

Virtual Digital Inclusion

Leveraging the power of digital transformation to advance public sector accessibility and inclusion

Online | Wednesday, October 13th, 2021 | 12pm ET

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Agenda Overview

The impact that digital exclusion has had upon our society has been an issue of concern for some time - further exacerbated by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. While many around the nation, and the world, made a nigh-seamless shift to a remote, and largely digital, lifestyle - many others have remained on the margins - or shut out entirely.

The challenge of bridging the digital divide nationwide is made ever more difficult by the intersection of economics, geography, jurisdiction and other factors. As we await word from the Federal Government on how they will fund greater broadband access across the country; many States & Localities have been acting judiciously to make headway on their own.

Public Sector Network's **Digital Inclusion** Virtual Event will convene leaders from across the US who are leading efforts to ensure that all Americans benefit from the opportunities of the digital age.

Who attends?

Chiefs/Deputy Chiefs/ Directors/Managers of:

- Digital Inclusion
- Public Works
- Digital Strategy
- Digital
- Digital Service Delivery
- Technology
- IT & Innovation
- Data
- Digital Technology
- Cyber Security
- Information Security

From: Local, State, Tribal & Federal Governments

Speakers



Anthony Sanford
Assistant Director - Digital Inclusion,
 City of New York (NY)



Autumn Evans
Deputy Director of Digital Inclusion,
 City of Detroit (MI)



Dr. Mila Gascó-Hernández
Associate Research Director, Center for
Technology in Government,
 University at Albany, SUNY (State University
 of New York)



J. Josh Guevara
Deputy Director of Public Works,
 City of San Jose (CA)



Ricardo Santiago
Digital Inclusion Manager,
 Louisville Metro Government (KY)

Partner



Reasons to Attend

Examine the intersection points between governance, economics, and geography in developing digital inclusion strategies 

Explore public sector use cases currently impacting the digital divide 

Discuss the unique challenges faced by rural, urban, and remote communities 

Explore the results of Public/Private Partnerships designed to improve access 



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12:00pm ET	Welcome from Public Sector Network	1:40pm ET	Government Case Study: Social Infrastructure: Developing a Community Structure to Drive Innovation & Digital Inclusion Autumn Evans, Deputy Director of Digital Inclusion, City of Detroit (MI) As the first jurisdiction in the United States to develop a digital inclusion plan centered around a Director of Digital Inclusion – Detroit has been at the forefront of addressing this increasingly vital challenge. By developing a ‘social infrastructure’ framework that puts citizens at the center of the action, and an innovative model for engaging with and solidifying participation from private industry – Detroit has become a model for the nation in how to proactively address the digital divide. Join Autumn Evans – the nation’s first Deputy Director of Digital Inclusion – as she expounds upon the approach the Detroit has taken and how their initiatives are galvanizing the citizens & business community to come together and change the dynamic surrounding digital inclusion.
12:05pm ET	Chair Opening: Defining the Stakes: The Cost of the Digital Divide upon Society	1:55pm ET	Panel Session: From Concept to Reality: Achieving Digital Inclusion Nationwide Anthony Sanford, Assistant Director – Digital Inclusion, City of New York (NY) Ricardo Santiago, Digital Inclusion Manager, Louisville Metro Government (KY) The Pandemic has laid bare many of the challenges facing our nation and bridging the digital divide remains a problem that many leaders around the nation have taken on at all levels to ensure digital inclusion. Whether in urban, rural, or remote settings around our country – learn how leaders are approaching this issue and what must be done to achieve a goal of a fully connected America. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the challenges being faced in urban, rural, and remote communities and how leaders are bridging that digital divide • Discuss the how various Federal, State & Local strategies may intersect • Examine the most concerning and intractable challenges impeding full connectivity
12:20pm ET	Government Keynote Session: Developing a Comprehensive Digital Inclusion Strategy	2:10pm ET	Closing remarks from the Chair
12:35pm ET	Government Case Study: Developing Public/Private Partnerships to Dent the Digital Divide J. Josh Guevara, Deputy Director of Public Works, City of San Jose (CA) Many don’t imagine that the “Capital of Silicon Valley” has 10% of its population who remain disconnected from the internet; but a dedicated group of leaders – including Public Works Deputy Director J. Josh Guevara – have built a unique public/private partnership to directly address that issue. Join J. as he shares some of the journey for how San Jose made a commitment to tackle this challenge, how they were able to build major partnerships with key telecom operators, and where the program goes from here post pandemic. J. can dive deep into telecom negotiations, permitting process improvements, and community engagement for long-term community impact for digital inclusion.	2:15pm ET	Virtual event adjourns
12:50pm ET	Partner Session: Strategies for Expanding Digital Access		
1:05pm ET	Government Case Study: Academic Case Study: The Digital Divide: Cause & Effect Dr. Mila Gascó-Hernández, Associate Research Director, Center for Technology in Government, University at Albany, SUNY (State University of New York) With a career spanning multiple continents – Dr. Mila Gascó-Hernández – has been researching, studying, teaching, and providing perspective on Digital Inclusion and the digital divide for years. With that experience – comes insight. Join Dr. Mila Gascó-Hernández for an in-depth discussion surrounding the nature of the digital divide, how it manifests, and a comparison between the nature of the digital divide within the US and across Latin America.		
1:20pm ET	Break		
1:25pm ET	Partner Session: Leveraging Innovation in Infrastructure Development to Simplify Bridging the Digital Divide		