

Review of: "Skilling Up for Tomorrow's Cities: The Workforce of Smart Cities"

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This is an interesting study suggesting the challenges in transforming cities to “intelligent” and the workforce requirements for such a transformation. While a number of responsibilities are suggested for various workforce subgroups, their education and experience credentials have not been discussed. Are there any university programs in the world that can educate civil, mechanical, chemical, environmental, and electrical engineers, city planners, and managers for tomorrow's intelligent cities? Today, we are clear that the civil engineering education that teaches codes and empirical calculations certainly lacks the skills and insight that are essential for an intelligent city, and who would be entrusted to manage the infrastructures of such a city. In the case of urban planners, education, the situation is not much different. It follows that unless university curricula for BS, MS, PhD, and BA, MA degrees for multi-disciplinary engineers and planners are considered, the concept of preparing a workforce with vocational education is not very realistic. Even Google/Alphabet had to abort the intelligent city partnership with Toronto.