Executive Summary

Industry

- State and Local Government

Environment

- 78,000 residents
- 30 buildings
- 900 employees
- 53 switch stacks

Technology Needs

- Upgrade infrastructure
- Connectivity for remote learning and working
- New state-of-the-art Town Hall

Extreme Solutions

- Extreme Fabric Connect™
- ExtremeWireless™
- Extreme Management Center™
- ExtremeControl™

Results

- 100% uptime
- Remote connectivity for residents and employees
- Increased network security
- Improved network efficiency and resilience

The City of Boynton Beach

The City of Boynton Beach has relied on Extreme Networks to deliver network solutions that span across the entire city, including library, recreation buildings, city hall, fire stations, and the police department for over 20 years.

This tropical city on the east side of south Florida has approximately 78,000 residents and has seen increasing numbers in visitors every year. Its close proximity to the beautiful Palm Beaches, three major airports, and an abundance of seaside activities makes it a perfect vacation spot for families. The Boynton Harbor Marina dock brings life to the downtown area that is always serving live entertainment and delicious food.

The City of Boynton Beach strives to create a welcoming, sustainable community that provides growth and innovative opportunities for economic development. With an Extreme Networks upgrade, city employees and residents have made a smooth transition to remote working and learning during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Main Challenge

The City of Boynton Beach is on a mission to innovate. A previously outdated city hall has been demolished and a new four-story, state of the art office building and library have been built. The historic Boynton Beach High School has been transformed into a cultural center, and Town Square is undergoing construction to update residential and retail spaces, a playground, amphitheater, new fire station, and a new hotel. With all of these structural updates, the city determined it was time to update their network capabilities as well.

With an increase in IoT devices, heightened commitment to security, and the need for additional network control, Charles Stevens, ITS Network Manager, decided it was the perfect time to shop for a new network infrastructure.

STEPCG helped steer Boynton Beach to their exact product needs. Through further discussions with Extreme Networks and STEPCG, the City of Boynton Beach decided to utilize Extreme's sweep of products to fit all their needs.

"The sales and engineering team at Extreme Networks were really instrumental in the design of the system. We white-boarded the design, discussed ideas and best practices, and came up with a plan."

Charles Stevens, ITS Network Manager, City of Boynton Beach

Deployment

Boynton Beach is currently deploying Extreme Networks throughout the city and will continue to implement these technologies over the next couple years. Today this includes Extreme Fabric Connect in 11 city buildings, including 53 switch stacks, ExtremeWireless in 21 city buildings and Extreme Management Center/ExtremeControl for end-to-end management, configuration, and network access control.

With help from STEPCG, the only experienced downtime was planned and very short. and the implementation of ExtremeWireless was smooth; "The project went better than expected and our IT Helpdesk team was happy that they could change device group membership themselves because there was absolutely no programming required on the network switches." Extreme Automated Campus reduced installation and operation complexity to make future transfers simple, fast, and easy.

"Extreme Fabric Connect has drastically improved our efficiency, resiliency, and security."

Charles Stevens, ITS Network Manager, City of Boynton Beach

Results/Solution/Future

Extreme Management Center has simplified their network. Previously, the IT team had to program all network infrastructure manually, now with IoT and ExtremeGuest, the helpdesk staff, and library IT Staff have control of their own network.

The new city hall and library network control has allowed Boynton Beach to, "provide the citizens with the ability to connect to the network, either wired or wireless, in a secure fashion. During COVID-19 our schools are operating remotely. Every lobby table is filled with people coming in to access the wireless network and attend school remotely." Charles's goal is to continue to support the citizens of Boynton Beach as much as possible through innovative efforts.

Future plans involve expanding full wireless coverage to all city buildings. The City of Boynton Beach is on a mission to create an innovative and welcoming community.

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