EMILY BINET ROYALL

Advancing ethical and inclusive smart cities

HELLO!

I'm an urban planner and technologist with a focus on advancing ethics, digital rights and inclusion in smart cities of today and tomorrow.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Smart Cities
Digital Inclusion
Procurement
Public Private Partnerships
Data, Privacy & Statistical Analysis
Digital Rights
Public Speaking
Community Engagement

LANGUAGES

English (fluent), French (fluent)

ORGANIZATIONS

Member:
Cities Coalition for Digital Rights
Member:
MIT Alumni Texas Chapter
Steering Committee:
SA Digital Inclusion Alliance
Steering Committee:
Alamo Regional Data Alliance
Board Member:
San Antonio 2030 District

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EXPERIENCE

Smart City Administrator - Present
The Office of Innovation, City of San Antonio

Smart City Coordinator - 2018-2021
The Office of Innovation, City of San Antonio

Consultant - People Centered Smart Cities - Present
United Nations, UN Habitat

Data Director - 2017-18
The San Antonio Report, San Antonio, TX

Policy Analyst & Researcher - 2016-17
Massachusetts Office of Information Technology, Boston, MA

Research Scientist: Smart Cities - 2014-15
City Form Labs, Singapore, SG

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
Masters City Design & Development
Department of Urban Studies & Planning

University of Texas at Austin
B.S. Neuroscience, B.A. Plan II (Philosophy)

REFERENCES

Andrea Chegut, Ph.D., MIT Center for Real Estate, Thesis Advisor
(239) 834-0083, achegut@mit.edu

Robert Rivard, Former CEO The San Antonio Report, Employer
(210) 218-5497, rivard@rivardreport.com

Jana McCann, AIA, CEO McCann Adams Studio, Employer
(512) 732-0001, janamariemccann@gmail.com

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

"Centering People in Smart Cities: A Playbook for Local and Regional Governments," United Nations People-Centered Flagship Program, November 2021.

ACHIEVEMENTS (IN CURRENT ROLES):

- Primary Author on six Playbooks for UN Habitat's People-Centered Smart City Program
- Led team to develop and launch City of San Antonio CoVID-19 Open Data Platform.
- Led City of San Antonio team on "Smart Streetlight" IoT strategy & implementation with local utility, impacting 119K nodes.
- Codeveloped San Antonio's Digital Divide Assessment and Digital Inclusion Initiatives
- Negotiated 8 utility & public sector orgs to execute Data Sharing Protocol for SmartSA Interlocal Datasharing Agreement.
- Led Civic Technology Program "CivTechSA" Year 2 with 50 challenges, 15+ community events, and two in-house Residency Programs.
- Coordinated the development and publication of Smart City Strategy, "SmartSA Framework" for San Antonio.

PUBLIC SPEAKING & PODCASTS

- City of the Future, "Policy & Data for Cities of the Future" - **Moderator**
- City of the Future, "What are People's Rights in the Smart City?" - **Moderator**
- Transforming Local Government 2019 "Smart Cities: No Brainer" - **Speaker**
- Plug Me In: Smart. Charged. Electrified. "Lead, Follow or Get Out of Electrification: Government Policy and Regulation" - **Panelist**
- AAGIS 2019, "Data & Co-Creation in the Smart City." - **Keynote**
- San Antonio Start Up Week 2019, "Tech Therapy: Re-Imagine Smart Technology for our Community" - **Workshop Facilitator**
- San Antonio Start Up Week 2019, "Our Changing Urban Environment: How Tech is Disrupting the Transit Fabric in Cities," - **Panelist**
- Informa Smart Cities Summit, "Privacy, cyber-security and the consequences of emerging technology for connected cities." **Speaker**
- **Smart Communities** - "Advancing Equity in Smart Cities with Emily Royall"

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

- "**Centering People in Smart Cities: A Playbook for Local and Regional Governments**," United Nations People-Centered Flagship Program, November 2021.
- "**Assessing the Digital Divide: Understanding internet connectivity and digital literacy in cities and communities**," United Nations People-Centered Flagship Program, November 2021.
- "**Addressing the Digital Divide: Taking action towards digital inclusion**," United Nations People-Centered Flagship Program, November 2021.
- "**Renegotiating the Social Contract in Smart Cities,**" Some Thoughts Editorial with Bianca Wylie, Zhara Ebrahim, and Matthew Claudel.
- "**Move Smart and Build Things: Defining Digital Rights for a Changing World**," Smart Cities News Australia, November 2020.
- Royall, E., 2016. "**Towards an epidemiology of gentrification: modeling urban change as a probabilistic process using k-means clustering and Markov models**," MIT D-Space.
- Royall, E., 2016. "**Planning for Digitally Mediated Public Space: Policy Implications for Internet of Things Frameworks in Urban Environments**" Responsive Cities Symposium, Institute for Advanced Architecture of Catalonia.