City of Racine, Wisconsin
Office of the Mayor

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Mayor Cory Mason Announces Details of Smart Cities September Series
Series includes conferences, events, and announcements that will reclaim Racine's historical brand as "Invention City"

City of Racine – Today, Mayor Mason joined with County Executive Jonathan Delagrave, UW-Chancellor Debbie Ford, Gateway Technical College President Bryan Albrecht to announce Racine's first ever Smart Cities September Series. This has been an incredible year for Racine's Smart Cities efforts, including successfully competing against over 100 municipalities from Canada, Mexico, and the United States to become Wisconsin's first Smart City and the smallest municipality ever designated in North America. Now, just over 100 days after achieving the designation, the City of Racine is ready to announce three events we are calling the Smart Cities September Series.

"I am excited to announce our Smart Cities September Series consisting of three major events. Both the Smart Cities September Conference and the Smart Cities Readiness Workshop are designed to educate and engage with both the public and our private partners around what Smart Cities are and how Cities can improve the lives of their residents through the use of technology," said Mayor Cory Mason.

"Our third event is a celebration of innovation. Racine was at one point branded "Invention City" because we had more patents per capita than any other city in America. The Racine Innovation and Technology Gala will highlight the innovation that we know continues to this very day in our City. Companies such as SC Johnson, InSinkErator, Twin Disc, Modine, and Foxconn continue to be on cutting edge of innovation in their respective sectors. The Gala will be a celebration of the legacy of innovation, both past and future, in our community," continued Mayor Mason.

Racine Smart Cities September Series will be comprised of the following:

Smart Cities September Conference	Smart Cities Council Readiness Workshop	Racine Innovation & Technology Gala
September 11-12, 2019 7:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.	September 19, 2019 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.	September 25, 2019 5:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m.
Racine Memorial Hall 72 Seventh Street Racine, WI 53403	Racine Memorial Hall 72 Seventh Street Racine, WI 53403	Racine Festival Hall 5 Fifth Street Racine, Wisconsin 53403
Not only will the two-day conference feature national, state, and regional panelists from business, government, and the nonprofit sector sharing insights and strategies, Racine will announce innovative public-private partnerships designed to benefit residents, businesses, and government agencies, alike.	As part of winning the Smart Cities Council's North American Readiness Challenge, Racine will host the Smart Cities Council and its national partners who will assist government officials, residents, nonprofit organizations, and business leaders in developing broad-based consensus for the next stages of Racine's Smart Cities Initiatives.	Racine will host the newly established Innovation & Technology Gala as well as the Racine Innovation Awards as a way of celebrating and recognizing the continuing ingenuity of the area's people and businesses as well as the region's continuing role in shaping tomorrow.

Overarching Series Objectives
The Racine Smart Cities September Series is designed to support:

- Educating the public about the City of Racine Smart Cities Initiatives and its public-private partnerships with innovative businesses of Wisconsin and the nation
- Preparing residents and businesses for the digital economy and sharing strategies for helping Racine compete and thrive by leveraging the City's digital infrastructure and other assets
- Identifying and celebrating innovations being advanced by Racine entrepreneurs and established businesses
- Attracting, growing, and retaining entrepreneurs, established businesses, investors, and human talent
- Reclaiming Racine's historical brand as "Invention City"

Statewide & National Support
We are grateful to have the support of the Smart Cities Council for this series. We are also honored to count the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, the association representing the state's more than 600 cities and villages, as a sponsor promoting the series statewide, so other local governments can learn more from Racine.

Racine Smart Cities September Conference | Topics
The conference is focused on strengthening both the public and private sectors, and will include regional, state, and national experts on topics including:

- The Promise & Potential of Smart Cities & Digital Government
- Privacy, Cybersecurity, Connectivity & Competitiveness
- Smart Mobility & Advancing 21st Century Transportation
- Building & Operating Smart & Sustainable Structures
- Growing the Workforce for the Digital Economy
- Taking Advantage of Technology to Improve City Services & Impact
- Smart Manufacturing & Production: Making Things Smarter in Today's Digital Economy
- Leveraging Big Data for Better Analysis & Decision-making
- Creating an Ecosystem to Support Entrepreneurship & Innovation
- Understanding & Engaging Investors to Grow the Economy
- Moving Wisconsin's Economically Challenged Areas Forward by Incentivizing Investment

Conference Speakers already confirmed include:

- Corporate leadership, such as **Joe Dillon**, InSinkErator's new President
- Midwest public-sector leadership, such as **Richard Irvin**, Mayor of Aurora, Illinois' second largest city
- National leadership, such as **Philip Bane**, Smart Cities Council CEO
- Racine regional leaders, such as **Jonathan Delagrave**, Racine County Executive, Dr. **Bryan Albrecht**, Gateway Technical College President, and **Deborah Ford**, UW-Parkside Chancellor.

Speakers will arrive to participate from as far away as California and Virginia. We will be announcing the full slate of speakers, panelists, and presenters over the course of August.

Conference & Series Registration
To register to attend, or become a sponsor/exhibitor, for one or more of the Smart Cities September Conference, please visit www.RacineSmartCity.com.

Smart Cities Council Readiness Workshop

The Smart Cities Council is an international organization with activities and alliances principally in North America, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and India. The Smart Cities Council promotes livability, workability, and sustainability by assisting cities in harnessing smart technologies. The Council does so by hosting:

- **Readiness Challenges**, such as the North American Readiness Challenge the City of Racine won in April 2019
- **Smart Cities Week**, where leaders from business, government, research organizations, and think tanks gather to exchange information
- **Readiness Workshops** in winning cities

The City of Racine will host the Smart Cities Council and its partners from leading-edge businesses involved in Smart Cities initiatives in the United States and around the globe. The Smart Cities Council and its partners will provide case studies and other insights to assist Racine in developing a focused and actionable Smart Cities implementation plan for the next 12-18 months.

The Smart Cities Council Readiness Workshop for the City of Racine will provide technical advice and assistance focused on three areas:

- Community-wide Connectivity
- Smart Mobility
- Energy & Sustainability

This intensive, day-long planning session is a hands-on forum for representatives of every sector and walk of life to participate in shaping the direction of the Racine Smart City Initiatives.

Readiness Workshop Registration

To register to attend, or become a sponsor/exhibitor, for one or more of the Smart Cities Council Readiness Workshop, please visit www.RacineSmartCity.com.

Racine Innovation & Technology Gala | Racine Innovation Awards

The City of Racine, long nicknamed "Invention City," has a storied history of innovation, so much so that it was once home to the highest number of patents per capita in the United States. While the inventions of a century or more ago are widely known, there is no doubt the spirit of ingenuity lives on in this community and its people. Racine's entrepreneurs and established businesses are continuing to make history and impact the world with their inventions and other innovations.

Racine Innovation Awards Timeline

It is time to recognize today's inventors and innovators, and the newly launched Racine Innovation Awards are a perfect way to nominate cutting-edge entrepreneurs and established businesses of every size in the City of Racine and Racine County. The nomination period will remain open from Tuesday, August 6, 2019 through Thursday, September 5, 2019. The City of Racine highly recommends submitting nominations as early as possible in the process to give judges time to consider fully the submission.

Finalists will be announced at the Racine Smart Cities September Conference on Wednesday, September 11, 2019, and winners will receive their awards during the Racine Innovation & Technology Gala at Racine Festival Hall on September 25, 2019.

Activity	Timeline
Nomination Period	August 6—September 5, 2019
Announcement of Finalists	September 11, 2019
Announcement of Innovators of the Year	September 25, 2019

Racine Innovation Awards Eligibility

To be eligible for consideration:

- The nominee must be: a business entity with at least one (1) physical site in operation and one (1) or more employees located in the City of Racine or Racine County.

- The physical and/or digital product(s) or service(s) must have become commercially available to end users for lease or purchase for the first time between January 1, 2016 and July 30, 2019.

Racine Innovation Awards Nominations & Registration

Whether you would like to nominate one or more Racine-area businesses for a Racine Innovation Award, attend, or sponsor, the Racine Innovation & Technology Gala, please visit www.RacineSmartCity.com.

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