

# Smarter New York City

*How City Agencies Innovate*

Edited by **André Corrêa d'Almeida**

"Cities today are hotbeds of innovation for sustainable development, and *Smarter New York City* presents a compendium of fascinating and insightful case studies of how New York City is building a smarter, fairer, and greener city. This is a brilliant, timely, and remarkably useful guidebook to promote sustainable development innovations in cities around the world."

—Jeffrey D. Sachs, University Professor, Columbia University, and director, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network

"Invaluable to those looking to understand the complexities of life as a public servant, and anyone striving to become the champion of innovation."

—David N. Dinkins, 106th mayor, City of New York

"[A] refreshingly original book about technology in the public sector."

—Saskia Sassen, Columbia University, author of *Cities in a World Economy*

Innovation is often presented as being in the exclusive domain of the private sector. Yet despite widespread perceptions of public-sector inefficiency, government agencies have much to teach us about how technological and social advances occur. Improving governance at the municipal level is critical to the future of the twenty-first-century city, from environmental sustainability to education, economic development, public health, and beyond. In this age of acceleration and massive migration of people into cities around the world, this book explains how innovation from within city agencies and administrations makes urban systems smarter and shapes life in New York City.

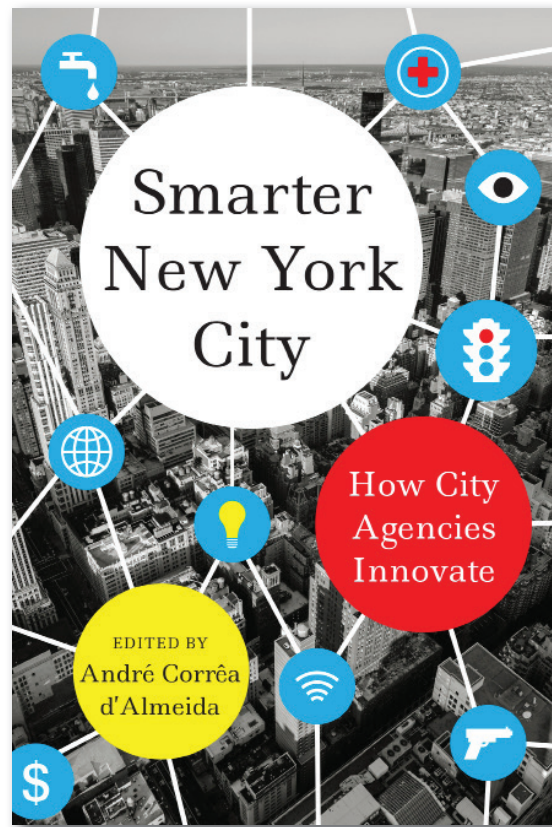
Using a series of case studies, *Smarter New York City* describes the drivers and constraints behind urban innovation, including leadership and organization; networks and interagency collaboration; institutional context; technology and real-time data collection; responsiveness and decision making; and results and impact. Cases include residential organic-waste collection, an NYPD program that identifies the sound of gunshots in real time, and the Vision Zero attempt to end traffic casualties, among others. Challenging the usefulness of a tech-centric view of urban innovation, *Smarter New York City* brings together a multidisciplinary and integrated perspective to imagine new possibilities from within city agencies, with practical lessons for city officials, urban planners, policy makers, civil society, and potential private-sector partners.

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\$30.00 / £24.95 paper · 978-0-231-18375-8

\$90.00 / £74.95 cloth · 978-0-231-18374-1

\$29.99 / £24.95 ebook · 978-0-231-54511-2

JULY 2018 352 pages

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