



# Memorandum

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Mayor Sam Liccardo

**SUBJECT:** REQUEST TO TRAVEL

**DATE:** March 5, 2019

**Approved:**

3/5/19

**Recommendation:** Authorize travel, accept travel payments to the City of San Jose, and designate Mayor's staff, Shireen Santosham, as the City representative to attend the *Aspen Institute's Future of Cities: Connecting Innovation, Equity and Empowerment* conference.

**Location:** Washington, D.C.

**Meeting Dates:** April 8-10, 2019

**Source of Funds:** Aspen Institute

**Purpose:** Shireen Santosham to be designated as a City of San José representative at the *Aspen Institute's Future of Cities: Connecting Innovation, Equity and Empowerment* conference.

Shireen is the Chief Innovation Officer on the Mayor's team and works with key staff in the City Manager's Office to further the City's Smart City and innovation initiatives, including expanding digital inclusion to all San Jose residents.

Shireen was asked to speak at the Aspen Institute to share San Jose's leadership in creating the Digital Inclusion Fund to connect 50,000 households in the city to broadband and build the digital skills of our residents. This convening will gather cities across the U.S. to share lessons learned between cities. Shireen will share San José's "best practice" approach on broadband and digital inclusion. This opportunity will be used to continue to show thought leadership by San José in the smart cities space and interface with leading thinkers on City initiatives who are investing in government technology and innovation.