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To: Kester, Tony [kester@aging.sc.gov](mailto:kester@aging.sc.gov)  
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Subject: Grant update: Lessons from Austin / Small city, big ideas / Utility partnerships

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We were in Austin this week for our first Readiness Challenge Grant Workshop. See how it's using **technology to help all**. Are you **partnering with universities**? It works for Palo Alto. You should **team with utilities** too. And check out the new tools that are **keeping children safe**.

Now you're caught up,  
Jesse Berst

**Don't miss Smart Cities Week Silicon Valley.** Have you registered yet for Smart Cities Week Silicon Valley, May 8-10? You won't hear pie-in-the-sky notions about the distant future. Hear from some of the brightest minds in the public and private sector talk about building better, more inclusive cities today.

**Challenge Grant update: How Austin is getting smart about equality.** By population growth, Austin is one of the most successful cities in the U.S. By economic segregation, though, it ranks at the bottom. Learn how our first Readiness Challenge Grant winner plans to change that.

**How one city's 'not afraid to fail' attitude is making it smarter.** Palo Alto, California isn't a big city. But it sure acts like one. With numerous smart city projects completed or underway, the Silicon Valley community seems well on its way to becoming the role model it wants to be.

**Accelerating the urban energy transformation: the role for utilities.** It's time that utilities and cities see each other as essential partners. Read on for Navigant Research's five key factors for successful smart cities and information on joining an informative webinar.

**How tools from AT&T, SAS and others are protecting vulnerable children.** In a North Carolina county, the intersection of opioid abuse and child abuse and neglect threatens to overwhelm social services. A Florida agency works to protect the identity of kids in the foster care system from a new kind of attack. Read how technology is helping in scenarios like these.

**Inside Look: What cities are buying and planning.** From emergency management to communications, from smart water to zero waste, here is a look at the areas where cities are currently making their biggest investments.

**The International Smart and Safe City Event.** Register for the International Smart and Safe City Event, June 7-8 in The Hague, Netherlands, to see what cities will look like in 30 years, discuss safety and risk management, and learn how to scale projects and collaborate. Register today.

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