



Media Backgrounder

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Smart Cities Report: lack of awareness about the benefits of smart city solutions among the public plus insufficient budget - these are the main barriers to building cities of the future according to both residents of Polish cities and local authorities.

Warsaw, Poland – Signify (Euronext:LIGHT), the world leader in lighting presents further results of the survey on smart cities, gathered and processed in the [Smart Cities Report](#). The survey was conducted among residents and representatives of local authorities from five Polish cities, who were to indicate what solutions are necessary to create a smart city and what are the barriers local authorities have to face at their attempts to implement smart solutions. The representatives of public administration included people holding managerial positions and specialists responsible for urban infrastructure and urban regeneration.

Both groups of respondents agreed that it is difficult to determine one most important tool as an essential element of a smart city. The respondents asked about this issue had several answers to choose from, including among other things: urban traffic control system, parking information system, platform for communication with residents, city surveillance system, municipal management system, energy-efficient lighting, open data sharing platform and "other" - each of those received from both residents and local authorities between 11 and 16 percent of votes, and the leading position in both groups was held by "other". This shows that implementing solutions for smart cities is a truly comprehensive challenge.

Jan Maciej Czajkowski, Co-chair of the Information Society Team at the Joint Government and Local Administration Committee, Association of Cities says: *"Smart cities can be compared to a complex organism where digital networks are the nerves, sensors represent the senses and the intelligence of urban decision makers supported by new technologies is the brain. Such a city is aware of its "body" and its functioning only with the assumption of efficient infrastructure and holistic, but also precise spatial, investment and financial planning, based on hard, measurable data. Such a city is friendly to its residents, listening to their expectations and needs and creating favourable conditions for living, working and resting."*

When it comes to identifying barriers to building smart cities, the respondents were also in agreement, pointing primarily to the lack of funds for investments (32% of responses among the local authorities officials surveyed and 23% among the residents) and the lack of sufficient public awareness about the benefits of smart city solutions (30% of votes in each group). Every fifth inhabitant points out that lack of knowledge about the smart city concept also applies to local authorities officials. An almost equally important barrier according to all respondents is the lack of one, coherent concept of smart city implementation (17% of responses among local authorities and 15% among residents).



In addition to the survey results presented, the Smart Cities Report also contains a number of good practices and recommendations from experts in science, business and administration. Among other things, they share their experience on how to use the potential of new technologies in city development. The entire material is available [here](#).

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About Signify

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