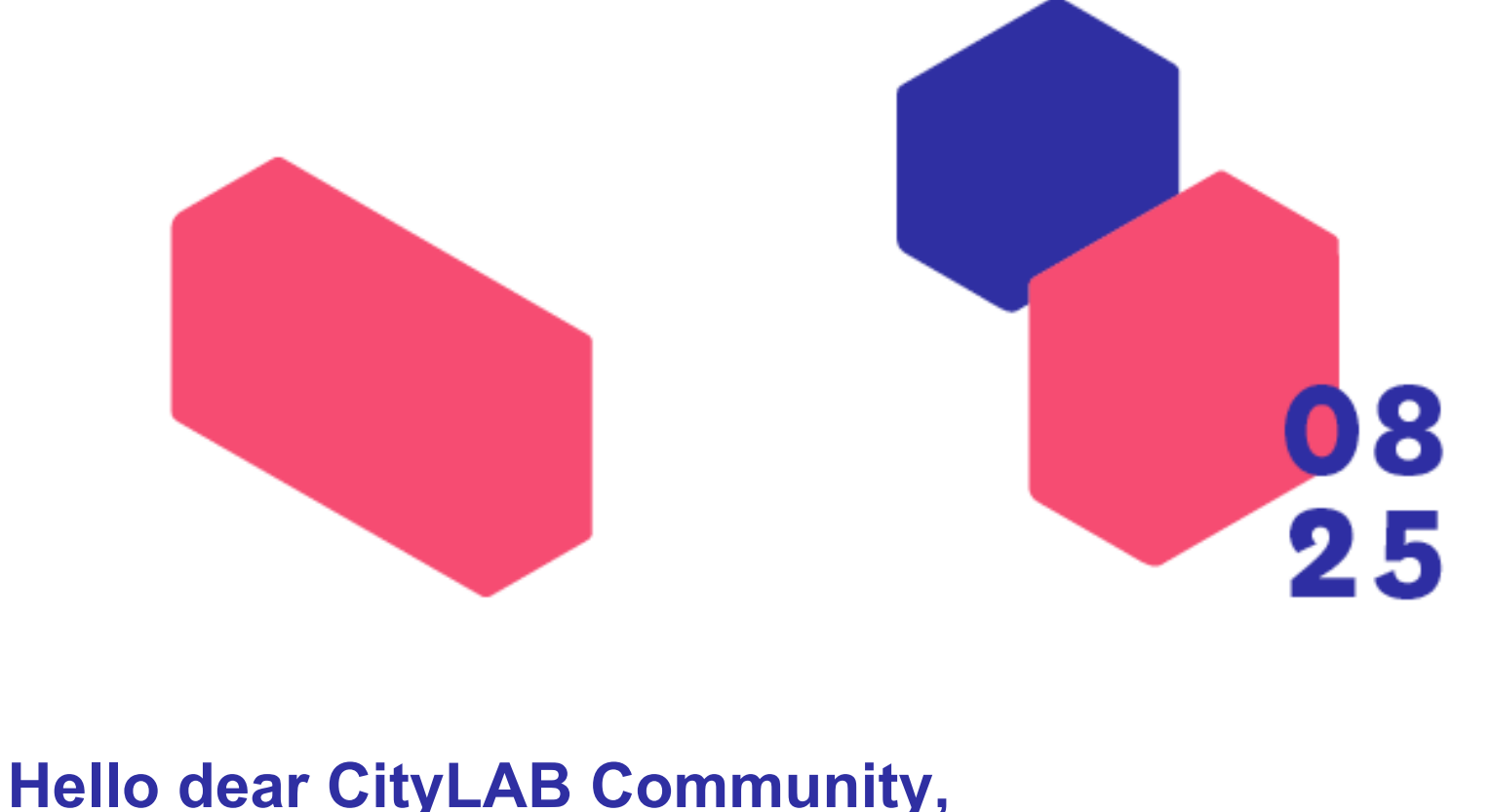


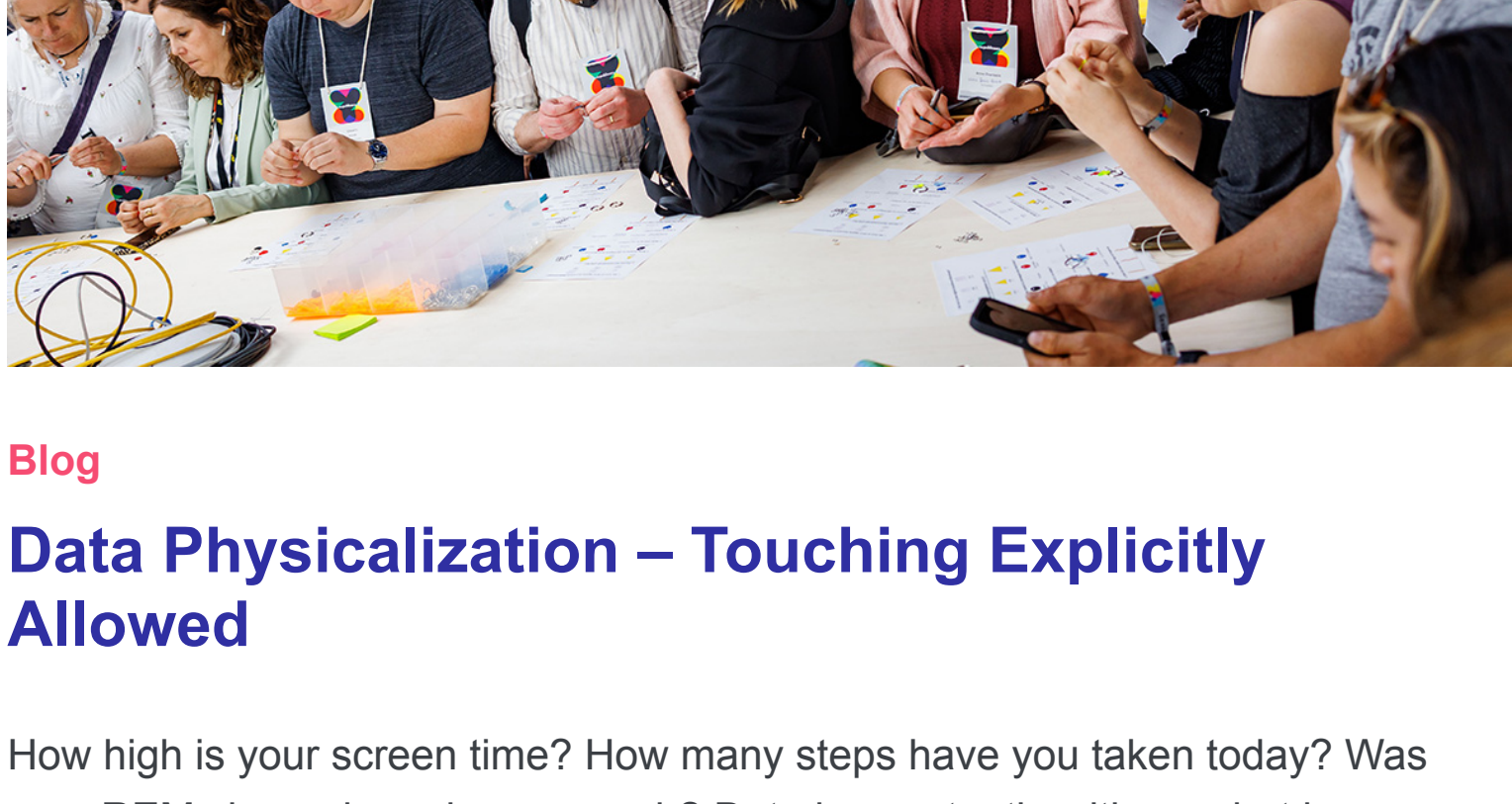


Hello dear CityLAB Community,

Did you know that “September” actually comes from the Latin *septem* for seven — and thanks to an ancient calendar fall ended up as the ninth month? To honor September’s origins, this month we’re presenting seven exciting CityLAB events waiting for you. But of course that’s not all: from data physicalization to city swapping, our range of topics is broader than the algae bloom in Berlin’s lakes (and much more digestible, too).

Happy reading!

Spotlight 1



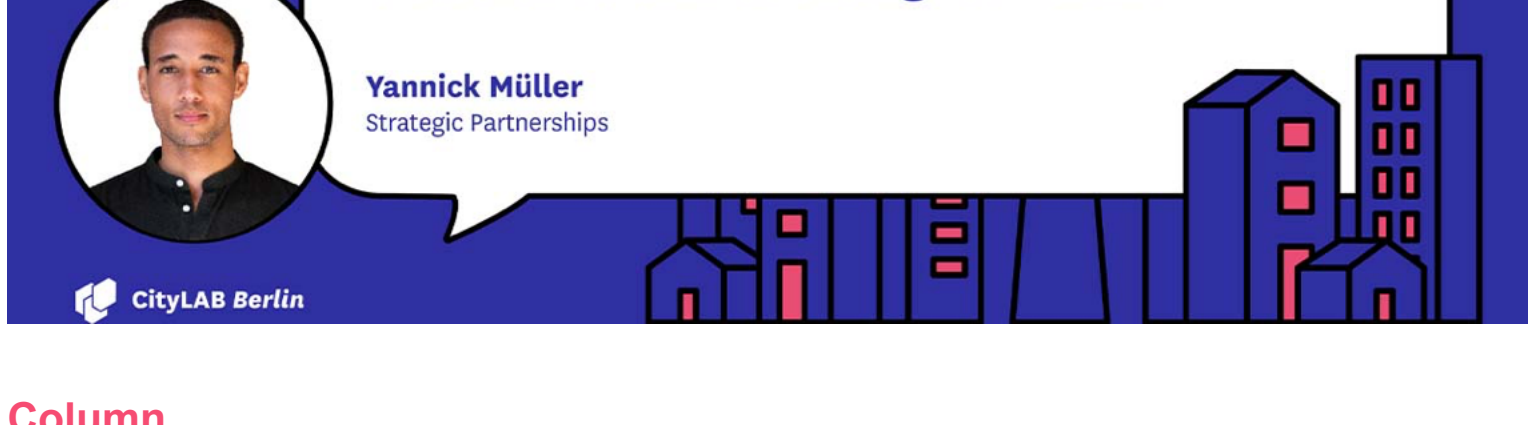
Blog

Data Physicalization – Touching Explicitly Allowed

How high is your screen time? How many steps have you taken today? Was your REM sleep phase long enough? Data is constantly with us—but how can we gain more control over our own data? In our CityLAB workshop we transform personal data into tangible, colorful objects that spark reflection on digital life in playful ways. In our blog post we show exactly how we approach this in the workshop and make data come alive.

[To the blogpost](#)

Spotlight 2



Column

City Whispers #5 – Good Encounters Begin Before the First Handshake

Urban exchange works like casting for a flat share: you can’t just throw people together and hope it works—you have to intentionally shape the conditions. In our new column, Yannick Müller reports on how this succeeds in our cooperation project *Stadtlabor2Go*—right in the middle of the city space, with real questions and fresh ideas. Because good encounters need more than just a handshake—they arise where genuine exchange becomes possible.

[To the blogpost](#)

Spotlight 3



Sommerkonferenz 2025

The CityLAB Sommerkonferenz 2025 on YouTube and Radio CityLAB

Suffering from FOHMO (Fear of Having Missed Out) because you missed this year’s Summer Conference? Luckily, there’s a cure: we’ve published selected talks on YouTube and Radio CityLAB—with more to come soon. Tune in!

[Go to YouTube channel](#)

[Go to Radio CityLAB episodes](#)

Events



02.09. – 26.09.2025

Last location this year

Kiezlabor @ Falkhagener Feld West

Berlin Spandau

What happens when the neighborhood management ends in 2027? You. All of you. Everyone is needed! The Kiezlabor, part of the Smart City strategy “Gemeinsam Digital: Berlin,” accompanies the transition, strengthens existing local structures, and sets new impulses. At the center are places of encounter, creative conflict resolution, and direct dialogue between the neighborhood, administration, and housing companies—right there, in the heart of Spandau’s Spektelfeld.

[More Information](#)

10.09.

Verwaltung gestalten

Breakfast with Members of the Berlin House of Representatives

09:00 – 10:30, @CityLAB Berlin

At the next edition of our event series “Shaping Administration,” we’ll discuss current topics of administrative digitization and modernization over breakfast in a relaxed atmosphere. In this informal setting, we want to foster exchange between Berlin administration staff and the digital policy representatives of the parliamentary groups.

Together we’ll discuss what progress has been made, what needs remain, and how we want to shape the administration of the future.

[More Information](#)

17.09.

Gemeinsam Digital: Berlin

Jahreskonferenz 2025

09:00 – 14:30 (doors open 08:30), @Rotes Rathaus

How can digital transformation be secured in the long term and Smart City projects embedded sustainably? This year’s GD:B Annual Conference is all about “sustainability.” Guests include Governing Mayor Kai Wegner and Martina Klement, State Secretary for Digitalization and Administrative Modernization and Berlin’s CDO. Expect exciting panel discussions and keynotes, including Stefan Heumann, Managing Director of Agora Digitale Transformation. Sign up now for free! (*For Berlin administration employees only*)

[More Information](#)

19.09.

re:publica Hamburg x Reeperbahn Festival 2025

The City of the Future: Colorful, Lively Visions or Gray Dystopias?

13:30 – 14:30, re:publica Hamburg @ Glanz & Gloria

We say: Moin Hamburg! At Glanz & Gloria, Zehra Öztürk, Florian Dohmann, Hilke Marit Berger and Niklas Kossow will discuss future perspectives for our cities in a fishbowl discussion with the audience—from climate change to AI. With the help of AI visualizations, new visions for the city of the future will emerge live, using Hamburg’s Reeperbahn as an example. Free admission—come by!

[More Information](#)

23.09.

Workshop

Dashboards for Data-based Personnel Planning in Administration

14:00 – 15:30, @CityLAB

Municipal professions are under pressure: skills shortages and social change pose new challenges for managers. Using the example of the city of Potsdam, Tim Hönig (FH Potsdam) shows how personnel data can be turned into a digital tool for future-oriented workforce planning. Afterwards we’ll discuss adaptation options and offer networking opportunities. The event is aimed at Berlin administration employees.

[More Information](#)

26.09.

Summer School 2025

City.Forest.Lab – Digital Perspectives on Ecological Spaces

14:00 – 16:00, @ZK/U Berlin – Center for Art and Urbanistics

Summer, sun, summer school! In the 2025 Summer School, students will explore how digital technologies can open new access to forests and urban nature. Together with TU Berlin, HTW Berlin and ZK/U, practice-oriented projects will be created — from DIY drones to 3D visualizations to a “forest buoy” that makes environmental data tangible. Curious about the results? Then join the public closing presentation!

[More Information](#)

30.09.

–

02.10.

SCCON

CityLAB goes Smart Country Convention 2025

14:00 – 16:00, @ZK/U Berlin – Center for Art and Urbanistics

This year CityLAB will once again be part of SCCON, the three-day congress for digital government and public services. In a workshop we’ll test BarGPT, the open-source AI assistant jointly developed by CityLAB and the Berlin administration, in an exploratory way based on administrative use cases. We’ll ask: what does an AI assistant need to be able to do to really support administration staff? On October 2 we’ll also host a networking breakfast on open source in administration in cooperation with FOSS Backstage. All info on this and our program at the Berlin booth can be found on our website.

[More information on the workshop](#)

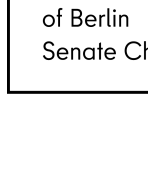
[More information on our program at the Berlin booth](#)

Looking ahead

This newsletter was written by a human. Do you want me to send you the AI version too?

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