

SNAPSHOT

Electric Companies Are Powering Smart Communities

Electric companies across the United States are committed to supporting the development of smart communities. Smart communities are built on smarter energy infrastructure and leverage the power of data and technology to improve sustainability, spur economic development, help drive efficiencies, and enhance the overall quality of life for their citizens.

This snapshot provides an overview of the types of projects electric companies are working on with their communities. It is based on a February 2018 survey conducted by the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) of its member companies and summarizes the responses from 31 electric companies engaged in smart community initiatives.

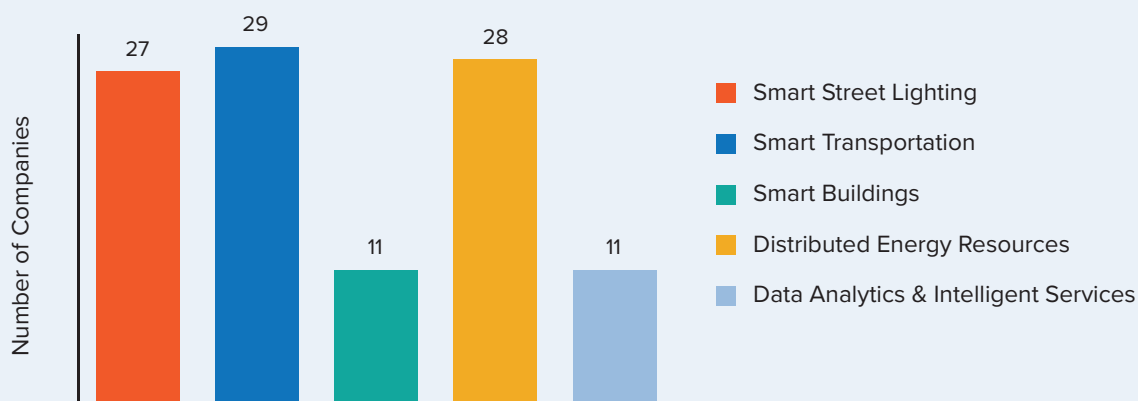
SUMMARY OF SMART COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

In February 2018, EEI surveyed member companies to assess how electric companies are working with communities in five energy-related project areas and how electric companies are organizing internally to better engage with communities.

The survey results show:

- The types of projects that electric companies are most engaged in with communities include: smart street lighting, smart transportation, and distributed energy resource projects.
- **23 of the 31 electric company respondents are working on 3 or more smart community projects, and all but one of those companies** have a designated individual or department working on smart community projects.

Number of EEI Member Companies Engaged in Smart Community Projects



EXAMPLES OF SMART COMMUNITY PROJECTS



Smart street lighting projects often are called “**the gateway**” to smart communities because they help communities save energy, improve safety, and reduce traffic congestion. The types of projects that electric companies are engaged in include:

- Offering turnkey, tariffed-based solutions to municipal customers that include materials, installation, and maintenance of LED street lights.
- Deploying sensors on light poles for adaptive lighting based on traffic conditions.
- Piloting network lighting controls.



In the future, transportation increasingly will be powered by electricity. Smart transportation improves safety and mobility, reduces the carbon footprint, and provides greater access to services. Electric companies are engaged in smart transportation projects with communities, including:

- Developing the charging infrastructure for electric bus rapid transit lines.
- Piloting EV ridesharing programs in low-income and disadvantaged communities.
- Investing in public charging stations.
- Piloting smart rates for managed EV charging.
- Pairing battery energy storage with DC fast charging stations.



Electric companies also are working with cities to develop **Smart Buildings** that save energy and improve sustainability, including:

- Integrating building automation on a college campus with a microgrid.
- Partnering with homebuilders to develop smart neighborhoods.



Increasingly, electric companies are working with communities on clean energy and **Distributed Energy Resources** to improve sustainability, efficiency, and reliability. Projects that electric companies are engaged in with their communities include:

- Developing community solar projects.
- Working with municipalities to build microgrids for resiliency at critical facilities.



Electric companies also are working with communities on **Data Analytics and Intelligent Services** to increase efficiency, improve city services, and enhance quality of life, including:

- Deploying air quality sensors.
- Placing gunshot detection technology on poles for law enforcement.