

Surtrac — Pittsburgh's AI-Adaptive Traffic Signals Cut Travel Time 26% and Wait Times 41%

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 73/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Pittsburgh's Surtrac AI traffic-signal system, built with Carnegie Mellon University, cut travel time 26%, wait times 41% and emissions 21% in its original East Liberty pilot. The city has since secured \$20M+ to scale it from 50 to about 200 intersections citywide.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	3/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability beyond pilot	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-18

[City of Pittsburgh Department of Mobility and Infrastructure / Carnegie Mellon University Robotics Institute \(Rapid Flow Technologies\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-18

[Smart Cities Dive: This AI traffic system in Pittsburgh has reduced travel time by 25%](#) — accessed 2026-08-18

[Carnegie Mellon University: Pittsburgh's smart traffic signals started at CMU](#) — accessed 2026-08-18

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