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## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

## **Nabers to facilitate workshop for Smart Cities Conference**

P3s, alternative funding options for city projects to be explored by leaders from across U.S.

AUSTIN, TX (5/15/17) - Mary Scott Nabers, president and CEO of Strategic Partnerships, Inc. (SPI) and a nationally recognized expert in public-private partnerships (P3s/PPPs), will serve as facilitator of a Public-Private Partnership Workshop at the upcoming <a href="Smart Cities CONNECT Conference and Expo">Smart Cities CONNECT Conference and Expo</a>. At the June 25-28 event in Austin, Nabers' workshop will address "Financing Smart City Projects - What you need to know about Public-Private Partnerships and Alternative Funding Options." Nabers will be joined by the Association for the Improvement of American Infrastructure (AIAI) and many recognized experts with experience in all the various aspects of P3s. Participants will be attending from throughout the United States.

"The population explosion in many areas of the United States has created a growing interest in public-private partnerships as municipalities face escalating demands for public services, from energy solutions and cyber security to water and waste management," said Nabers. "This workshop is designed to introduce city officials to P3s as an alternative method for financing many of those projects."

Nabers will facilitate a variety of panel discussions relating to P3s, including the various P3 models being used successfully, how and when to get started on a P3 project, how to ensure a successful project while maintaining community support and a discussion on best practices. Some of the other presenters at the afternoon event will include: Deborah Brown, WSP USA; Mark Kempton, Skanska Infrastructure Development; John Barton, Strategic Partnerships, Inc.; Tony Elkins, Cintra; Russell Zapalac, Halff Associates; Henry Navnital, Kiewit; Taylor Ferguson, Grant Thornton; Lisa Buglione, AlAI; John Parkinson, AlAI; Edgar Antu, Strategic Partnerships, Inc.; Jim Murphy, Halff Associates; and Anthony Hernandez, Grant Thornton.

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Nearly a dozen round table discussions will also be part of the P3 workshop, covering issues that range from how to attract competition and financing for a P3 project to developing a civic outreach plan and tips and guidance from public officials who have been involved in P3s in their communities.

Nabers said the workshop on P3s is designed to provide valuable information to elected officials, city managers, economic development officials, project managers, CFOs, CIOs, procurement chiefs, communication directors and others who will be involved in upcoming projects in a city.

The Smart Cities conference is expected to draw leaders from more than 200 cities throughout the United States to discuss innovative solutions to city-centric problems and to discuss possible partnerships with technology and service providers on innovative Smart Cities initiatives.

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## About Strategic Partnerships, Inc.:

SPI is a full-service procurement consulting firm. SPI is recognized as a pioneer in the business of partnering public and private entities for commercial purposes. SPI was founded by Mary Scott Nabers, a published expert on public-private partnerships (P3s). For more information, contact SPI at 512-531-3900 or by visiting <a href="https://www.spartnerships.com">www.spartnerships.com</a>.