



INVITATION

# Smart Cities Conference 2026

17 September 8.30 - 18.00

Riga Technical University, Domus Auditorialis Academic Centre  
Building, 8 Zunda Embankment, Riga, Latvia

For the fifth consecutive year, the conference will bring together representatives from municipalities, public authorities, companies, universities, startups, and the broader innovation ecosystem to discuss practical solutions for smarter, more resilient, and more sustainable urban development.

This year, the conference is expanding to a Baltic - Nordic scale, bringing together participants from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Finland and other European countries to exchange experience and discuss practical approaches to smarter, more resilient and sustainable urban development.

The central theme of this year's conference is "What does it take for urban innovations to truly work?". The conference will focus on the key prerequisites for successful innovation implementation in municipalities:

- how to strengthen organisational readiness for change;
- how to build effective collaboration between the public sector, businesses, and academia;
- how to ensure the necessary capacity and create conditions that enable promising ideas and pilot projects to evolve into solutions that positively impact urban development and improve residents' quality of life.

The programme will feature discussions on innovation governance in the public sector, collaboration models between municipalities, businesses, and academia, the use of data and digital twins in city management, as well as future mobility solutions, including autonomous technologies and other emerging innovations, and how they can support urban development.

An Expo Area will also be available throughout the conference, offering participants the opportunity to explore innovative solutions and technologies, meet their developers, engage in discussions, and explore opportunities for piloting and implementation.

The conference is organised by the City of Riga, Riga Technical University, the University of Latvia and the VEFRESH innovation movement.

Conference language: English. Participants will have access to the Tilde real-time translation solution via their own mobile devices.

If you have any questions regarding the conference or its organisation, please contact Evita Jaunozola at [evita.jaunozola@rtu.lv](mailto:evita.jaunozola@rtu.lv). A preliminary conference programme is attached to this email. The programme will be further updated as speakers and session content are confirmed.

[Register here](#)

