Web apps for smart cities

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Apps for smart cities, 29 March 2012
Native vs. web
Native vs. web

- It depends!
- There's room for both
- What we have to figure out is when native is better than web, and when web is better than native
Native vs. web

• It depends!
• There’s room for both
• What we have to figure out is when native is better than web, and when web is better than native
• Web is clearly better in a diverse environment
HTML5 apps

• One core application written with web technology

• Deployed to several mobile platforms, most likely by using PhoneGap ([http://phonegap.com](http://phonegap.com))

• If it can’t be deployed it’s still a website
HTML5 app or site?

• Apps are what everyone wants

• except the consumer, who doesn’t want to download hundreds of them to interact with his city

• So websites make much more sense in a city environment

• Go there, look up what you need, and leave

• Phone won’t be filled with hundreds of apps you used only once
Three requirements

- Due to variety of devices the data must be web data.
- Devices must be able to retrieve web data via a peer-to-peer connection.
- Devices must be alerted that data is available.
Extreme circumstances
How do we transfer data?
Wifi?
Not always available
Data plan?
Possible, but expensive for some and besides it takes a while to set up
Bluetooth?
Seems the best choice
(Or any other peer-to-peer connection)
Three requirements

• Due to variety of devices the data must be web data.

• Devices must be able to retrieve web data via a peer-to-peer connection

• Devices must be alerted that data is available
please?
Do you have any data for me?

for data any
Three requirements

• Due to variety of devices the data must be web data.

• Devices must be able to retrieve web data via a peer-to-peer connection

• Devices must be alerted that data is available
Three requirements

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Three requirements

• Due to variety of devices the data must be web data.

This is no problem.

Just tell us what you want, and we’ll build a website for you.
Three requirements

• Devices must be able to retrieve web data via a peer-to-peer connection

This is more of a problem.

Right now HTTP doesn't work over Bluetooth, NFC, or any other peer-to-peer connection.

There's no reason it wouldn't work, though. It just needs some care and attention.
Three requirements

- Devices must be alerted that data is available

This is the biggest problem of all.

The web is pull, not push.

And if we make it push,

spam will appear approximately 27 milliseconds later
Native after all?

Should we go native after all?

Native apps don’t have instant solutions to our problems

And you have to write an iPhone app

and an Android app

and a BlackBerry app

and a Windows Phone app

etc. etc. etc.

and even then you’re ignoring feature phones
Three requirements

- Due to variety of devices the data must be web data.
- Devices must be able to retrieve web data via a peer-to-peer connection.
- Devices must be alerted that data is available.
Thank you

I’ll put these slides online

Questions?

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