

Building Safe Communities: An Executive Summary

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One Platform for Many Missions—Achieving a Vision for National Security

The twenty-first century is more complex, interconnected, and reliant upon technology than ever before. For leaders, this means executing adaptive and diverse mission requirements that differ from traditional workflows, where government agencies, departments, and staff of all ranks must adjust to fluid priorities and ever-increasing mandates.



Modern security challenges range from local communities to nations and regions. Organizations must prepare for natural and technological disasters, criminal activity, public health emergencies, displaced populations, and social unrest—both foreign and domestic. They must account for political, economic, and social crises that can occur quickly and without warning.

What Is a Safe Community?

The solution to the challenging world of modern security is a *Safe Community*. But exactly what does that mean?

Safe Communities is a new initiative that aims to rapidly empower governments with shared situational awareness through geospatial technology. In a Safe Community, people, technology, and processes work together in a coordinated and collaborative way to enhance safety, manage risk, and increase overall engagement through daily operations. Safety and security professionals make the most of existing resources and domain expertise to ensure tactical and strategic success in their missions.

The Safe Community approach empowers organizations to do more with less by connecting multiple agencies with overlapping missions. Stakeholders with shared interests communicate and better understand risks, community hazards, threats, and crime

problems. They collaboratively prepare in advance to deal with known and potential issues.

Any community can evaluate its ability to be safe by answering the following questions:

- Can your community respond to health threats such as epidemics?
- Are you prepared to deal with an environmental or technological disaster?
- Can you protect your citizens gathered together for a major event?
- Can you manage civil unrest and execute modern crime control strategies?
- Can you manage emergencies or an intentional attack?
- Can you protect critical infrastructure (both physical and virtual)?
- If applicable, can you secure your borders and manage refugees or migrants?

A Safe Community Is a Smart Community

The availability of big data, mobile technology, GPS-enabled devices, and live data sensors—and the convergence of these and other technologies—is creating a foundation for government to develop better services, accountability, and transparency. This **new global trend** of building a **smart community** allows citizens to reap the benefits of greater economic and social gains that result from improved utility infrastructures, roadways, open spaces, housing, health services, and more.



A Safe Community leverages the advances of a smart community's core capabilities. It provides safety and security personnel across multiple levels and jurisdictions with the following:

- Multiagency, interdepartmental collaboration
- Shared, real-time situational awareness
- Secure, scalable capability that can support surge during emergencies
- Complete analysis in understanding and solving problems
- Access to authoritative, actionable data from multiple sources
- Accurate, data-driven decision making
- Workflows for easily collecting, sharing, and consuming data in the field

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Multiagency, Multijurisdictional Connectivity

Geographic information system (GIS) technology provides one platform for multiple missions. A Safe Community uses GIS or geography to provide a context and a framework for all activities that rely on authoritative data. At its core, GIS is a system of engagement that leverages systems of record. It allows advanced analytics to help you make sense of your data, and it allows you to better communicate and collaborate with both government and private citizens. It supplies an integration platform to connect with existing systems—enterprise resource management (ERM), computer-aided dispatch (CAD), records management systems (RMS), and more.

Multi-intelligence Architecture

Breakthroughs in web services have taken mapping and analytics to a new level of system integration, sophistication, and usability. Specifically, web GIS provides a multi-intelligence architecture for assimilating diverse data (text, aerial, topographic, unstructured, etc.), making sense of it, and sharing it as actionable intelligence.

Using open services, open data, cloud technology, mobile devices, and the Internet of Things, web GIS facilitates collaboration and innovation by leveraging the value of shared digital data. Maps can be built, distributed, and consumed by individuals, departments, agencies, and global networks. The common link—geography or maps—breaks down barriers of understanding. Web GIS ensures that you share knowledge far and wide, internally and externally.

Why Take the Esri Platform Approach?

A Common Operational Platform for Many Missions

You can begin improving the safety of your community—and operating across jurisdictions and missions—with the Esri® ArcGIS® platform. The ArcGIS platform and map-based common operational picture is intuitive and easy to use. ArcGIS is available on any device, anywhere, and in real time.

Initial Operating Capabilities

Don't take months, years, or thousands of man-hours to get started. The Esri ArcGIS platform is simple to activate and begin using, facilitating multiple key core capabilities.



Get Started

Build your safer community—an integrated, collaborative, authoritative, data decision-driven community—today, with a smart response to the challenges of protecting and serving. Let Esri help you with the entire journey—from technology implementation to adoption and scaling up. Every community can be a safe community. Let Esri help you get started.

Esri smart community experts are ready to answer questions and provide more details. Send an email to safecommunities@esri.com.



Esri inspires and enables people to positively impact their future through a deeper, geographic understanding of the changing world around them.

Governments, industry leaders, academics, and nongovernmental organizations trust us to connect them with the analytic knowledge they need to make the critical decisions that shape the planet. For more than 40 years, Esri has cultivated collaborative relationships with partners who share our commitment to solving earth's most pressing challenges with geographic expertise and rational resolve. Today, we believe that geography is at the heart of a more resilient and sustainable future. Creating responsible products and solutions drives our passion for improving quality of life everywhere.



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