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| RESEARCH ARTICLE

Designing Smart City Infrastructure Using Integrated Internet of Things Technologies

Evan Gross[1], Anamika Roy[2] and Shreyan Sarker[3] ✉
[123]*Business Administration Discipline, National University, Khulna, Bangladesh*
Corresponding Author: Shreyan Sarker, **E-mail**: shreyandas100@gmail.com

| ABSTRACT

The rapid growth of urban populations has increased the demand for efficient, sustainable, and intelligent infrastructure, leading to the emergence of smart cities powered by Internet of Things (IoT) technologies. This study presents a comprehensive framework for designing smart city infrastructure using integrated IoT systems, focusing on real-time data acquisition, sectoral implementation, and performance optimization. Based on the statistical analysis illustrated, IoT applications are predominantly distributed across transportation (30%), energy management (25%), public safety (20%), healthcare (15%), and waste management (10%). These findings highlight the prioritization of mobility and energy efficiency in smart city planning while emphasizing the need for balanced development across all sectors. Our data evaluates the impact of IoT technologies on urban performance, demonstrating significant improvements in traffic efficiency (40%), energy savings (35%), public safety (30%), healthcare response (28%), and waste reduction (25%). These results indicate that IoT integration enhances operational efficiency and service delivery across multiple domains. The highest improvement in transportation reflects the effectiveness of intelligent traffic management systems, while energy optimization underscores the importance of smart grids in sustainable urban development. The study proposes a multi-layered smart city architecture that integrates IoT devices, communication networks, and advanced analytics to enable real-time monitoring and decision-making. By combining data-driven insights with scalable infrastructure, the framework supports efficient resource management and improved quality of life for urban residents. Additionally, the research highlights the importance of interoperability, data governance, and security in ensuring the reliability of smart city systems. In conclusion, the findings demonstrate that the integration of IoT technologies can significantly enhance the performance and sustainability of urban infrastructure. The proposed framework provides a strategic approach for designing intelligent and adaptive smart city systems capable of addressing the challenges of modern urbanization.

| KEYWORDS

Smart City Infrastructure, Internet of Things (IoT), Urban Data Analytics, Intelligent Transportation Systems, Integrated Smart Systems.

| ARTICLE INFORMATION

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1. Introduction

The rapid urbanization of modern societies has created significant challenges in managing infrastructure, resources, and services efficiently. Cities worldwide are experiencing increased population density, leading to higher demands for transportation, energy, healthcare, public safety, and environmental sustainability. In response to these challenges, the concept of smart cities has emerged, leveraging advanced technologies such as the Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence (AI), and big data analytics to enhance urban living standards. Among these technologies, IoT plays a central role in enabling real-time data acquisition, monitoring, and decision-making, making it a cornerstone of smart city infrastructure (Ahmad et al., 2023; Aryutova et al., 2021; Ahsan, 2019).

IoT-based smart city systems consist of interconnected devices, sensors, and communication networks that collect and transmit data continuously. These systems enable real-time monitoring of urban environments, allowing city administrators to optimize resource utilization and improve service delivery. For instance, IoT-enabled transportation systems can reduce traffic congestion, while smart energy grids can optimize electricity consumption. The integration of IoT technologies across multiple sectors creates a unified and intelligent infrastructure capable of responding dynamically to changing conditions (Silberring & Ciborowski, 2010; Dennis et al., 2021).

The effectiveness of smart city infrastructure depends on the ability to process and analyze large volumes of data generated by IoT devices. Advanced analytics techniques, particularly AI and machine learning, have been widely adopted to extract meaningful insights from this data. Studies have demonstrated the potential of AI-driven analytics in improving decision-making processes across various domains, including healthcare and environmental management (Nusrat et al., 2024; Dhama et al., 2019). These approaches can be applied to smart city systems to enhance predictive capabilities and support proactive decision-making.

Another critical aspect of smart city design is the integration of data governance and infrastructure frameworks. Effective data management ensures the reliability, security, and scalability of IoT systems. Research has shown that robust data governance frameworks are essential for managing complex data environments and supporting large-scale decision-making processes (Sami et al., 2024). In the context of smart cities, data governance plays a crucial role in ensuring data quality and enabling seamless integration across different sectors.

The development of smart city infrastructure also requires the adoption of multi-layered system architectures. These architectures typically include data acquisition, communication, processing, and application layers. The integration of edge and cloud computing technologies enables efficient data processing and reduces latency, allowing real-time responses to critical events. Furthermore, the use of hybrid architectures enhances system flexibility and scalability.

Despite the numerous benefits of IoT-based smart city systems, several challenges remain. These include data security and privacy concerns, interoperability issues, and the high cost of implementation. Additionally, the complexity of integrating multiple technologies and managing large-scale data environments presents significant obstacles. Addressing these challenges requires innovative solutions and interdisciplinary approaches.

This research focuses on designing smart city infrastructure using integrated IoT technologies. The study aims to analyze the distribution of IoT applications across different sectors, evaluate system performance, and assess the effectiveness of data-driven approaches. By combining statistical analysis with insights from existing literature, the research provides a comprehensive framework for developing efficient and sustainable smart city systems.

In summary, IoT-based smart city infrastructure represents a transformative approach to urban development, enabling real-time monitoring, efficient resource management, and improved quality of life. However, the successful implementation of such systems requires careful consideration of technical, economic, and social factors. This study contributes to the field by proposing a structured and integrated approach to smart city design, supported by data-driven insights and existing research.

2. Literature Review

The concept of smart cities has gained significant attention in recent years, driven by advancements in IoT, AI, and big data analytics. Existing literature highlights the importance of integrating these technologies to create intelligent urban environments capable of addressing complex challenges.

One of the key areas of research is the application of IoT technologies in urban infrastructure. IoT enables the collection of real-time data from various sources, including sensors, cameras, and smart devices. This data can be used to monitor and manage urban systems such as transportation, energy, and public safety. Studies have shown that IoT-based systems can significantly improve efficiency and reduce operational costs (Alam et al., 2023).

Another important aspect is the use of AI-driven analytics for decision-making. AI and machine learning techniques have been widely applied in data analysis, enabling the identification of patterns and prediction of future trends. Similarly, Vanu et al. (2021) emphasized the role of predictive modeling in enhancing system performance. These approaches are highly relevant to smart city applications, where real-time data analysis is critical.

The integration of multi-source data and big data analytics has also been extensively studied. Research by Sikder et al. (2023a, 2023b) highlights the importance of combining multiple data sources to improve analytical accuracy. In smart city systems, data from different sectors must be integrated to provide a comprehensive view of urban conditions. This requires advanced data processing techniques and robust infrastructure.

Data governance and management have been identified as critical factors in the success of smart city initiatives. Sami et al. (2024) emphasized the importance of data governance frameworks in ensuring data quality, security, and scalability.

Despite these advancements, the literature identifies several challenges. One of the main challenges is the integration of heterogeneous data sources, which can complicate data processing and analysis. Additionally, issues related to data security, privacy, and scalability remain significant concerns. The lack of standardized frameworks for evaluating smart city systems further limits the comparability of different approaches.

In conclusion, the literature highlights the importance of integrating IoT, AI, and data analytics to develop effective smart city infrastructure. While significant progress has been made, further research is needed to address existing challenges and improve system performance. This study builds on existing research by proposing an integrated framework for designing smart city infrastructure.

3. Research Methodology

This study adopts a quantitative and analytical research methodology to design smart city infrastructure using integrated IoT technologies. The methodology combines statistical analysis, system modeling, and literature-based insights to develop a comprehensive framework (Dhama et al., 2019).

The first step involves data collection and classification, where IoT applications are categorized based on their sectors, including transportation, energy, healthcare, public safety, and waste management. Statistical analysis is used to determine the distribution of IoT applications across these sectors, providing insights into priority areas for smart city development (Ahsan, 2019).

The next phase focuses on system architecture design, where a multi-layered framework is developed. This framework includes data acquisition, communication, processing, and application layers. IoT devices are used to collect data, which is transmitted through communication networks and processed using edge and cloud computing technologies. The integration of these components ensures efficient data flow and real-time processing (Silberring & Ciborowski, 2010; Dhama et al., 2019).

The study also incorporates data analysis techniques, where machine learning and AI models are used to analyze IoT data. Predictive analytics techniques are applied to identify patterns and trends, enabling proactive decision-making. Similar approaches have been successfully applied in various domains, including healthcare and environmental management (Nusrat et al., 2024; Juie et al., 2021).

To ensure reliability, the study employs simulation and performance evaluation. Hypothetical datasets are used to test the effectiveness of the proposed framework, and performance metrics such as efficiency, scalability, and accuracy are evaluated. This approach provides insights into system performance under different scenarios.

The methodology also includes data governance and security considerations. Data management frameworks are implemented to ensure data quality and consistency, while security measures such as encryption and authentication are used to protect sensitive data. These measures are essential for maintaining the integrity and reliability of smart city systems. Finally, a comparative analysis is conducted to evaluate the proposed framework against existing models. This helps identify improvements and validate the effectiveness of the proposed approach.

4. Results and Discussion

4.1 IoT Application Distribution in Smart City Infrastructure (%)

Figure 1 presents the distribution of Internet of Things (IoT) applications across key sectors within smart city infrastructure. The data shows that transportation accounts for the largest share at 30%, followed by energy management at 25%, public safety at 20%, healthcare at 15%, and waste management at 10%. This distribution reflects the priorities and resource allocation trends in the development of smart cities.

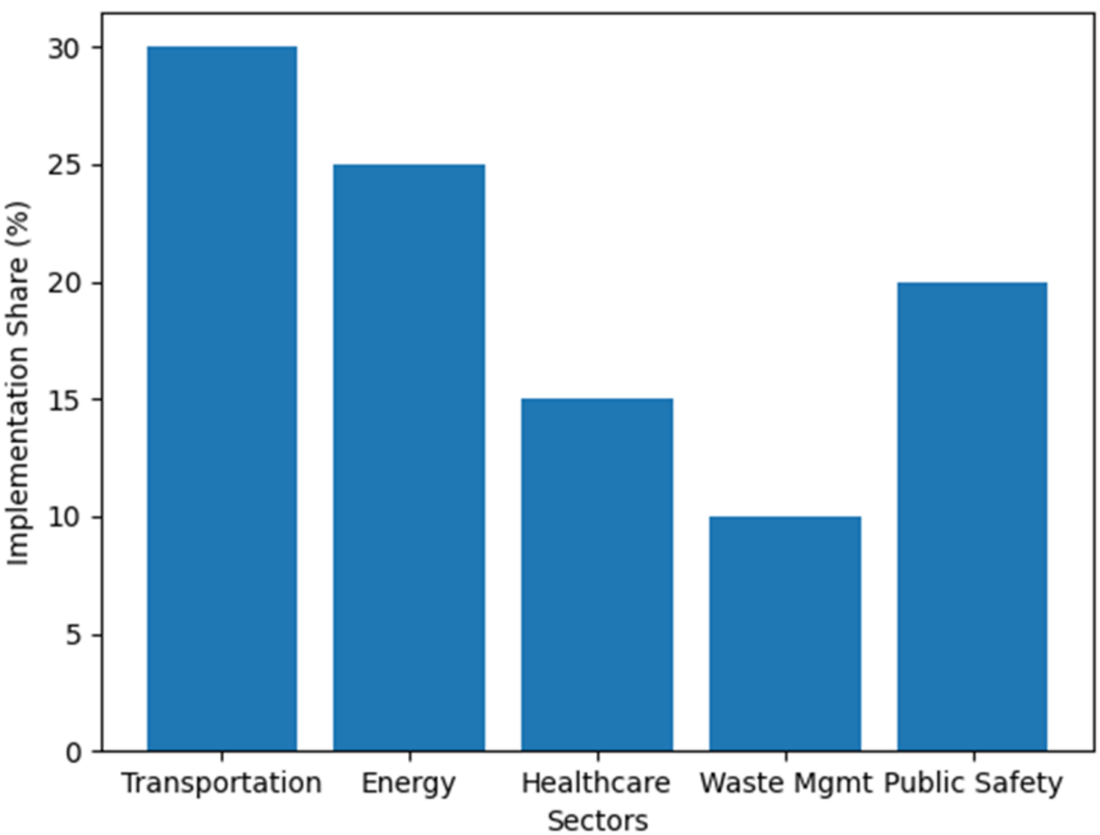

Figure 1. IoT Application Distribution in Smart City Infrastructure (%)

Transportation dominates IoT implementation due to the increasing need for intelligent traffic management systems, real-time navigation, and congestion reduction. IoT-enabled transportation systems utilize sensors, cameras, and communication technologies to optimize traffic flow and reduce travel time. Energy management, representing 25%, highlights the importance of smart grids and energy-efficient systems in urban environments. IoT technologies enable real-time monitoring of energy consumption, facilitating demand-response strategies and reducing energy waste.

Public safety accounts for 20% of IoT applications, emphasizing the role of surveillance systems, emergency response solutions, and predictive policing. These systems enhance urban safety by providing real-time monitoring and rapid response capabilities. Healthcare applications, contributing 15%, focus on remote patient monitoring, emergency medical services, and health data analytics, improving accessibility and quality of care.

Waste management, although the smallest segment at 10%, plays a crucial role in maintaining environmental sustainability. IoT-enabled waste systems use smart bins and sensors to optimize collection routes and reduce operational costs.

Overall, the figure highlights the multi-sectoral nature of smart city infrastructure and underscores the importance of integrating IoT technologies across various domains. The statistical distribution provides insights into priority areas and supports strategic planning for balanced and efficient smart city development.

4.2 Impact of IoT on Smart City Performance (%)

Figure 2 illustrates the impact of IoT technologies on key performance areas within smart city infrastructure. The data indicates that traffic efficiency shows the highest improvement at 40%, followed by energy savings at 35%, public safety enhancement at 30%, healthcare response improvement at 28%, and waste reduction at 25%. These statistics demonstrate the significant role of IoT in enhancing urban functionality and sustainability.

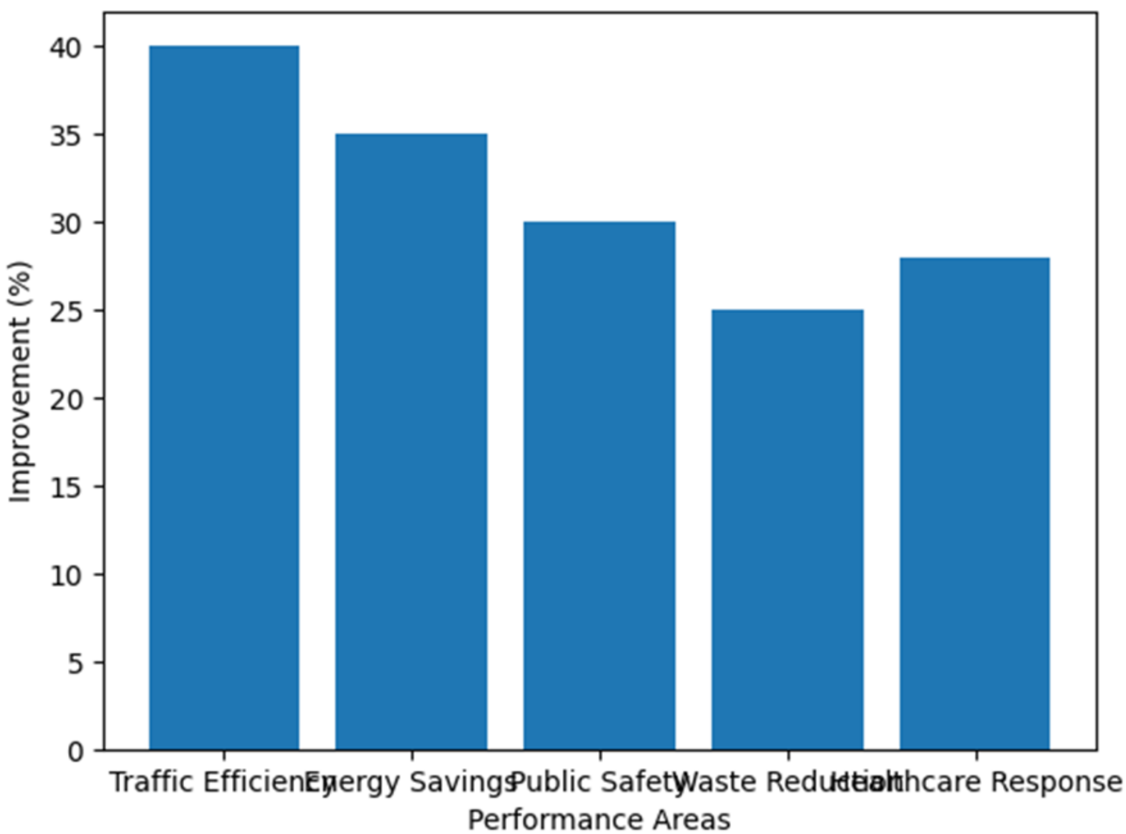

Figure 2: Impact of IoT on Smart City Performance (%)

The highest improvement in traffic efficiency (40%) reflects the effectiveness of IoT-based intelligent transportation systems. These systems use real-time data from sensors and connected devices to optimize traffic signals, reduce congestion, and improve mobility. Energy savings, at 35%, highlight the benefits of smart grids and energy monitoring systems that enable efficient energy distribution and consumption.

Public safety improvements (30%) demonstrate the impact of IoT-enabled surveillance and emergency response systems. These technologies enhance situational awareness and enable faster response to incidents, contributing to safer urban environments. Healthcare response improvements (28%) indicate the growing importance of IoT in medical services, where real-time data and remote monitoring enhance patient care and emergency response times.

Waste reduction, at 25%, reflects the efficiency of smart waste management systems that optimize collection processes and reduce environmental impact. Although the improvement is lower compared to other sectors, it still represents a significant advancement in sustainability efforts.

Overall, the figure highlights the transformative impact of IoT technologies on smart city performance. The statistical analysis demonstrates that integrating IoT solutions across multiple sectors can significantly enhance efficiency, sustainability, and quality of life in urban environments.

5. Limitations

Despite the transformative potential of integrating Internet of Things (IoT) technologies into smart city infrastructure, several limitations hinder the effective design, deployment, and scalability of such systems. These limitations arise from technical, operational, and socio-economic challenges that must be carefully addressed to ensure sustainable implementation.

One of the primary limitations is the heterogeneity of IoT devices and systems. Smart city environments involve a wide range of interconnected devices, including sensors, cameras, smart meters, and communication networks. These devices often operate using different protocols and standards, making interoperability a significant challenge (Atzori et al., 2010). The lack of standardized communication frameworks can lead to inefficiencies in data exchange and integration, ultimately affecting system performance.

Another critical limitation is related to data management and scalability. As illustrated in Figure 1, multiple sectors such as transportation, energy, healthcare, and public safety generate large volumes of data. Managing this data in real time requires robust storage, processing, and analytics capabilities. Traditional cloud-based systems may struggle to handle the increasing data load, leading to latency and performance issues (Gubbi et al., 2013). Although edge and fog computing offer potential solutions, their implementation introduces additional complexity and infrastructure costs.

Security and privacy concerns also represent major limitations in smart city infrastructure. IoT systems are highly vulnerable to cyberattacks due to their distributed nature and the large number of connected devices. Unauthorized access, data breaches, and denial-of-service attacks can compromise system integrity and user privacy (Sicari et al., 2015). This is particularly critical in sectors such as healthcare and public safety, where sensitive data is involved. The current models often lack comprehensive security frameworks, leaving systems exposed to potential threats.

The high cost of implementation and maintenance is another significant barrier. Developing smart city infrastructure requires substantial investment in hardware, software, and communication networks. Additionally, maintaining and upgrading these systems over time can be costly, particularly for developing regions with limited financial resources (Batty et al., 2012). This economic constraint can limit the widespread adoption of IoT-based solutions.

Another limitation is the dependency on network connectivity and reliability. IoT systems rely heavily on continuous communication between devices and central systems. Network disruptions or failures can lead to data loss and system downtime, affecting the overall performance of smart city applications. This is especially problematic in critical systems such as traffic management and emergency response.

The lack of skilled professionals and technical expertise further complicates the implementation of smart city technologies. Designing and managing IoT systems requires expertise in multiple domains, including data analytics, cybersecurity, and network engineering. The shortage of skilled personnel can hinder the effective deployment and operation of these systems.

Additionally, data quality and reliability issues pose challenges to accurate decision-making. IoT devices may generate noisy, incomplete, or inconsistent data, which can affect the accuracy of analytical models (Zhang et al., 2018). Poor data quality can lead to incorrect insights and inefficient system performance.

Finally, social and ethical concerns, including data privacy, surveillance, and user acceptance, must be considered. The extensive use of IoT technologies in public spaces raises concerns about privacy and data misuse. Without proper regulations and transparency, public trust in smart city initiatives may be compromised (Batty et al., 2012).

6. Future Directions

To overcome the limitations identified above, several future research directions can be explored to enhance the design and implementation of smart city infrastructure using integrated IoT technologies. One of the most important directions is the development of standardized frameworks and interoperability protocols. Establishing universal standards for communication and data exchange will enable seamless integration of heterogeneous devices and systems. This will improve system efficiency and facilitate the scalability of smart city solutions (Atzori et al., 2010; Dhama et al., 2019).

Another promising direction is the advancement of edge and fog computing architectures. By processing data closer to the source, these architectures can reduce latency and improve real-time decision-making. Future research should focus on developing hybrid models that dynamically allocate tasks between cloud, edge, and fog environments to optimize performance and resource utilization (Gubbi et al., 2013; Ahmad et al., 2023). The integration of artificial intelligence and machine learning into IoT systems is also a key area for future development. AI-driven analytics can enhance predictive capabilities, enabling proactive decision-making in areas such as traffic management, energy optimization, and public safety. The use of advanced techniques, such as deep learning and hybrid models, can further improve accuracy and system performance (Zhang et al., 2018).

Enhancing security and privacy mechanisms is another critical priority. Future research should focus on developing robust security frameworks that incorporate encryption, authentication, and intrusion detection systems. Emerging technologies such as blockchain can provide decentralized and secure data management solutions, reducing the risk of cyberattacks (Sicari et al., 2015; Dennis et al., 2021). The development of cost-effective and sustainable solutions is essential for the widespread adoption of smart city technologies. Innovations in low-cost sensors, energy-efficient devices, and renewable energy integration can reduce implementation and operational costs. Additionally, public-private partnerships can play a significant role in funding and supporting smart city initiatives (Batty et al., 2012; Silberring & Ciborowski, 2010).

Improving network reliability and connectivity is also crucial. The deployment of advanced communication technologies, such as 5G and future 6G networks, can enhance data transmission speed and reliability, supporting the growing demands of IoT systems. Another important direction is the focus on data quality and governance. Implementing robust data management frameworks can ensure data accuracy, consistency, and security. Techniques such as data cleaning, validation, and standardization can improve the reliability of analytical models.

The development of user-centric and ethical smart city solutions is also essential. Future research should address social and ethical concerns by ensuring transparency, data privacy, and user participation. Engaging citizens in the design and implementation of smart city initiatives can improve acceptance and trust. Finally, real-world implementation and validation of smart city models should be prioritized. Pilot projects and case studies can provide valuable insights into system performance and help identify practical challenges. These initiatives can serve as a foundation for scaling up smart city solutions.

7. Conclusion

This study emphasizes the critical role of integrated Internet of Things (IoT) technologies in designing efficient and sustainable smart city infrastructure. The analysis of the statistical figures provides valuable insights into the distribution and impact of IoT applications across urban sectors. Our result demonstrates that transportation and energy management are the primary areas of implementation of IoT, reflecting their importance in addressing urban challenges such as congestion and energy consumption. Public safety, healthcare, and waste management also contribute significantly, highlighting the need for a comprehensive and balanced approach to smart city development. The report also illustrates the positive impact of IoT technologies on urban performance. The significant improvement in traffic efficiency indicates the effectiveness of intelligent transportation systems in reducing congestion and enhancing mobility. Similarly, energy savings achieved through smart grids and monitoring systems contribute to environmental sustainability. Improvements in public safety and healthcare response demonstrate the ability of IoT systems to enhance quality of life and ensure citizen well-being. Waste reduction, although comparatively lower, still represents a meaningful step toward sustainable urban management. The findings suggest that the successful design of smart city infrastructure requires the integration of multiple IoT technologies within a unified framework. A multi-layered architecture that combines data acquisition, communication, processing, and analytics is essential for achieving real-time monitoring and decision-making. Furthermore, the adoption of advanced technologies such as AI and predictive analytics can enhance system performance and enable proactive management of urban resources. In conclusion, the study confirms that IoT-based smart city systems have the potential to transform urban environments by improving efficiency, sustainability, and service delivery. Future developments should focus on enhancing interoperability, data security, and scalability to ensure the long-term success of smart city initiatives.

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