

From: "Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>
To: "[Direct to Mayor and Council - DL](#)"
Date: 10/3/2025 8:26:10 AM
Subject: FW: Invitation: Strong Cities Network's Introduction to City-Led Prevention Webinar, Wednesday 22 October 2025

Hello Mayor and Council,

Further to my previous update regarding the City's recent membership in the Strong Cities Network and our access to their ongoing events and workshops, please find attached information about the next Strong Cities Webinar.

Thank you,

Sandra

Sandra Singh | Deputy City Manager
City of Vancouver
E-mail: sandra.singh@vancouver.ca
Pronouns: she/her

Assistant: Laura Holvor
Phone: 604.829.9602
E-mail: laura.holvor@vancouver.ca
Pronouns: she/her

The City of Vancouver acknowledges the unceded homelands of the x m k y m ([Musqueam](#)), S wlu817 _wú7mesh ([Squamish](#)) and s lilw ta / selilwitulh ([Tsleil-Waututh](#)) Nations.

From: Katie Wells <kw@strongcitiesnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, October 3, 2025 8:17 AM
Subject: Invitation: Strong Cities Network's Introduction to City-Led Prevention Webinar, Wednesday 22 October 2025

Dear Colleague,

The Strong Cities Network is pleased to invite you to our upcoming webinar in the Introduction to City-Led Prevention of Hate and Targeted Violence Series: *Mayoral Leadership in the Face of Rising Incivility and Polarization: Modeling Civility and Bridging Divides in Times of Crisis*.

Background

In November 2024, as part of Strong Cities continued engagement with cities in North America and Europe, we launched a monthly webinar series, "An Introduction to City-Led Prevention of Hate and Targeted Violence," an exploration of how local governments and elected local leaders can get more involved in addressing hate and other threats to social cohesion in their cities. You can read a summary of the webinars to-date [here](#).

Next Webinar

Our final webinar in this series will be held on Wednesday, 22 October 2025 11:00am-12:30pm ET

and 08:00-9:30am PT.

Around the world, mayors are on the frontlines of local, national, and global divisions reckoning with how to mitigate the impacts of increasing division and incivility -- and the political and other forms of violence that can result.

These challenges have implications across communities, political discourse and governance as residents grow increasingly distrustful of intuitions, political processes and the benefits of civic engagement. As residents withdraw from their communities, polarisation festers and incivility and intolerance become the norm, tearing at the fabric of our society. These trends also give rise to threats to the safety and well-being of residents, including elected and other government officials who are increasingly subjected to threats and harassment.

Mayors and other elected local leaders are uniquely qualified to confront these challenges and demonstrate and promote civility and dialogue to foster community connection and belonging for all residents in their cities and beyond.

This 90-minute session will feature a conversation with three US mayors across the geographic and political spectrum on the importance of modeling civility and respect and how they promote civic engagement and dialogue to bridge divides and address their communities' most pressing challenges. The mayors will also discuss the increasingly important role mayors and other elected local leaders play, including by working with trusted community partners across their city, in restoring faith in institutions and advancing strategies to ensure a healthy and resilient democracy. The conversation will be preceded by remarks from the [Matt Leighninger](#), Vice President and Director of the Center of Democracy Innovation at the National Civic League.

Speakers:

- Kendy Alvarez, Mayor, Borough of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania
- Bryan Barnett, Mayor, City of Rochester Hills, Michigan
- Daniel Rickenmann, Mayor, City of Columbia, South Carolina

Register to Join

We ask that you please let us know by close of business Friday, 17 October if you plan on joining us by registering here:

[Register for the Introduction to City-Led Prevention webinar at this link](#)

Kind regards,

Katie Wells

Program Manager, North America Regional hub

+1 423-488-9624 (WhatsApp/Signal)

1032 15th St. NW, Suite 285, Washington DC, 20005



Copyright © Institute for Strategic Dialogue (2025). Strong Cities is hosted by the Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD). ISD-US is a non-profit corporation with 501(c)(3) status registered in the District of Columbia with tax identification number 27-1282489. All Rights Reserved.