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WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE BRIEFING

ISSUE 009 - People x Power x Systems x Consequences - 12 SEPTEMBER 2026

EDITOR'S INTELLIGENCE NOTE

Clarity is the new advantage.

This week's briefing spans health, technology, mobility, infrastructure and culture — reminding us that the most important shifts are rarely isolated. From the science of cancer prevention to the dawn of ambient robotics, and from the future of personal flight to the human value of friendship and representation, the common thread is agency. A more intelligent future depends on how we connect people, ideas and systems.

The question is not just what is happening, but what it enables — and who it leaves behind.

Kelly Dowd

KELLY DOWD, MBA, MA
Editor-in-Chief, WTM Media



*"Better questions
create a better tomorrow."*

THE WTM SIGNAL

The City Must Learn to Live With Water.

For a Century, Urban Design Tried to Remove Water. The Next City May Need to Make Room for It.

As seas rise and storms intensify, the most forward-looking cities are rethinking a fundamental question: not how to keep water out, but how to live with it.

This is not just about infrastructure. It is about the future of cities, economies and human life.

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PEOPLE | PLANET | CITIES | ECONOMY | RESILIENCE | A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

For more than a century, cities were engineered to move water away. That model is reaching its limits. As flood exposure grows, a new urban question is emerging: what if resilience depends not on removing water, but designing cities capable of living with it?



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