



DCx: A Public Innovation Challenge from OCTO, Verizon 5G Lab, and US Ignite

Working closely with industry and nonprofit partners this summer, the DC Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) invited local developers, engineers and innovators to engage and help craft the future of public safety and public health technology leveraging 5G, a Verizon service launched in DC last month.

From virtual command centers to augmented reality training simulations, and from drone-assisted disaster response to AI health screening, leaders in DC know that the next-generation of advanced wireless networking will empower first responders, health professionals and community organizations to deliver vital services more quickly, securely and equitably.

To host the competition, US Ignite, Verizon and OCTO created a two-phased, reverse pitch competition in which competitors submit proposed proof-of-concepts and build prototypes of proposed solutions for a chance to receive awards including funding and an option to enter a cohort of Verizon innovators this fall.



Three teams moved to a semi-final round and received \$4,440 to work with engineer mentors from Verizon and subject matter experts from the DC Department of Transportation, DC Police Department, DC Fire and EMS, and DC Health and presented their final applications and prototypes at **WeDC - The Futures Forum** and were awarded cash prizes.

1st Place (\$10,000) – Safe Lane

A smart city application that leverages publicly available traffic camera video feeds to provide real-time analytics to identify bike lane obstructions and alert authorities.

2nd Place (\$7,000) – Self Action for Everyone (S.A.F.E.) smart emergency card

An IoT card that fits in a purse or wallet and allows the owner to trigger emergency care with a single button press. The S.A.F.E. card empowers citizens and filters emergency department traffic with easy action to request an ambulance, notify emergency contacts with real-time updates, and request care guidance recommendations

3rd Place (\$3,000) – Public Safety Sensor Fusion

A real-time situational awareness tool enables incident command to quickly assess emergency scenes and assign manpower to critical locations providing crucial linkage for all first responders.



ABOUT US IGNITE

Launched in 2012, US Ignite is a national nonprofit that spurs the creation of next-generation applications and services that leverage advanced networking technologies. Working with smart communities across the globe, US Ignite accelerates smart city projects and applications, innovation, and economic development in local and regional ecosystems. US Ignite provides technical assistance for smart city pilot programs along with full-scale smart city and interconnected national deployments.