WHAT IF – WHAT NEXT?
California Street Light Association (CALSLA)
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WHAT IF…

• There are more questions than answers
  • See some of the questions and issues that may arise in the next few months and years that could affect a community’s roadway infrastructure
  • No value is attached to the questions or the range of possible answers
  • There will be opportunities and consequences
  • The choices will be complex and the outcomes may not be clear, especially if the metrics are not financial
  • Quality of decision making and possible outcomes will be dependent on how many different perspectives are in the room at the time the decision is made
  • The unknowns, the unexpected and the rate of change will affect everything
WHAT IF - QUESTIONS

• What if another level of government wants access to your jurisdiction’s street light/infrastructure assets for:
  • Ground based GPS to back up satellite systems?
  • Emergency notification systems?
  • Sensors and/or monitoring equipment to track behavior and human movement?
  • Private sector business enhancement services in place of public service?

• What is your street light infrastructure’s primary function?
  • Light at night for human travel
  • Public safety
  • Attachment devices for a variety of public and private services
WHAT IF - QUESTIONS

• How much weight/how many devices can the vertical infrastructure handle?
• What if the members of the public object to appearance or use?
• What if a private sector entity offered to buy your vertical infrastructure?
• What if a private sector entity purchased vertical infrastructure from the investor owned utility (IOU) in your jurisdiction?
• How much is your vertical infrastructure worth? Are street lights the “new gold”, or not?
• How much is known about the right of way and utility franchise agreements in your community?
WHAT IF – QUESTIONS

• What if CALTRANS, the CPUC and other regulatory agencies that set standards can’t keep up with the changes, and the changemakers start bypassing them?

• What if there are energy storage and distributed energy network breakthroughs, then what happens to investor owned utilities?

• What if your community suffered a partial infrastructure meltdown (City of Santa Rosa, City of Montecito)? Do you have a plan, and what gets re-built in what order?

• What if the FCC (or another entity) gives unfettered access to the right of way, or the right of way itself, to private ventures and public uses become secondary?

• What if you needed to define "net neutrality" in relation to infrastructure?
WHAT NEXT?

Here’s a glimpse of some of the innovations that may affect the management of your community’s transportation and vertical infrastructure.

What happens with street lights and traffic signals will not occur in a vacuum.

It’s about roadway materials, paths of travel, access for all, permitting and planning, environmental and resource management, disaster preparedness and resiliency, design/visual enhancement, financial security and economic development – what else?
BLOCKCHAIN AND PROVENANCE

Most know of Blockchain as the self-generative software driving Bitcoin, but Blockchain has many other uses. Blockchain is an efficient, secure and instantaneous mechanism for managing transactions between parties.

It provides verification of the “buyer” and “seller” of any transaction and thus can be used for package deliveries and data transfers and secure communications.

Look for Blockchain appear as a security feature of government products and services to ensure provenance (that the transaction/activity is original, unaltered and secure from the source). Berkeley CA, Chicago IL and other public/private entities around the world are exploring uses now.
VIRTUAL REALITY/AUGMENTED REALITY
3D CROSSWALKS/BARRIERS
PATHS OF TRAVEL DEFINED BY GLOWING PLANTS

Roads of the future could be lit by glowing...
PATHS OF TRAVEL DEFINED BY GLOWING PAVEMENT
PEDESTRIAN POWER
LAST THOUGHTS AND WORDS OF WISDOM FROM COLLEAGUES AND PARTNERS

• How much do you think you know about what you don’t know?
• If you think you’ve engaged everyone, you haven’t
• Resiliency, security and prevention of danger are critical project components that often cannot be financially valued
• We need a public service/asset valuation system that includes non-monetary features
• Does your jurisdiction’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) value the infrastructure accurately, and using what criteria?
• What else? What’s on your list?