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# Utilizing Big Data to Solve Urban Issues: *The Case of Seoul*



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**Seoul: A Brief Introduction**



**Seoul as a Smart City**



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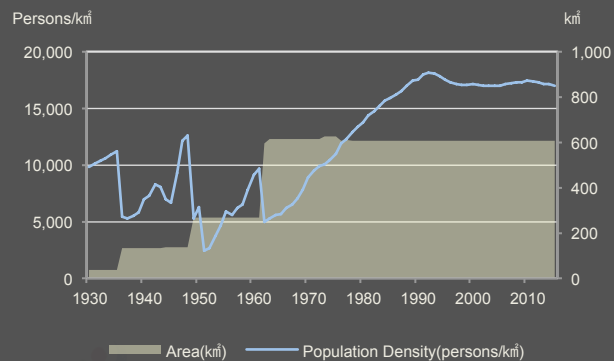
- **Introduction**
- **Case 1: Night Owl Bus**
- **Case 2: Neighborhood (*Golmok*)  
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# Seoul: A City Old and New

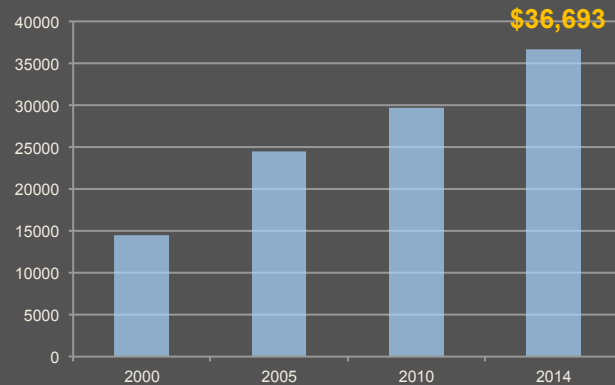
## Seoul's journey from ruins in the 1950s to a smart metropolis



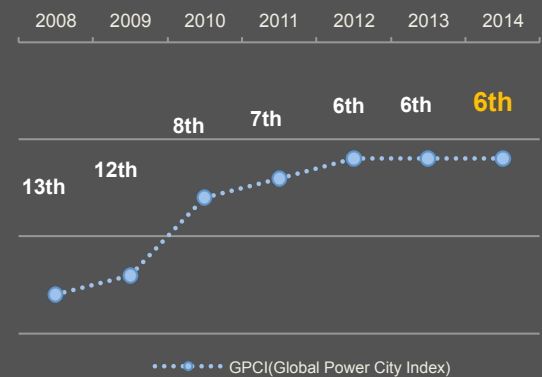
Population and Area Growth



Seoul's Gross Regional Product



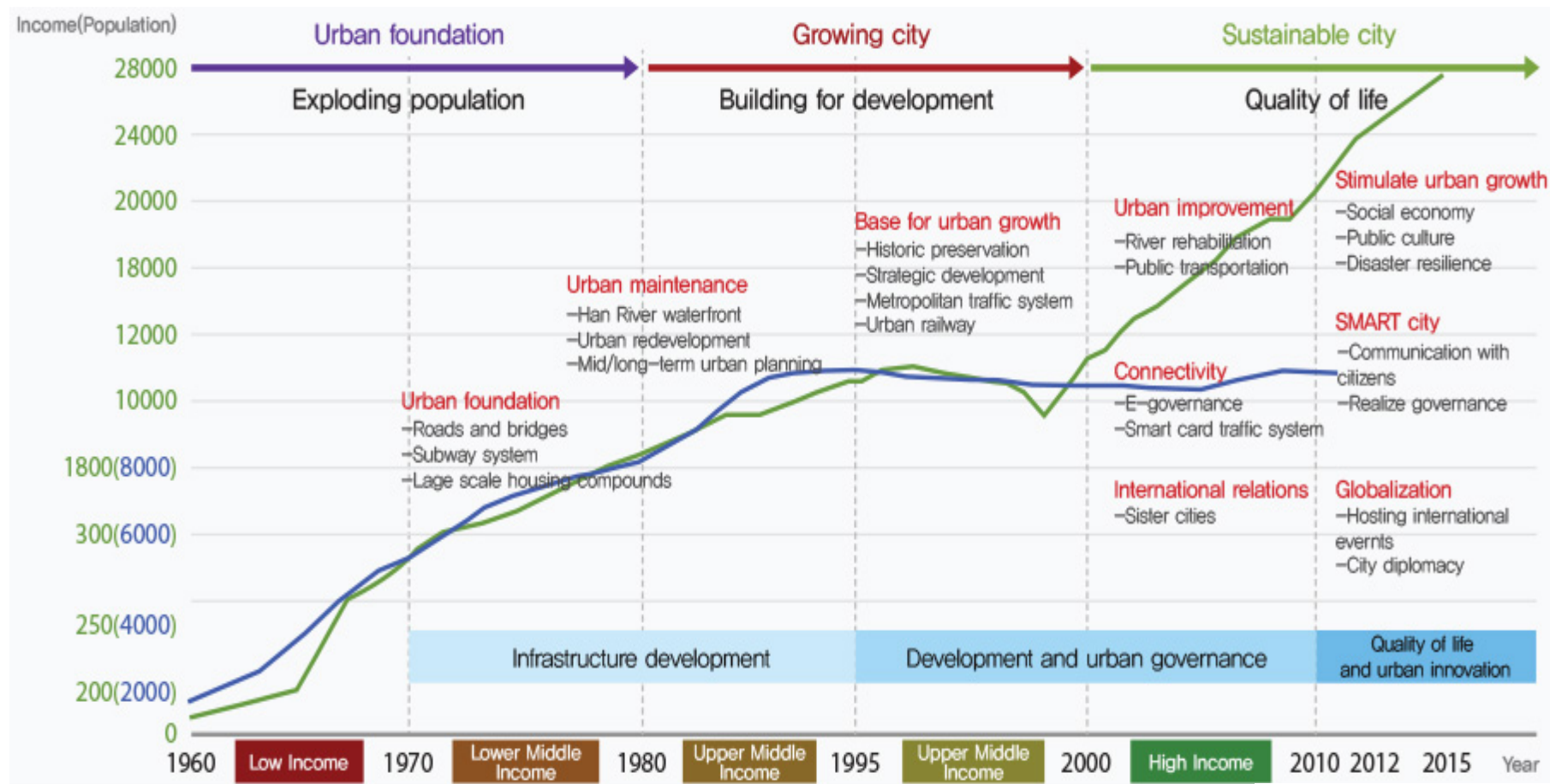
GPCI (Global Power City Index)





# Seoul's Growth Trajectory

## Transformation of Seoul's urban development



Source: seoulsolution.kr



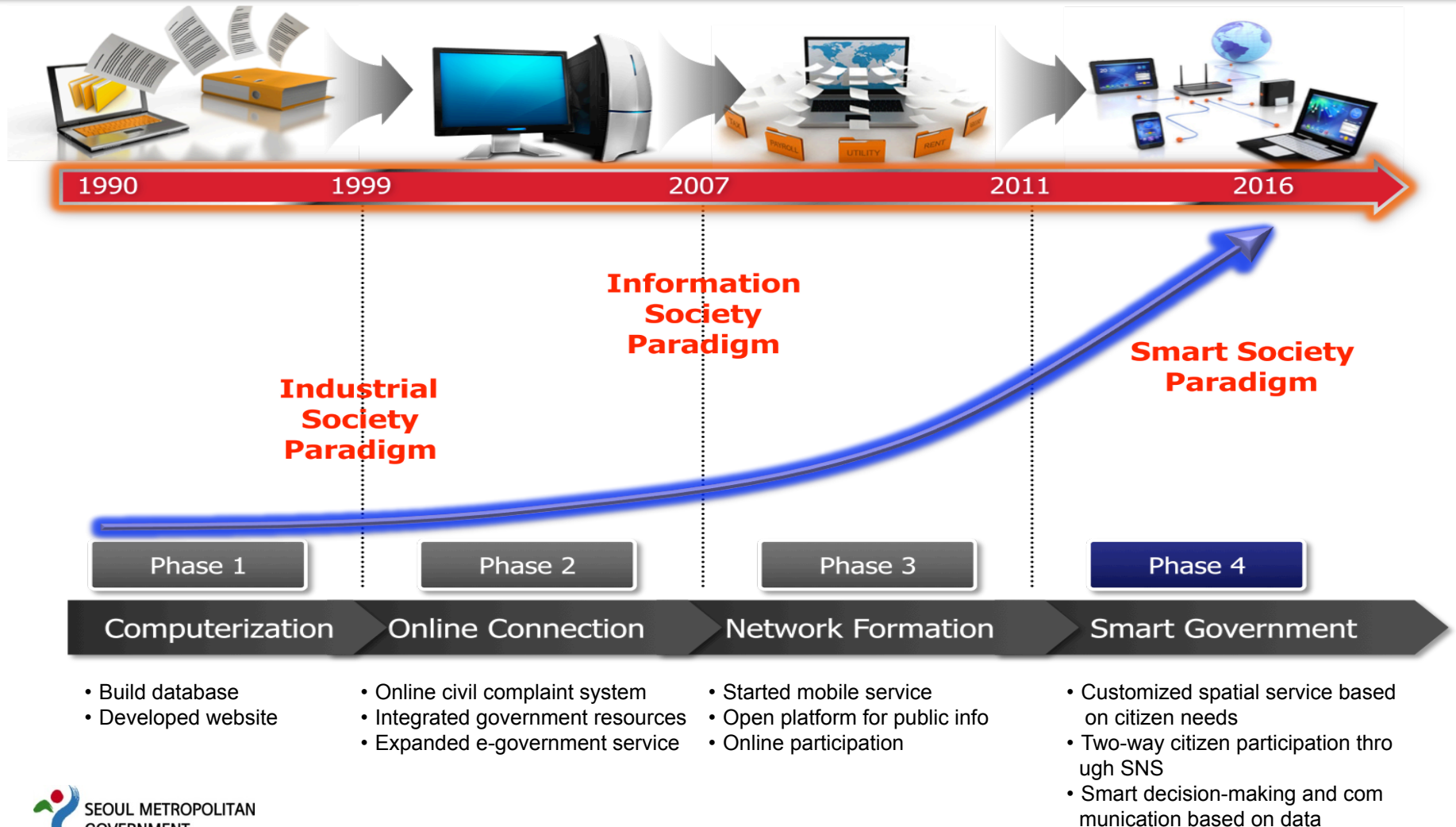
# Seoul's Growth Trajectory, cont'd

## Growth of the city

Growth of the city							
	<div>1950-53 Korean War</div> 1950	1960	1970	<div>1980-88 Seoul Olympic</div> 1988	1990	<div>2002 World Cup</div> 2000	2010
	Aftermath of the Korean War: Destruction of Seoul's urban foundation and identity	Rapid post-war reconstruction to establish urban foundation	Expansion of city center to accommodate economic and population growth	Han river regeneration in preparation for global events – Seoul 1988 Olympics	Large scale urban regeneration project and new town developments	Installations of physical features to facilitate enhanced quality of life for Seoulites	Transforming to a city with a historical heritage, culture and identity
Water Purification	• 1941: Guui water center • 1948: Seoul Tap Water Bureau • Five water purification plants • Installation of tap water pipes			• 1981: Office of water works established • 1984: Water pipes replaced • 1991: 100% water supply			Six water purification plants
Waste Water Management	• Sewers 225km * No treatment facilities		• 1976: First Sewage Treatment Plant (Jungrang) • 1972~1976: 4 Septic Soil Sanitary Disposable Plants • 1987: Han River Sewage Mgmt				• Four water reclamation centers • Advanced treatment installed
Solid Waste Management		• Five dump sites (no designated landfills)	• 1978: Nanji Landfill opened  • 1992: Sudokwon Landfill opened • 1993: Nanji Landfill closed • 1996: First Resource Recovery C. opened				Four R.R.C under operation
Transportation		• 1965: Express buses • 1968: Tram ops suspended	• 1974: Subway line 1  • 1984~5: Subway lines 2~4 • 1989: Launched TSM • 1996: Bus Card • 2004: Public Trans. Reform/BRT				
e-Government					• Computerization • Online connection • Network formation • Smart govt' + city + society		

# Seoul as a Smart City: Developments

Seoul as a Smart City grew in line with Network expansion and ICT developments



# Smart City: Meaningful Connections

Leverage technology to serve its citizens and make cities more livable

Convenient  
Citizen Life

Efficient City Man  
agement

Transparent Gov  
ernance

People

Information

**CONNECT**

Resources

Things

Network + ICT + Data Analytics



# Making of Seoul as a Smart City

1

Understand my city (Big Data Analysis)

2

Efficient city management (Smart ICT on infrastructure)

3

Connections that make the city more livable (i.e.: IoT Living Lab)

4

Data access and facilitate platform to stimulate economic growth

5

Optimized solutions through Big Data Analysis

# Becoming “Smart” through Big Data

Collect → Analyze → Understand → Problem Solving

## Issue Finding

Understand the issues, know what and where the problems lie.

Data Pool



Data Analysis



Issue 1

Issue 2

Issue 3...



Clear understanding  
of the problems

## Optimized Solutions

Evidence-based approach in generating optimized solutions.

Data Pool



Data Analysis



Fact 1

Fact 2

Fact 3...



Recommendations  
for Solutions

# Big Data for Problem Solving

## Demand based project identification and process of analysis

### [ Capture Citizens' Voice ]



Project Selection

Relevant Data Search



Big Data Analysis



Draw Insights



Offer Policy Recommendation

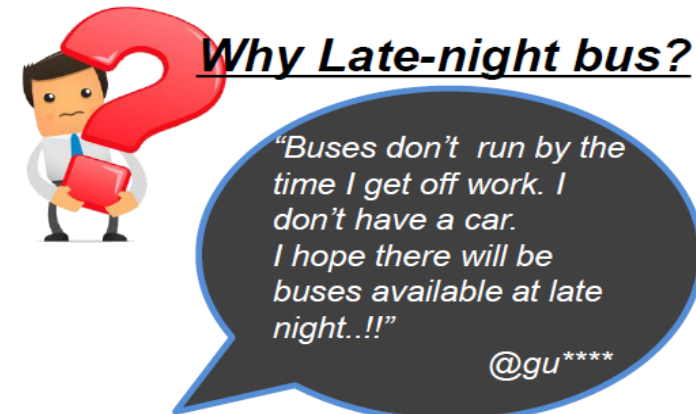




# Case 1: Night Owl Bus

Capturing and responding to the citizens' demand through Big Data analysis

## Late-night bus routes



### Why Late-night bus?

*"Buses don't run by the time I get off work. I don't have a car. I hope there will be buses available at late night...!!"*

@gu\*\*\*\*



No public transportation  
in 01:00 AM ~ 05:00 AM



Subway



Bus



Taxi

### Response of the City



*Let's set-up Late night bus routes*

### Facing Problems

1. Limited resources – bus, drivers, budget
2. Where are the passengers in mid-night?
3. Where do they want to go?

# Case 1: Night Owl Bus

## Background and data used

### Background



**Pilot Operation of  
Night Bus ('13.4.~)**

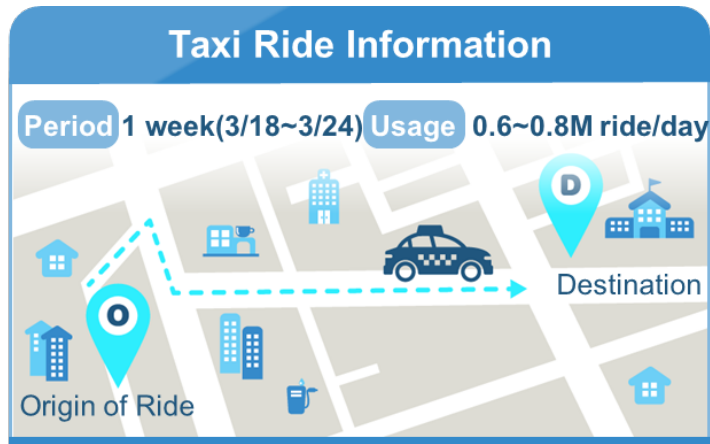
**Increased  
ridership**

**Expansion of  
Night Bus Service**

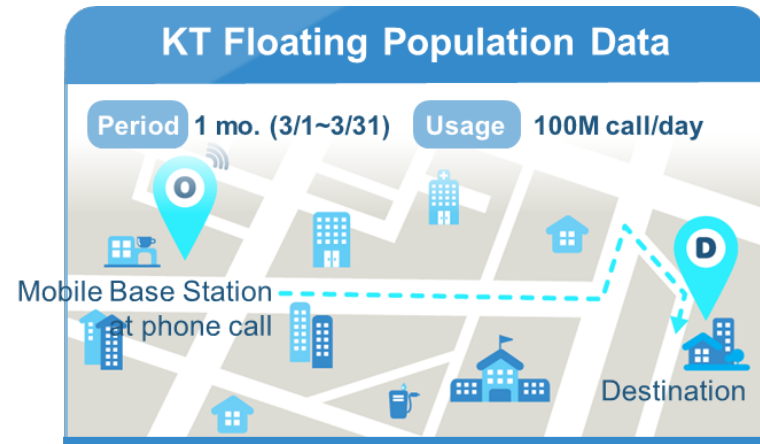
**Selection of  
8 Routes**

**Enhanced Usage of  
Bus Routes  
(demand data analysis)**

### Data Used



\*O:Origin, D:Destination)



\*O:Origin, D:Destination)

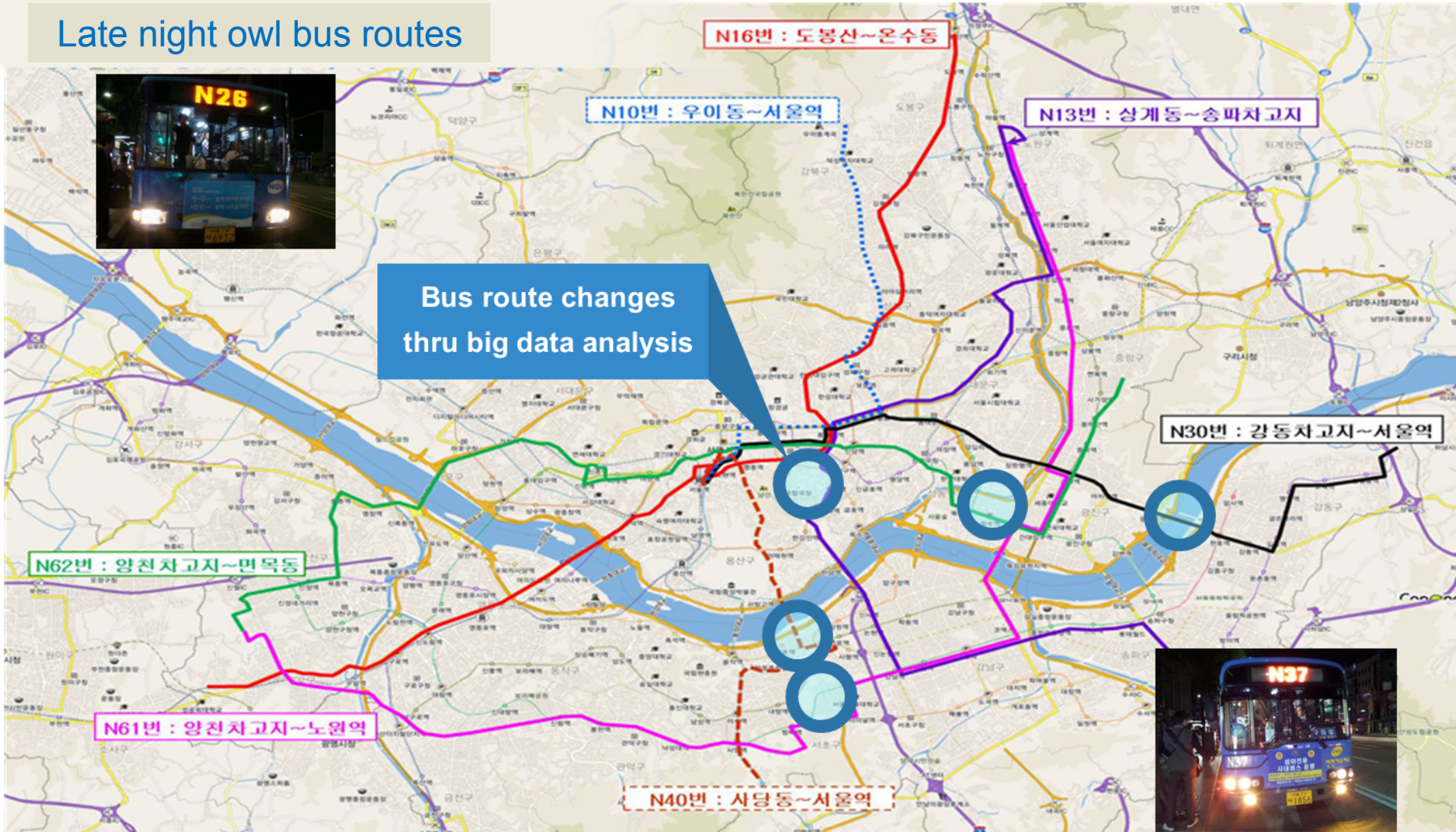




# Case 1: Night Owl Bus

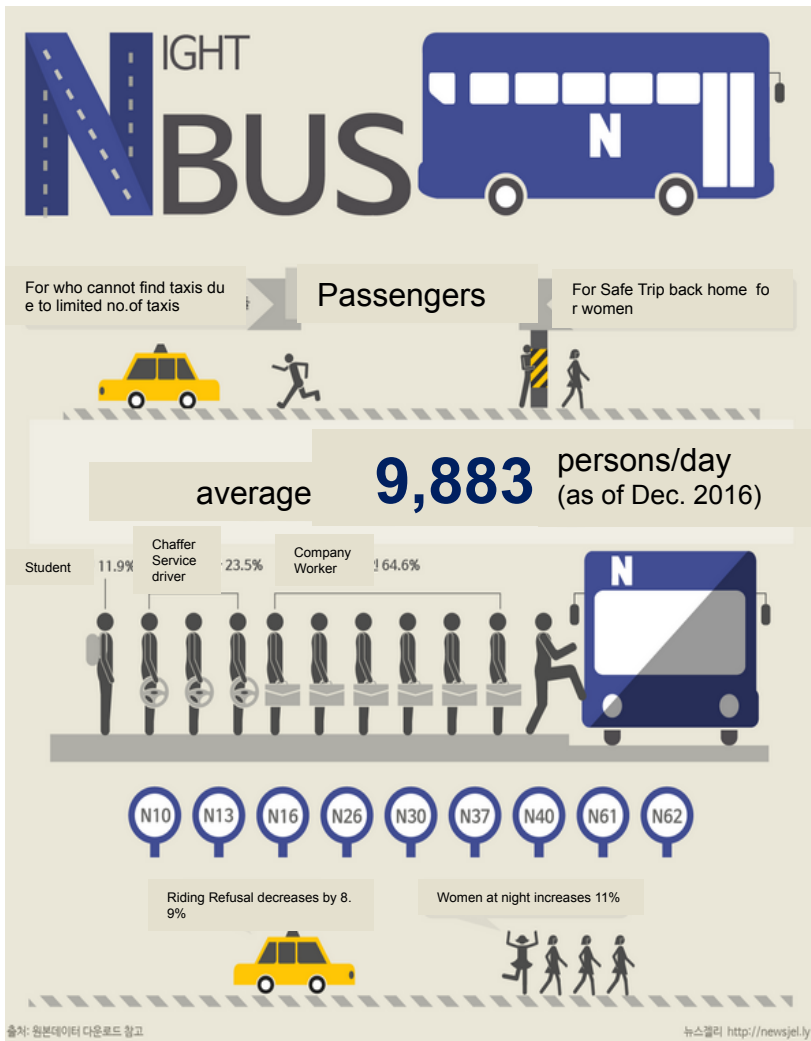
Revised bus routes by reflecting results from big data analysis

Late night owl bus routes



# Case 1: Night Owl Bus

## Results



### *For administration*

- ✓ Communication channel for conflict resolution
- ✓ 10% increase of ridership without additional routes
- ✓ Covers 42% of Seoul residents

### *For citizen's benefit*

- ✓ (Enhancing customer satisfaction)  
8.9% decrease in taxi refusing a passenger
- ✓ (More jobs and safety)  
11% increase in women's activities at night
- ✓ Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> among the top 10 Seoul news in 2013

# Case 2: Neighborhood (*Golmok*) Business District Analysis Service

## Background & Data Used



Increase of Subsistence  
Self-employed

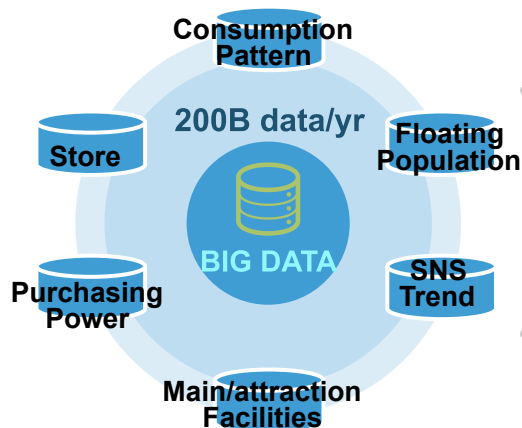


Demand for Golmok Business  
District Information



Need for Market Stabilization  
through Market Change Outlook

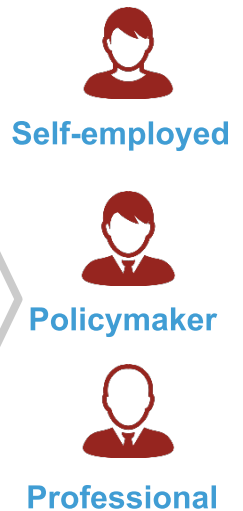
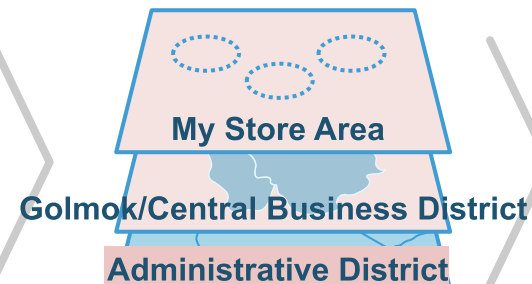
### Market-related Data



### Provision of Market Info

Start-up Risk Index  
Type of Business Index  
Sales Trend  
Competition Index  
Customer/Population Data  
Hinterland Information

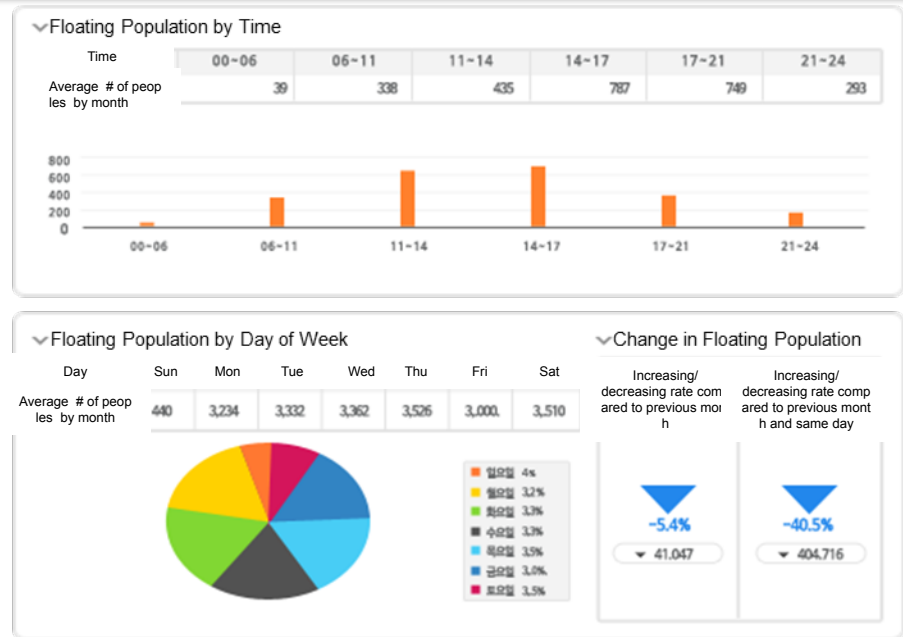
### Various Unit of Info



# Case 2: Neighborhood (*Golmok*) Business District Analysis Service

Provides various indices such as store records, rent/lease price, degree of competition

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Business DistrictType Semi-residential Area</li><li>Business DistrictArea 20.103m<sup>2</sup></li><li>Selected StoreType Restaurants &gt; Korean</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Business DistrictType Semi-residential Area</li><li>Business DistrictArea 38.311m<sup>2</sup></li><li>Selected StoreType Restaurants &gt; Korean</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Overcrowding Scale </li><li>Business Activity Index </li><li>Business Growth Index </li><li>Business Stability Index </li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Overcrowding Scale </li><li>Business Activity Index </li><li>Business Growth Index </li><li>Business Stability Index </li></ul>

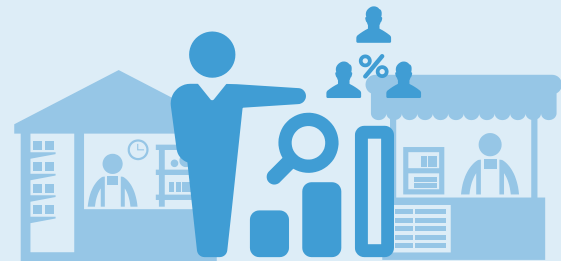


## Result

▪ Intuitively grasp start-up risk and district selection



▪ Existing self-employed can search potential customers





# Seoul's Big Data based Services

24 projects in 4 sectors (2013~2016)



## Transportation

- Night bus optimal route analysis
- Taxi operation data analysis
- Optimization of local bus routes
- Analysis on road accident blackspots
- Analysis on parking problems
- Impact analysis on traffic signs
- Location analysis for Taxi station



## Welfare

- Location analysis for life/job planning for retired people
- Location analysis for senior leisure and welfare center
- Traffic accidents analysis for transportation vulnerable
- Tuberculosis trait analysis
- Operation of taxi service for disabled
- Analysis of moving range of disabled
- Location analysis for braille block
- Adjustment for free shuttle bus for transportation vulnerable



## Economy

- Local business district analysis service
- Public Wi-Fi Locational Analysis
- Social data for crime investigation
- Shinchon Water Gun Festival
- Local festival analysis
- Tourist consumption pattern analysis



## Administration

- Public Wi-Fi optimal location analysis
- Location analysis for E-Civil Service
- Gentrification Analysis
- Location analysis for city publicity

Analysis Method

Location Analysis

Demand Forecast

Effect Analysis

Unstructured Data Analysis



# Sources of Big Data

## Where do Big Data come from?

### Public Data

- Free of charge
- Limited access and use due to legal binds

Data from central govt and affiliated agencies

Data from city's IT systems

Data from city infrastructure  
(CCTVs, monitoring systems, transportation, etc.)

Data from outside non-profit organizations

### Private Sector Data

- Limited sourcing
- High cost at times
- Data manipulation (privacy issues)
- Limited access and use due to legal binds

Mobile phone related data

Finance (credit card) data

Floating population, spatial data

SNS data, etc.

# Connections that Generate Data

## Seoul's sample illustration of data that are captured at various sources

Category	Data Source	Types of Data	Usage
Solid Waste Management	Incineration facilities	Volume and type of waste generated, waste composition, energy generated	<b>Efficient City Management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resource forecasting and planning</li> <li>• Water/energy supply chain management</li> <li>• Disaster management</li> <li>• Early warning system</li> </ul> <b>Augment Policy Design</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes in existing policies</li> <li>• Traffic light system rearrangements</li> <li>• Public transportation (re)routing</li> </ul> <b>New Policy Introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on enhanced understanding of pain points</li> </ul> <b>New, Convenient Citizen Applications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobile ITS services</li> <li>• Safer public spaces</li> </ul>
Transportation	TOPIS (ITS)	Public transport, fleets, traffic speed	
	CCTV	Traffic, parking violations	
	Smart Card	No. of passengers, OD info., transfers, distance travelled	
Water Management	Water quality monitoring system	Source water quality, volume, substance	
	Water purification facilities	Water quality, volume, supply, production	
	Pipe leakage monitoring	Leaking pipes by region	
Energy	Energy meter	Production, supply, consumption	
e-Government	Voice of citizens	Citizen needs, complaints, infrastructure issues	

# Cases of Seoul's big data based policy application to other cities

## Seoul's (via SUSA) knowledge transfer on Big Data Analysis

1. **Buenos Aires City** : Neighborhood (*Golmok*) Business District Analysis
  - For supporting and boom up old market and small merchants
2. **World Bank** : Production of Mobile based ITS Guidebook which includes “Seoul Night Owl Bus”
  - Mobile based ITS services for developing countries
  - Pilot Services
3. **Kiev City** : Big Data based Transportation System Improvement Project
  - Feasibility Study on building data based scientific decision making system

# Main Takeaways

## What will ensure successful utilization of Big Data Analysis in your respective cities ?

1

Big Data Analysis is not of and in itself a solution, rather it is...

- A powerful mechanism to understanding the problem and
  - An intelligent way of generating solutions
- Must have an objective to fulfill for data analysis

2

Need minimal data pool

- Publically generated data
- Access to private sector data

3

Understand the limitations in using the data

- Legal and other institutional issues that may prevent from collecting new data and utilizing available data sets

# UN Sustainable Development Goals

## How does big data analytics contribute in localizing SDG?

1

Data as a powerful tool to *localize SDG indicators* as well as *measure the progress* against the SDG indicators

2

*Getting closer to the goal* through application of big data analytics in policy-making and problem solving through understanding “As-is” and deriving “To-be” in any SDG



# Thank You



[www.susa.or.kr](http://www.susa.or.kr)