

Case Study

AuroraTV

AuroraTV.org is the official municipal television platform for the City of Aurora, Colorado, operating under the city's Communications Department since its establishment in 1982. As a government-access television service, AuroraTV broadcasts and archives City Council meetings, public service content, and community-focused programming. With a history of regional and national recognition for programming excellence, the platform plays a critical role in fostering civic transparency and public engagement. The website, developed on the Drupal content management framework, serves as the central digital interface for video streaming, program schedules, and community outreach. Our role has been to provide ongoing technical maintenance, performance optimization, and architectural enhancements, ensuring that the platform remains secure, scalable, and accessible.



Technical Foundations

PHP

DRUPAL

CABLECAST

VIDEO STREAMING

API INTEGRATION

DIGITAL CIVIC PLATFORM

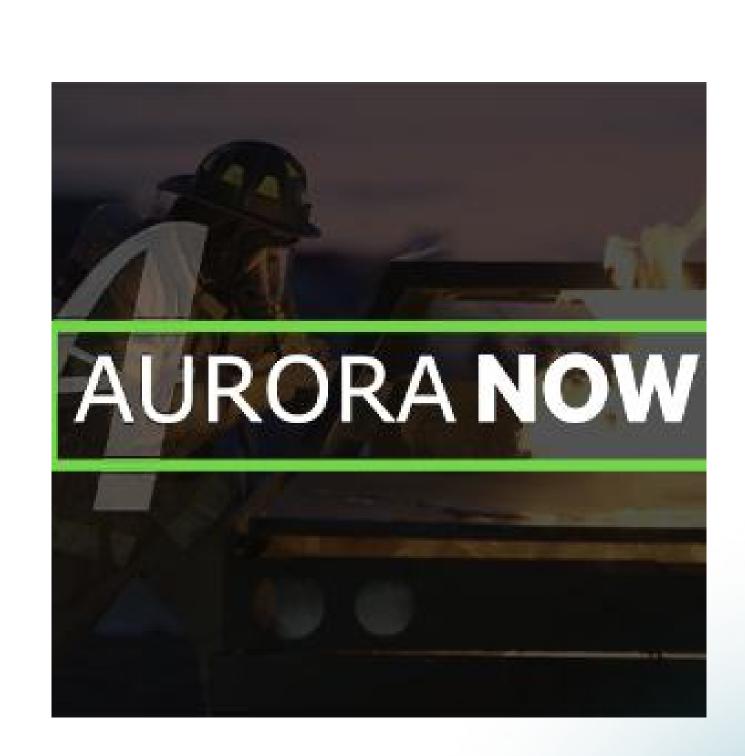
WEB ACCESSIBILITY

PERFORMANCE OPTIMIZATION

Assessment & Findings

Over time, AuroraTV.org's digital infrastructure encountered several limitations rooted in its legacy architecture. Chief among these was its dependency on a SOAP-based integration with Cablecast, the city's broadcast scheduling and playback system. The outdated API approach restricted flexibility, introduced maintenance complexities, and limited the ability to scale or extend key functionalities.

Furthermore, the platform required rigorous attention to accessibility compliance in accordance with WCAG and ADA standards, given its role in serving a broad and diverse public audience. Regular Drupal core updates, module patches, and system enhancements were also needed to mitigate security risks and ensure long-term platform integrity.





Strategic Execution

Our team implemented a phased, standards-compliant modernization strategy to enhance stability, performance, and long-term maintainability of the platform. A key focus was replacing the legacy SOAP integration with a robust REST-based API solution, following Cablecast's official documentation and Drupal development best practices. We restructured custom modules to consume the updated API responses while preserving existing functionality, ensuring seamless continuity for content managers and end users alike.

In parallel, we established a proactive maintenance workflow that includes routine Drupal core and module updates, compatibility resolution, and regression testing. We also conducted regular accessibility audits and implemented targeted improvements to HTML semantics, ARIA roles, and form behavior to maintain compliance. Additional enhancements were made to optimize performance, stabilize media playback, and improve the accuracy of program metadata sourced from Cablecast.

Value Delivered

The successful migration to a RESTful API architecture significantly improved platform performance, reduced technical debt, and enabled easier future integrations. AuroraTV.org now enjoys a cleaner, more maintainable codebase, improved API interoperability, and consistent media delivery through Cablecast. These improvements have directly contributed to a more stable and responsive user experience.

Additionally, the platform is now fully equipped to meet ongoing accessibility standards, offering an inclusive and compliant experience for all users. The site's backend is hardened against known vulnerabilities through regular security patching, while frontend enhancements have improved both usability and public engagement.

Continued Collaboration

Our engagement with AuroraTV is long-term and collaborative. We provide comprehensive support services, including version control, update automation, monitoring, accessibility optimization, and performance tuning. We work closely with the city's communications team to prioritize feature enhancements and ensure the platform evolves alongside community needs and policy changes.

By functioning as an extension of their technical team, we help AuroraTV deliver consistent, compliant, and high-quality digital services without disruption.

Strategic Insights

AuroraTV.org exemplifies how legacy government platforms can be revitalized through modern web architecture, accessibility-first design, and long-term maintenance strategy. Through our partnership, the City of Aurora now operates a stable, secure, and standards-compliant digital broadcasting platform that continues to inform, educate, and engage the community.

Thinking Process















Design





Emphatize

User Research
User Interview
Entrant Analysis

Define

User Persona
User Jouney Map
Goal Statement
Empathy Map

Brainstorming
Card Sorting
User Flow

Ideate

+ +

Paper Wireframes

Visual Design

Prototype

+ +

CheckUsability
Survey Insight
Improvements

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