Technology & Innovation in Billing Systems

For Revenue Enhancement









Presentation Milestones

01.

Revenue Sources & Billing Challenges 02.

Technological
Advancements &
Innovations

03.

Benefits of Digitizing Billing

04.

Best Practice
Sharing & Call to
Action



Main Revenue Sources

01.

Taxes

Main source of revenue, typically accounting for 90% of revenue

Mainly Property Tax

02.

User Charges & Fees

Combined with other revenue sources, accounts for 8% revenue

- Service Fees
 - Licenses and Permits
 - Fines and Forfeitures

03.

Intergovernmental Transfers

Continues downward spiral but generally sits between 2 – 5%

- Grants from Higher Levels of Government
- Revenue Sharing with Government

04.

Other Revenue Sources

Contribution accounted for under user fees & charges

- Investment Income
- Sale of Assets
 - Rents and Royalties •
- Donations & Private
 Contributions
 - Borrowing

General Challenges Billing			
Ÿo	Inefficient Manual Processes	Reliance on paper-based systems can lead to errors, delays in bill generation and delivery, and difficulties in tracking payments.	01
**	Inaccurate Billing	Incorrect property valuations, outdated records, and manual data entry can result in inaccurate bills, leading to disputes and non-payment.	02
iţi	Slow Revenue Collection	Delays in processing payments, lack of effective follow-up on overdue accounts, and weak enforcement of revenue laws hinder revenue collection.	03
Ϋο	Lack Payment Options	Limited payment channels (e.g., only in-person payments) can be inconvenient for citizens and slow down the process.	04
* *	Poor Transparency	Lack of clear information on billing procedures, charges, and payment options can lead to citizen dissatisfaction and unwillingness to pay.	05
iţi	Integration Issues	Disconnected billing systems with other municipal systems (e.g., property management, customer service) can create inefficiencies and data silos.	06
Ŷo	Growing Indigent Base	An increasing number of residents unable to afford services can lead to higher levels of unpaid bills.	07
**	Resistance to Change	Both staff and citizens may resist the adoption of new digital billing systems.	08
iţi	Security Concerns	Transitioning to digital systems requires robust cybersecurity measures to protect sensitive data.	09
iệi	Limited Resources & Capacity	Local governments may face budget constraints and a lack of skilled personnel to implement and manage modern billing systems.	10



Technological Advancements & Innovation

01.

Digital Payment Options

Offering a variety of digital payment methods, including online payments, mobile payments, and auto-pay options

- Enhances convenience for citizens
- Can lead to faster payment collection rates

02.

Online Portals

Web portals provide citizens with self-service options

- View own billing history
- Pay bills online
- Submit inquiries
- Manage own account

03.

Cloud Based Solutions

Many local governments are transitioning to cloud-based billing systems.

- Reduced infrastructure costs
- improved data accessibility from anywhere
- Enhanced scalability to handle increasing data and users
- Automated software updates

04.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Integration

Integrating billing systems with GIS allows for a visual representation of service locations and billing data on maps

- Improves coordination between departments
- Aids in asset management



Technological Advancements & Innovation

05.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Machine Learning (ML)

Al-powered analytics can process large volumes of billing data

- Identify trends & provide insights for better resource management and decision-making
- Detect anomalies (like potential fraud or leaks)
- Chatbots utilizing AI can also handle basic customer inquiries, freeing up staff for more complex issues.

06.

Data Analytics and Reporting

Advanced reporting tools and dashboards provide local governments with a comprehensive view of billing data

- Enabled to monitor revenue
- Identify areas for improvement
- Make data-driven policy decisions

07.

Automated Workflows

Automating routine tasks like generating bills, sending payment reminders, and processing payments streamlines operations

- Reduces errors
- Improves efficiency

08.

Integration with Other Systems

Modern billing systems can integrate with other local government software, such as enterprise asset management (EAM) and customer relationship management (CRM) systems

- Creates a unified platform for better data sharing
- Coordination across departments

Ideas Innovative Features

Using email and SMS to remind customers upcoming or overdue payments.

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Providing customers with up-to-date information on their usage and charges.

Automated Payment Reminders

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Realtime Bill Viewing

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ACTION



Pre Billing

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Customer Self Service Portals

Personalisation **Tailoring**

billing notifications and information based on individual customer needs and preferences.

Focus Areas

- Foundational Assessment & **Planning**
- Assess Current ICT Infrastructure and Capacity
- Develop a Digitalization Strategy
- Establish Governance and **Partnerships**

Sending payment requests before service appointments (e.g., for utilities connection) to reduce outstanding balances.

Allowing customers to manage their accounts, make view usage, payments, and submit service requests online.



Benefits of Technology & Innovation in Local Government Billing





01

Automation and streamlined processes reduce manual work, minimize errors & free up staff to focus on more complex tasks.

- **☆** Improved Accuracy
- 02

Automated data collection and validation reduce the likelihood of billing errors and disputes.

ŶCost Savings

03

Reduced manual labor, lower printing and mailing costs (with e-billing) & better resource management contribute to significant cost savings.

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Increased Transparency

04

Online portals and clear digital bills provide citizens with easy access to their billing information, fostering trust and accountability.



Enhanced Citizen Engagement

05

Convenient online and mobile options, along with faster issue resolution, improve the overall citizen experience.



Benefits of Technology & Innovation in Local Government Billing

- **Better Revenue** Management **Data Driven Decision** Making
- Accurate billing, efficient payment processing, and tools to identify potential revenue leakage contribute to improved financial stability.

Analytics and reporting capabilities provide valuable insights for informed policy decisions and resource allocation.

- **Improved Security**

Modern digital systems often have robust security measures to protect sensitive citizen and financial data.

Environmental Sustainability

Reduced paper usage through digital billing options contributes to environmental conservation.

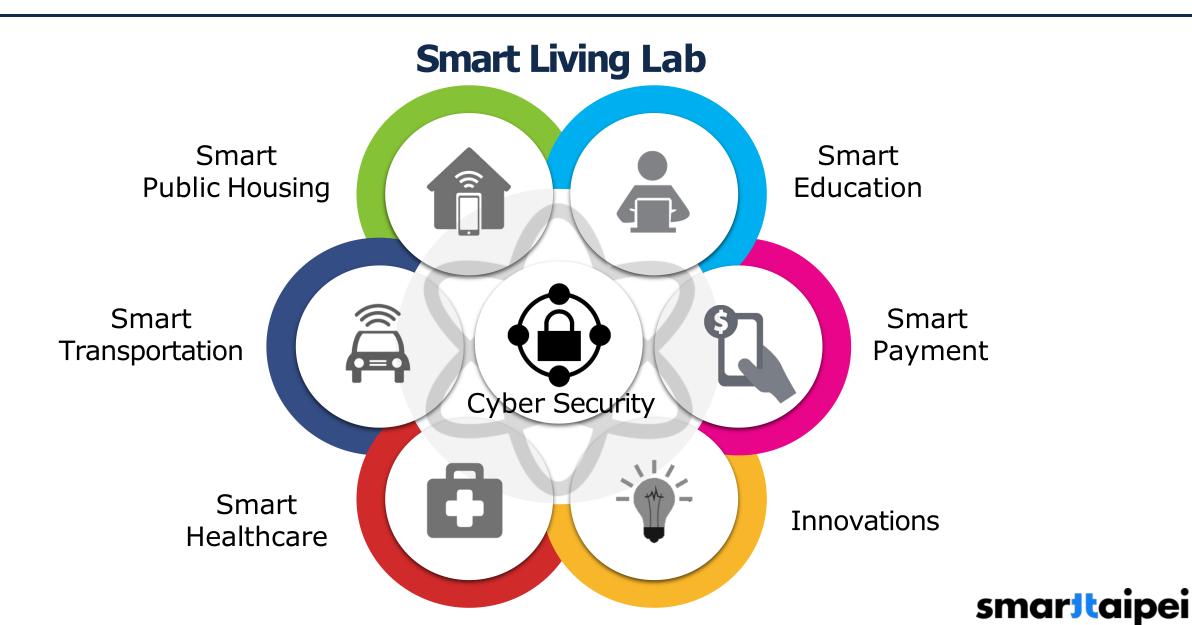








Key Directions of SMART TAIPEI

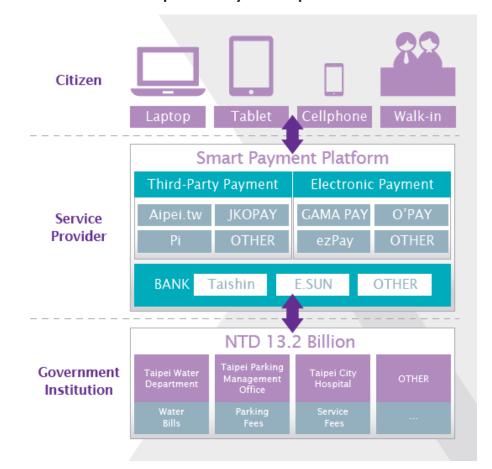


Smart Payment



- Smart Payment Platform launched by Dept. of IT
- 8 Services Providers

 Smart payment platform for parking fees, water bills and Taipei City Hospital service fee.



Payment and ID Verification Service **Public to** Private; **Inside Out** Integrate ID Verification to Achieve Account Consolidation **smartaipei**

Pilot Project for High Bit Video Detection System for Smart Parking Billing

Assist Smart Parking Billing by Using High Bit Video Detection System

- Field tests at two blocks at Nangang Dist. and Songshan Dist., respectively
- Assist operations by Parking Management and Development Office
- Efficiency comparison between this system and manual billing
- Monitoring platform (for block management, parking space management, payment management, parking status information, vacant space information and record inquiry)

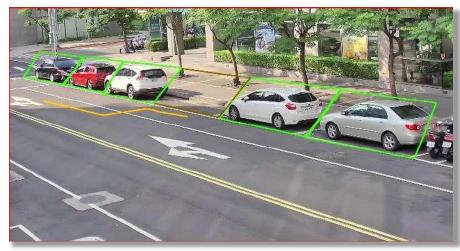


Labor Cost Reduction Data
Collection
and
Application

User Charge Real-time Spatial Information

Video Database







Mechanisms

Citizen Participation

Open up channels of **COMMUNICATION**, allowing citizens to communicate directly with authorities

Top-down



Dep. IT

TPMO

Bring **INNOVATION** into Government Cross-Cutting Projects & Smart City Projects

Change Culture

30+

Taipei City Government Agencies Engage Stakeholders

500+

ICT Vendors & Research Institutions Facilitate Innovation

160+

PoC Projects



Provide Industry **OPPORTUNITIES** & Promote Innovative Solutions through Proof of Concept (PoC)Model







Practical Steps Digitizing Billing



Foundational

Assessment & Planning

Assess Current ICT Infrastructure and Capacity

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- Engage Stakeholders
- Focus on High-Impact Areas eg
- Revenue Collection (Rates, Fees): Lengthy queues, manual record-keeping, payment reconciliation issues.
- Permitting and Licensing: Slow application processes, lack of transparency.
- 3. Citizen Grievance Redressal: Inefficient tracking and resolution of complaints.
- Internal Communication and Workflow: Paper-based approvals, lack of information sharing.

- Technical Audit: Evaluate the existing hardware, software, network connectivity, and cybersecurity measures. Understand the current state and identify gaps.
- **Skills Assessment:** Determine the digital literacy and technical skills of existing staff. Identify training needs.
- **Resource Availability:** Analyze the budget and human resources available for digitization initiatives.

Develop a Digitalization Strategy

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- Define Vision & Goals:

 Articulate achieve through digitization
- Set Prioritized Objectives: Based on the pain points and resource assessment
- Outline a Phased Approach:
 Break down the digitalization journey into logical phases
- Consider Technology Options: Research and evaluate potential technologies and solutions
- Address Data Management & Security: Develop clear plan for data storage, security, privacy & compliance
- Plan for Change Management & Training: Recognize that digitization requires changes in processes and workflows

Establish Governance & Partnerships

- Form a Digitalization Steering
 Committee: Multi departmental
- Explore Partnerships: Identify potential partnerships with national government agencies, NGOs, local technology providers, or educational institutions that can provide technical expertise, funding, or training support.





