



Memorandum

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Mayor Sam Liccardo

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO TRAVEL

DATE: October 1, 2019

Approved:



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10-02-19

Recommendation: Authorize travel, accept travel payments to the City of San José, and designate Mayor's staff, Apoorva Pasricha, as the City representative to attend the Beta Blocks Knight Foundation Study Tour in Boston, Massachusetts from October 15 – 18, 2019.

Location: Boston, MA

Meeting Dates: October 16-17, 2019

Source of Funds: Knight Foundation

Purpose:

Apoorva Pasricha to be designated as a City of San José representative for the Beta Blocks Knight Foundation Study Tour. The Knight Foundation has invited a select group of 6 cities to do a study tour of Boston's Beta Blocks Initiative. The purpose of the tour is to study the impact of the temporary installations of technology to garner community feedback for municipal government, and provide user testing to participating technology companies. Other invited cities include: Boston, Philadelphia, Miami, and Charlotte.

Apoorva is the Harvard Business School Fellow 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.

San Jose was asked to participate in this study due to San Jose's national leadership on broadband, 5G technology, and closing the digital divide through the city's Digital Inclusion Fund. Moreover, the City has received a grant from the Knight Foundation to advance

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it's smart cities agenda. Knowledge sharing will be a key component of the study tour to understand and apply best practices from other cities to our own.