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SMART CURB COLLABORATIVE

Data Standardization / Monitoring

Project Title: City of Buffalo SMART Grant Parking Program

Location: Buffalo, NY

Timeline: August 2023 - September 2025

Pilot area: Medical Corridor

Problem Statement

Much of the curb space in the city of Buffalo is outdated and unable to support the variety of civic, commercial, and pedestrian uses that a city in the 21st century demands. Additionally, increasing extreme winter weather events are impacting response times and communications for the residents and users of the streets in Buffalo. Curb and street management is critical to the long-term vitality of Buffalo's urban space.

Project Overview

The City of Buffalo will create a comprehensive map of curb data in chosen areas; on-street signage, fire hydrant, pedestrian access, and electric vehicle charging data. The data will be able to integrate with the City's Open Data portal. The resultant datasets will allow for better understanding of existing mobility needs and be utilized to power dynamic signage and emergency alert messages. This grant will enable us to provide real-time data on conditions—in the context of our broader infrastructure needs—and integrate with existing alert systems like BuffAlert, the emergency broadcast system.

How did you select the study area?

The study will be conducted in the Medical Corridor, a high-density site with several medical facilities that attracts users from a large geographic area. This area is two perpendicular streets in downtown Buffalo including one street, Canalside, near the waterfront in downtown Buffalo. Both sections are near the Marine Drive Apartments, an affordable housing property owned by the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority (BMHA).

Technology Partners and Outputs

Purpose	Details	Vendors	Key Stats
Create a digital curb inventory in CDS	Obtain a curb inventory layer		



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Dynamic sign messaging and Curb monitoring	Deploy various dynamic message signs and curb monitoring cameras		X Umojo cameras installed 5 dynamic messaging signs installed/ E-paper signs
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How was CDS used in this project?

- All curb data will be translated into CDS

Key Challenges

- Challenging to bring attention to the project and move through the standard procurement and contracting mechanisms.
- Powering the signage and cameras is a continuing challenge given that the solar panels and battery systems don't perform well in climates like Buffalo with heavy snow.

Key Learnings

- Working with one primary integration vendor, Umojo, has been helpful to streamline workstreams and understanding of the project.