

# Communications and data in smart cities

Joshua D. Rhodes, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Fellow

Department of Mechanical Engineering

Energy Institute

The University of Texas at Austin



**Webber Energy Group**

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN



**energy institute**

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

# Smart cities are only as smart as their dumbest connection

- Unfortunately, this is usually the end user
- Sometimes there is just too much data
  - Data fatigue
- People want services, not data or energy
  - Hot water, conditioned air, light
  - A smarter city could provide these services perhaps in smarter ways



# Communication will be necessary for these “Service Providers”

- Homes on centralized water loops
  - Single family homes are common in US
- Rentals where owners pay utility bills
  - Charge tenant flat fee
  - Incentivizes efficiency
- The smart city uses communication of data to make efficiency the default option



# Thanks

Joshua D. Rhodes, PhD

[joshdr@utexas.edu](mailto:joshdr@utexas.edu)

@joshdr83



Webber Energy Group

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Joshua D. Rhodes | UTEW 2016

