

Overview

- ▶ Mayor: Melvin Carter
- ▶ Lead staff on innovation: Tarek Tomes
- ▶ Population of municipality: 306,621 (2017)
- ▶ Innovation/open data website: <https://information.stpaul.gov/>

Spotlight on Saint Paul | Data visualisation for better service

Saint Paul has **invested in open information tools as well as data visualisation capabilities** to provide powerful insights into critical service areas.

- **The city's vacant building inventory** has seen a direct reduction as a result of sharing building information on the open information portal.
- There are also **visualisation dashboards that provide in-depth analysis for traffic stops** within Saint Paul. Information includes demographics or motorists stopped, demographics for officers making the stop, reason for stops, vehicle searches, people searches.

Vision and approach to innovation capacity

The city's innovation strategy

Along with 44% of cities surveyed, Saint Paul has an **explicit innovation strategy**.

The city most closely associates innovation capacity with the following terms:

Big picture re-thinking

Data analytics

Approaches to innovation capacity

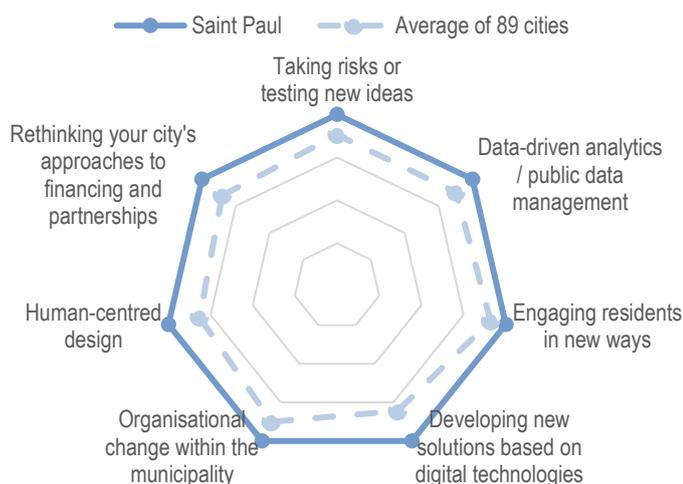
Similar to 24% of cities surveyed, Saint Paul approaches innovation capacity from a **holistic/macro level**.

The **top priority policy area** for the city's innovation work:

Digital governance

Most common innovation activities

Saint Paul's innovation activity includes various kinds of activities including **taking risks and testing new ideas; facilitating data-driven analytics; engaging residents in new ways; developing new solutions based on digital technologies; facilitating organisational change within the municipal administration; human-centred design; and rethinking the city's approach to financing and partnerships.**



Funding for innovation capacity

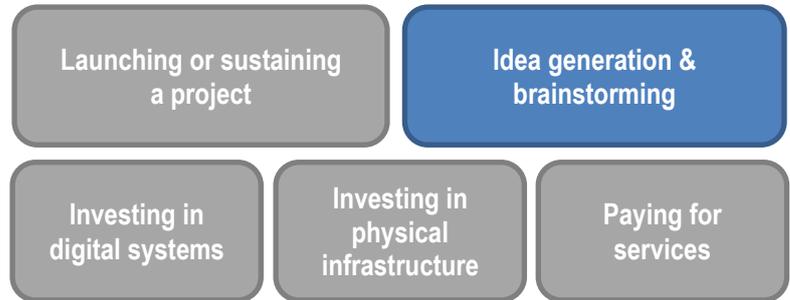
Funding to support innovation capacity

Like 77% of cities surveyed, Saint Paul has dedicated funding to support innovation capacity, which originates from the following sources:

- ✓ **Municipal budget**
(city council approved funds/operating budget)

Types of activities being funded

Saint Paul's funding for innovation capacity is generally directed towards **generating ideas & brainstorming**, which is one of the two most commonly funded activities among all cities surveyed.



Organisational structure & staffing



Situated in the Mayor's office, Saint Paul's dedicated team for innovation is led by the Chief Innovation Officer. They have a plan to increase staff with a "virtual" team of innovation consultants from each department.

Staff skills and profiles include:

- ✓ **Project manager**
- ✓ **Data scientist**
- ✓ **Designer**
- ✓ **Community engagement staff**

Partnerships for innovation & data



Saint Paul has developed partnerships to promote its innovation capacity with **other public agencies, private firms, not-for-profit organisations, and city residents/resident associations.**

To improve data use, the city has also developed data partnerships with **academia and think tanks** to collect and analyse data, as well as with **other cities.**

Measuring outcomes

Policy areas that **benefit from sufficient data**, or **lack sufficient data**, to support innovation capacity in the city:



NB: No response provided by the city for the policy areas in grey.

Innovation is **helping the city** to:

- ✓ **Improve internal government operations**
- ✓ **Save costs and gain efficiency within the public sector**
- ✓ **Improve service delivery**

The most **critical success factors** in supporting the city's innovation work:

- ✓ **Dedicated funding**
- ✓ **Focus on measurement**
- ✓ **Dedicated innovation team**
- ✓ **Leadership from Mayor**
- ✓ **Culture of innovation in city**
- ✓ **Engagement with partners**
- ✓ **Support from outside city administration**