will combine to form a connected, responsive, clean, reliable and efficient neighborhood.

CONNECTED NEIGHBORHOOD

Communications will be supported by a fiber loop, designed to optimize data speed and service continuity for rooftop communications, as well as mobile, cellular and two-way radio communications. This will allow continuous access via wired and wireless broadband performance from any device at any on-site location. We're as good as future-proofed.

- Digital antennae service (DAS) for cellular and two-way radio
- Rooftop satellite
- Wireless responders
- Fiber Loop

RESPONSIVE NEIGHBORHOOD

Hudson Yards will harness big data to innovate, optimize, enhance and personalize the employee, resident and visitor experience. Supported by an advanced technology platform, operations managers will be able to monitor and react to traffic patterns, air quality, power demands, temperature and pedestrian flow to create the most efficiently navigated and environmentally attuned neighborhood in New York.

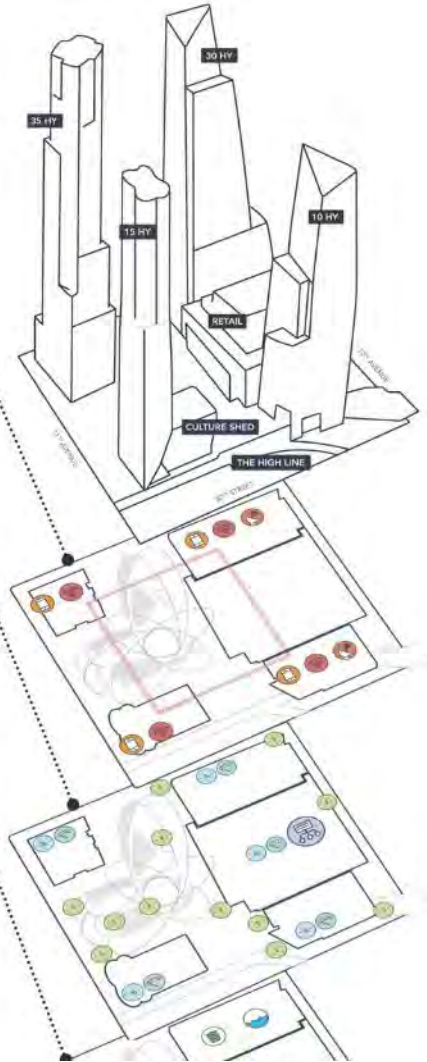
- Building data-capture sensors (systems, equipment)
- Electrical and thermal sub-metering
- Environmental sensors (air, noise, other environmental factors)
- Advanced technology platform

CLEAN + RESPONSIBLE NEIGHBORHOOD

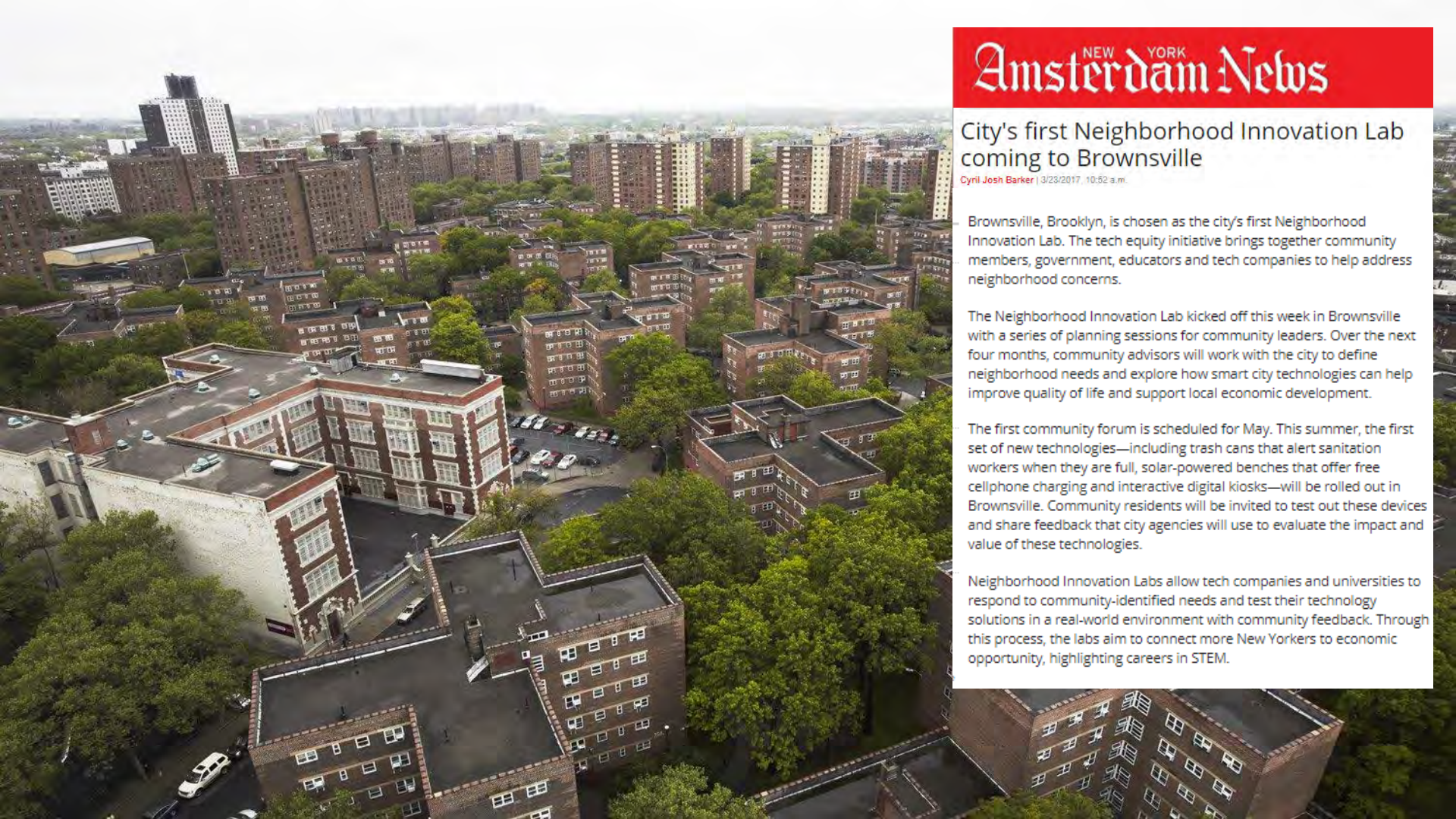
Progressive cities are moving toward organic waste separation systems to reduce landfill costs, methane emissions and greenhouse gas emissions. Hudson Yards makes organic waste collection convenient and space efficient by utilizing grinders, dehydrators and bioreactors to convert food-service organic waste to dry fertilizer at 10% of its initial weight and size.

Additionally, nearly 10 million gallons of storm water will be collected per year from building roofs and public plazas, then filtered and reused in mechanical and irrigation systems to conserve potable water for drinking and reducing stress on New York's sewer system.

- Organic-waste disposal system
- Stormwater Tank



To truly leverage the transformative power of technology, we (government) must focus our attention on the communities where needs—and resistance—are the greatest.



NEW YORK Amsterdam News

City's first Neighborhood Innovation Lab coming to Brownsville

Cyril Josh Barker | 3/23/2017, 10:52 a.m.

Brownsville, Brooklyn, is chosen as the city's first Neighborhood Innovation Lab. The tech equity initiative brings together community members, government, educators and tech companies to help address neighborhood concerns.

The Neighborhood Innovation Lab kicked off this week in Brownsville with a series of planning sessions for community leaders. Over the next four months, community advisors will work with the city to define neighborhood needs and explore how smart city technologies can help improve quality of life and support local economic development.

The first community forum is scheduled for May. This summer, the first set of new technologies—including trash cans that alert sanitation workers when they are full, solar-powered benches that offer free cellphone charging and interactive digital kiosks—will be rolled out in Brownsville. Community residents will be invited to test out these devices and share feedback that city agencies will use to evaluate the impact and value of these technologies.

Neighborhood Innovation Labs allow tech companies and universities to respond to community-identified needs and test their technology solutions in a real-world environment with community feedback. Through this process, the labs aim to connect more New Yorkers to economic opportunity, highlighting careers in STEM.

DAILY NEWS

Crime fighters in Brooklyn are using social media to catch dumb gangsters flaunting illegal weapons

Cops in Brownsville are using Facebook and Twitter to find gunmen. Brownsville, the city's most dangerous precinct, was number one in gun recoveries in 2012 and so far in 2013.

BY
SIMONE WEICHSELBAUM

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS
Updated: Thursday, February 7, 2013, 3:00 AM

What's not to "like" about an innovative NYPD approach to getting guns off the streets of Brownsville?

Police in the crime-plagued Brooklyn neighborhood are confiscating more guns than any other cops in the city by tracking dimwitted gang members on Facebook and other social networking sites.

A mix of patrol officers and detectives assigned to the 73rd Precinct spend several hours each week combing through the sites searching for clues that lead them to guns. Since the beginning of last year, cops have been scouring the Web looking for pictures of weapons, threats against rivals or hints about gang activity.

VICE

NEWS

Omnipresence Is the Newest NYPD Tactic You've Never Heard Of

JOHN SURICO
Oct 20 2014, 1:25pm

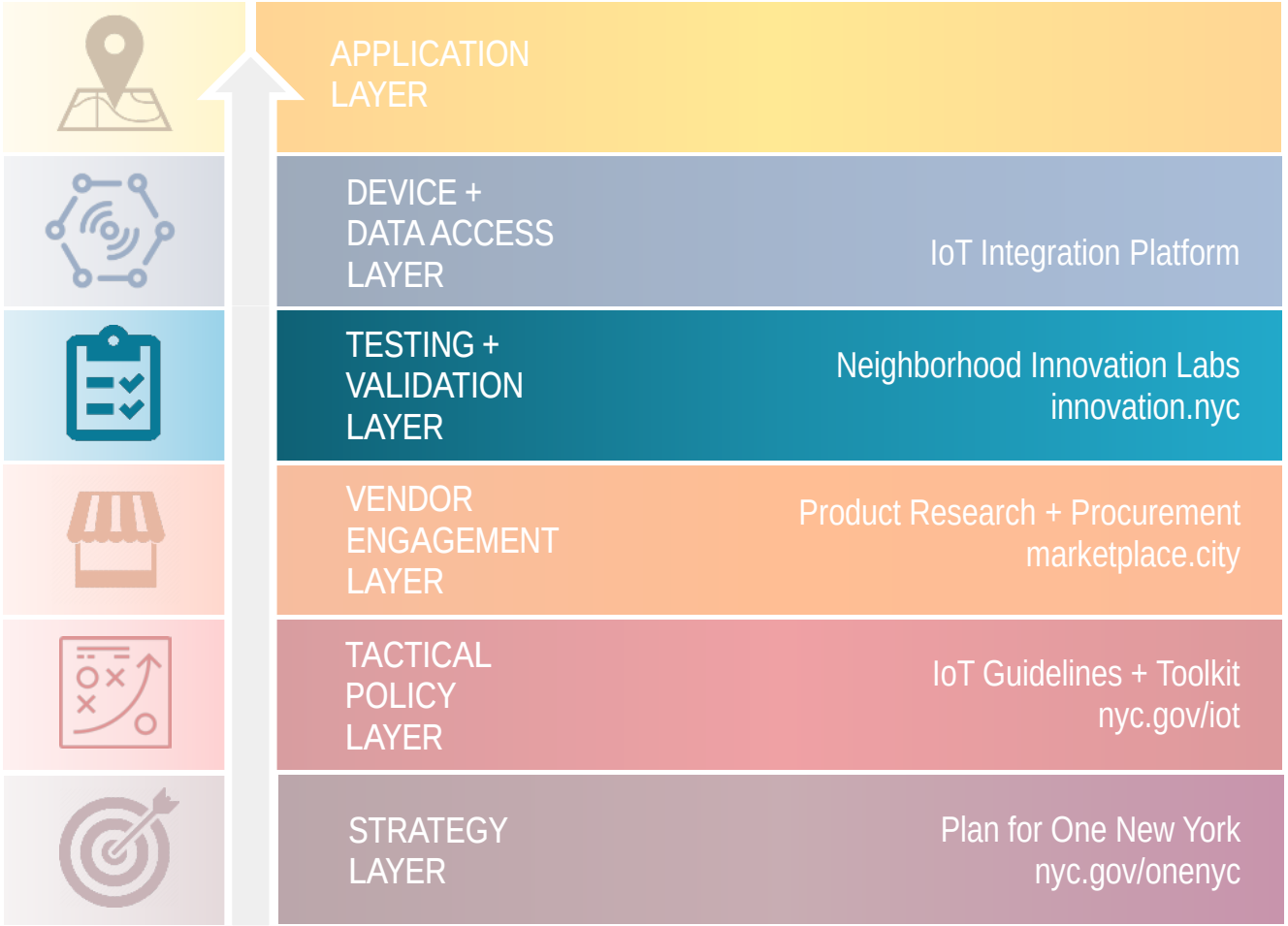
Photos by Angela Almeida

Deep into the night, a buzz can be heard in the Brownsville Houses. Outside playgrounds, inside parking lots, and throughout courtyards, massive floodlights marked with NYPD insignias and powered by humming generators stand guard, creating the eerie look of a perpetual crime scene. It's no shocker, really: The Brooklyn project off Rockaway Avenue is located in one of New York City's most crime-ridden areas and is known for its high police presence amid a bevy of affordable housing developments.

“Just adding technology” isn’t a sustainable formula for success. We have to re-architect the entire tech development cycle to bake in equity and trust.

Neighborhood Innovation Labs are a critical component of our smart city "stack".

They operate at the intersection where ideas and planning turn into real implementation.



When it comes to implementation, **even the smartest cities can be really dumb.**

NEW YORK POST

City replacing some LED street lights because they're too bright

By Beckie Strum

May 14, 2016 | 12:04am

MORE ON:
LED LIGHTS

Let's hope Trump's successor can light up 40 Wall again

Madison Square Garden's outside to light up with team colors

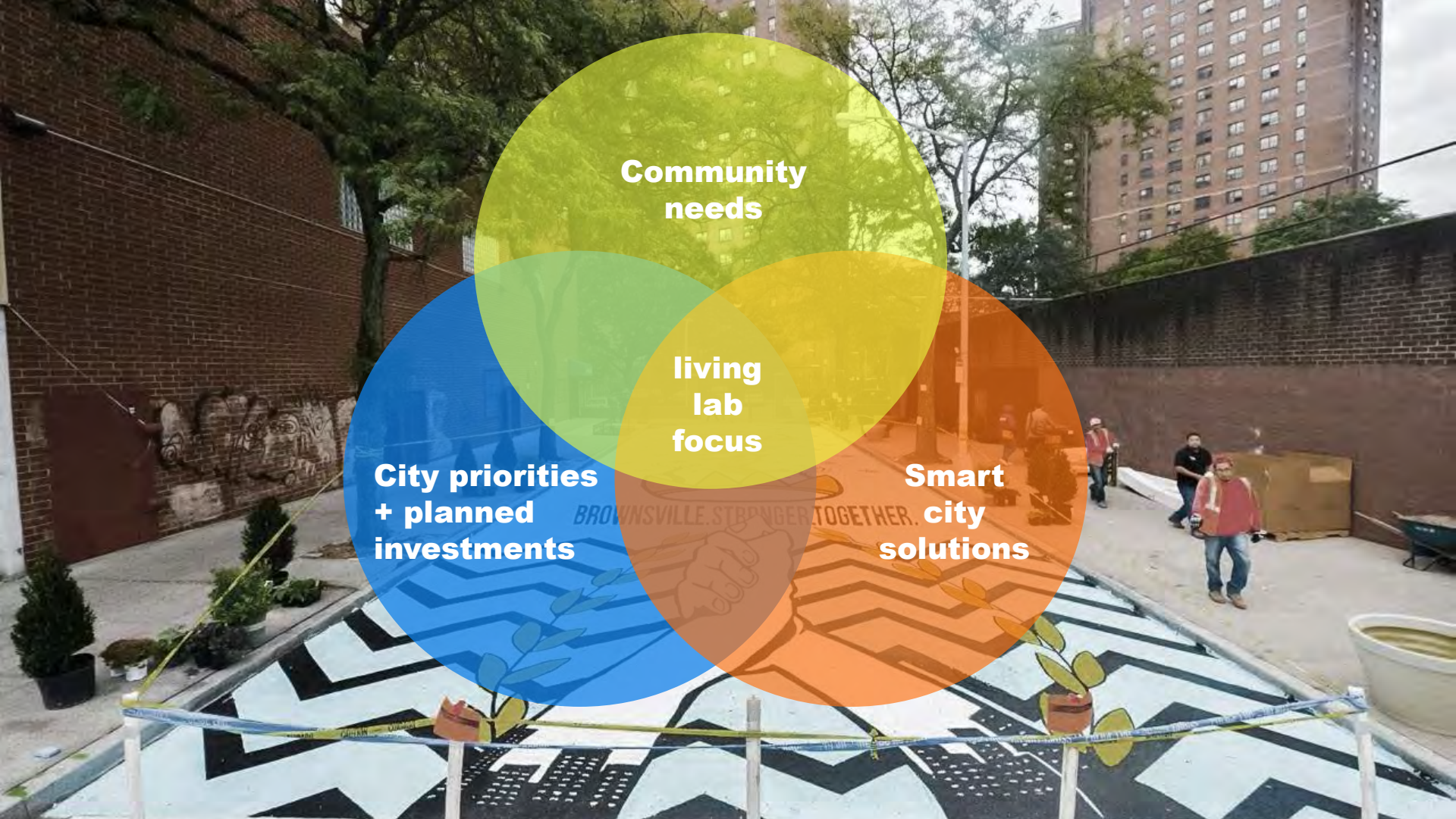
City's towers in LED arms race to get brightest spot in skyline

New Yorkers trying to catch a few winks in the city that never sleeps have persuaded bureaucrats to turn down the lights.

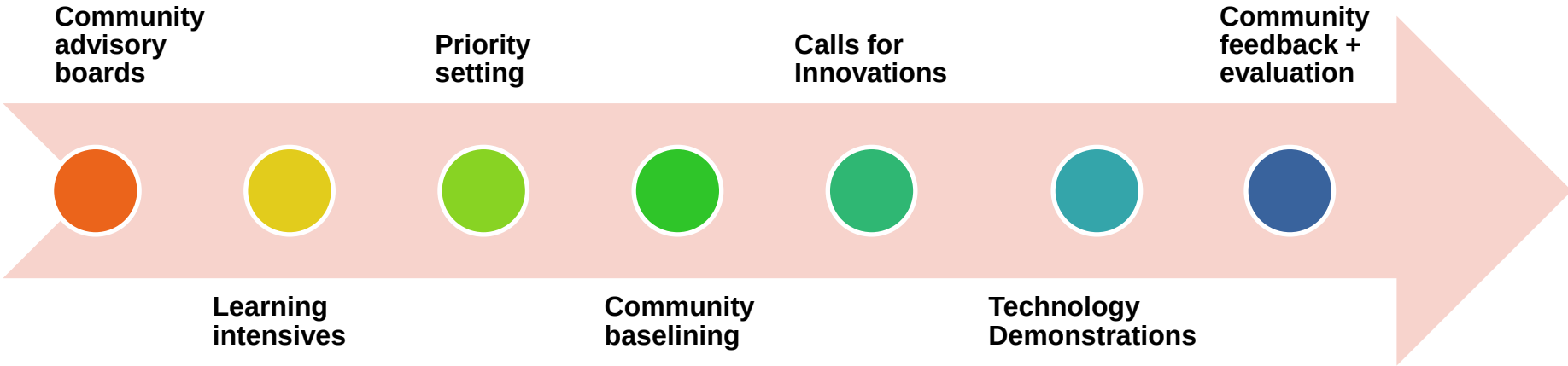
The city began installing energy-efficient LEDs in all of its 250,000 street lamps back in February 2015 — but now it's replacing some of those lights again because residents are complaining that they're way too bright.

"Once again, the citizens know best. They were too bright in many cases, initially," Mayor de Blasio said on WNYC radio Friday.

If done well, the testing, validating and engagement around new technologies can accelerate our work in government — reducing risks, improving outcomes, and supporting the development of new partners and advocates for our work.


Community needs
living lab focus
City priorities + planned investments
Smart city solutions

Key components of our approach:



By investing in long-term partnerships and diversifying the people and perspectives included in the cost-benefit analysis of new technologies, we can begin to turn the tide toward a more equitable future.

How might we get to zero waste and litter and increase recycling in public housing?

The City of New York is seeking to test creative solutions that:

- Reduce litter and improper waste disposal in public housing
- Increase resident participation in recycling and waste reduction
- Promote waste-free common spaces

Deadline: December 15, 2017

on.nyc.gov/wastechallenge

How might we encourage more people to enjoy, navigate, and use public spaces at night?

The City of New York is seeking to test creative solutions that:

- Enhance the experience and use of public spaces at night
- Increase nighttime activity in neighborhood corridors
- Help to unlock Brownsville's nighttime economy and cultural life

Deadline: December 15, 2017

on.nyc.gov/nightimechallenge

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