

**For Immediate Release:**

September 29, 2015

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Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo

### **San José Mayor Liccardo Addresses Clinton Global Initiative**

*This year's meeting focuses on how cities are using technology to solve tough problem.*

*New York, NY*— Today, San José Mayor Sam Liccardo is speaking at the Clinton Global Initiative's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. The Mayor will participate in a group discussion on “Building a Smarter City for a Smarter Society Using Design and Technology.” He will address how cities can be innovative on limited budgets, specifically by investing in information technology and leveraging partnerships outside of City Hall. The Mayor will provide examples of how San José is using this model to provide solutions to poverty and homelessness, and making San José more energy efficient.

“In a time of continued scarcity of local public funds, cities must find new, innovative solutions to solve old problems,” said Mayor Sam Liccardo. “By investing in IT and using data, cities can pinpoint their problems, and by creating partnerships in their community have the resources to put these smart strategies in place.”

Mayor Liccardo's remarks will focus on how San José has had success in using this approach in tackling the issues of poverty and homelessness, energy usage, and the drought. Recently, San José entered in to a partnership with the Silicon Valley Talent Partnership to launch Feeding Silicon Valley (Feeding SV). This new partnership uses a mobile app called Waste No Food to link major event caterers (i.e. the San José Convention Center and Levis Stadium) with food distributing nonprofits to donate excess food.

San José is partnering with Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) to reduce energy usage across its business community with a program called Step Up and Power Down. This partnership focuses on reducing energy waste by educating employees on what simple actions they can take to reduce energy consumption. The savings from San José's business community who participate in the program contribute to San José's citywide goal of saving 25 million kWh or \$3.3 million in energy savings. When San José meets its goal, PG&E will invest \$1 million in local sustainability projects.

With California confronting the “new normal” of a drier climate, Mayor Liccardo will discuss the drought and how to combat it using new technologies and methodologies. San José is partnering with the Santa Clara Valley Water District to expand a locally controlled, drought-proof purified water system to recharge its groundwater aquifers. He will touch on the new and successful “LawnBusters” pilot, partnering with the local non-profit Our City Forest to employ at-risk youth to convert lawns. San José is also launching new technologies with WaterSmart Software to provide water-use information and encourage residents to conserve water.

The discussion begins today at 11 AM EDT in New York City. Watch live here:  
<https://www.clintonfoundation.org/clinton-global-initiative>

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