

# Digital Badging: Why it Matters and How to Get Started

## A Resource for the Governments Engaging Youth Toolkit

*Sponsored by the Workforce Investment Board Accelerator 3.0 Grant*

**ILG is the non-profit  
research and education  
affiliate of**



**California Special  
Districts Association**  
*Districts Stronger Together*

# Governments Engaging Youth

**Vision:** Communities and schools collaborate to prepare students for civic life and college/career readiness.



*Elk Grove youth participating as City Attorney, City Manager and City Clerk. Summer 2015 Experience of Summer at City Hall.*

# Governments Engaging Youth

- **Mission:** Create strong partnerships between school districts and local government entities to offer students opportunities to gain 21st century work skills, build interest in public service careers, provide tools to become civically aware and engaged and bring authentic youth voice to local government issues.
- **Partners:** Sacramento County Office of Education, Council for a Strong America, Linked Learning Alliance



*Lunch & Learn with the Mayor.  
Credit: City of Moreno Valley*

# Why Target the Public Sector Service?

- Need for more diverse workforce to reflect community
- Baby boomer retirements
- Local governments offer a wide range of career paths.
- Civic engagement is problematic:
  - The United States ranks 139th in voter participation of 172 democracies around the world.
  - Less than 8% of registered 18-24 year-olds actually voted in the 2014 primary election.
  - 55% of all youth ages 12-18 volunteer; less for youth of color.



*Youth discussing government with an Officer with the Moreno Valley Police Department During Summer 2016 Summer at City Hall experience.  
Credit: City of Moreno Valley*

# Goals for the Governments Engaging Youth program

- Create a high school to career pipeline to ensure a more diverse and prepared public sector workforce.
- Students learn 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce skills.
- Students learn how to become active citizens.
- Increase youth knowledge of how local government operates.
- Strengthen intergenerational relationships and improve adult knowledge of youth.

# Governments Engaging Youth Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Accelerator Grant 3.0

- Strengthen how GEY programs can engage disconnected youth
- Initiate a Network of Sites (Tech Team)
- Create a toolkit
- Develop strategies and tools to engage leaders/champions
- Expand to new sites
- Plan for requirements for a digital badge
- Create advisory board



*Youth Showcase their Advocacy Projects during Summer 2015  
Summer at City Hall Experience  
Credit: Bina Lefkowitz*

# Governments Engaging Youth Webinar Resources in the GEY Toolkit

- Thank you to Rebecca Sterling with the Linked Learning Alliance for being our guest speaker and content expert for this webinar.
- The webinar is a resource of our GEY Toolkit which also includes a recorded webinar about work-based learning with James Cole of the National Academy Foundation.





# Digital Badges

*A New Approach to Verifying Learning*



# BADGES



A digital representations of a **skill** or **achievement**



Reinvent or Augment Existing  
Credentials:

# Granular Evidence-based & Transferable



# A **CONNECTED** Ecosystem of Learning

- Badges Can Be **CREATED** and Issued by Anyone
  - Schools
  - Community and Professional Organizations
  - Online Spaces
  - Cultural and Civic Organizations
- Badges can be **EARNED** by Anyone
  - Completing a project
  - Program
  - Specific Knowledge
  - Skills or Abilities
- Badges can be **SHARED**
  - Online Platforms
  - Mozilla Backpack
  - Launchpath
  - LRNG



# Building a New System of Learning

*Watch an overview of online  
badging from the MacArthur  
Foundation.*



# Higher Ed: Purdue University

Passport

Challenges My badges Mary

 Mary Major

Mary has 16 badges



Email address

**PURDUE**  
UNIVERSITY

© 2012 Purdue University | An equal access/equal opportunity university | Version 1.0.0  
If you have trouble accessing this page because of a disability, please contact ITAP at [itap@purdue.edu](mailto:itap@purdue.edu).



# Badging



Gabby



# Work-based Learning Continuum

**Would you look at that? A perfect match.**



# Work-based Learning Continuum

## A Simpler Route



# Intermediary & Business Testimony

**Ian Winbrock**

**Executive Director**

**Future Ready, City of West Sacramento**

**Ian@FutureReady.WS**



**FUTUREREADY**.ws

The Mayor's Trust for Youth



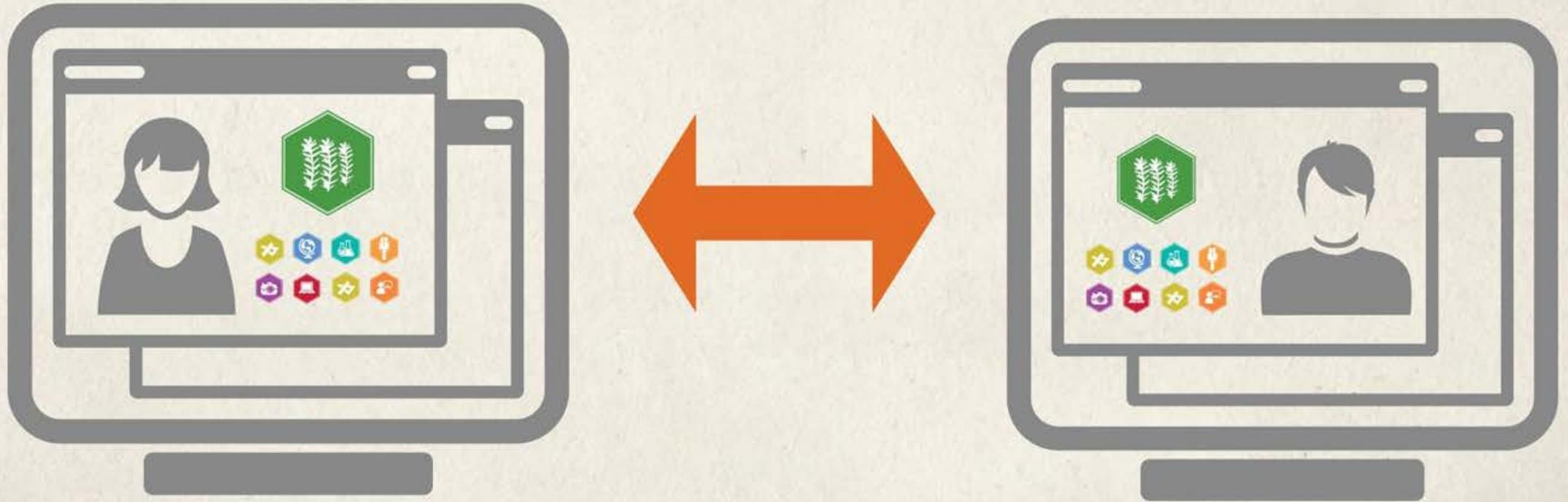


# ORGANIZE AND CONNECT CITY LEARNING RESOURCES

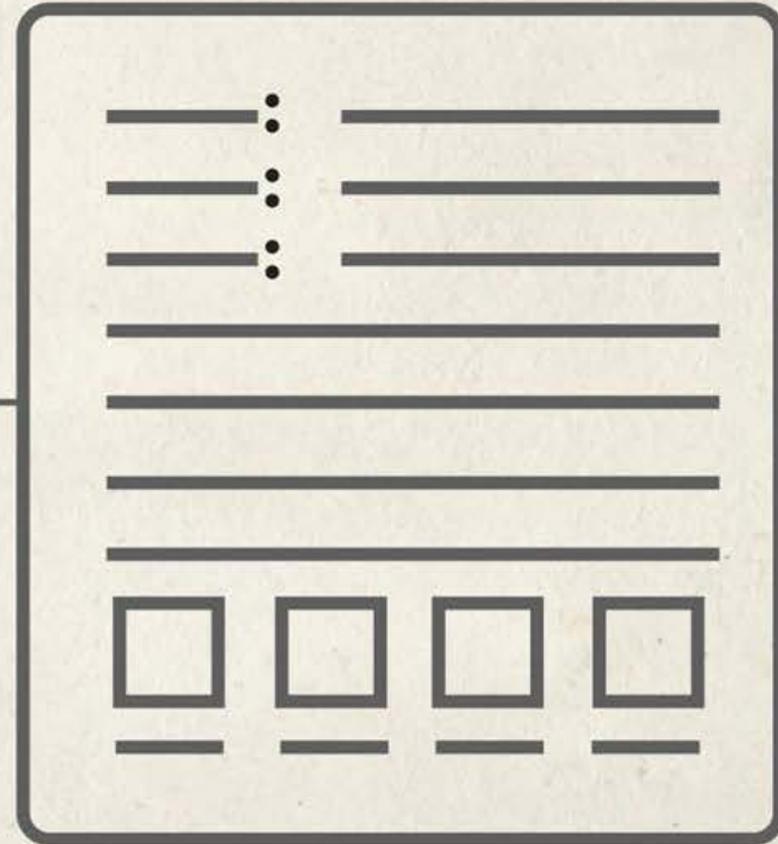
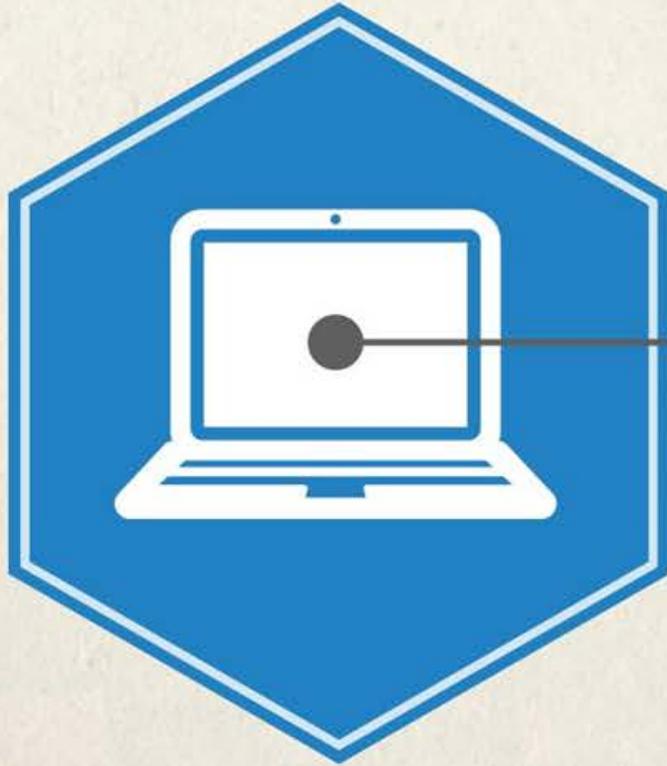
# CREDENTIALS ALL LEARNING FORMAL AND INFORMAL



# DIGITAL, OPEN, AND SHAREABLE

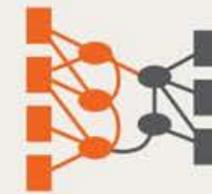
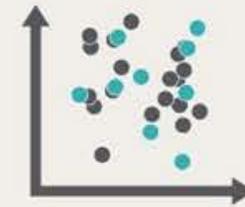


CAN BE EMBEDDED WITH  
INFORMATION AND DATA

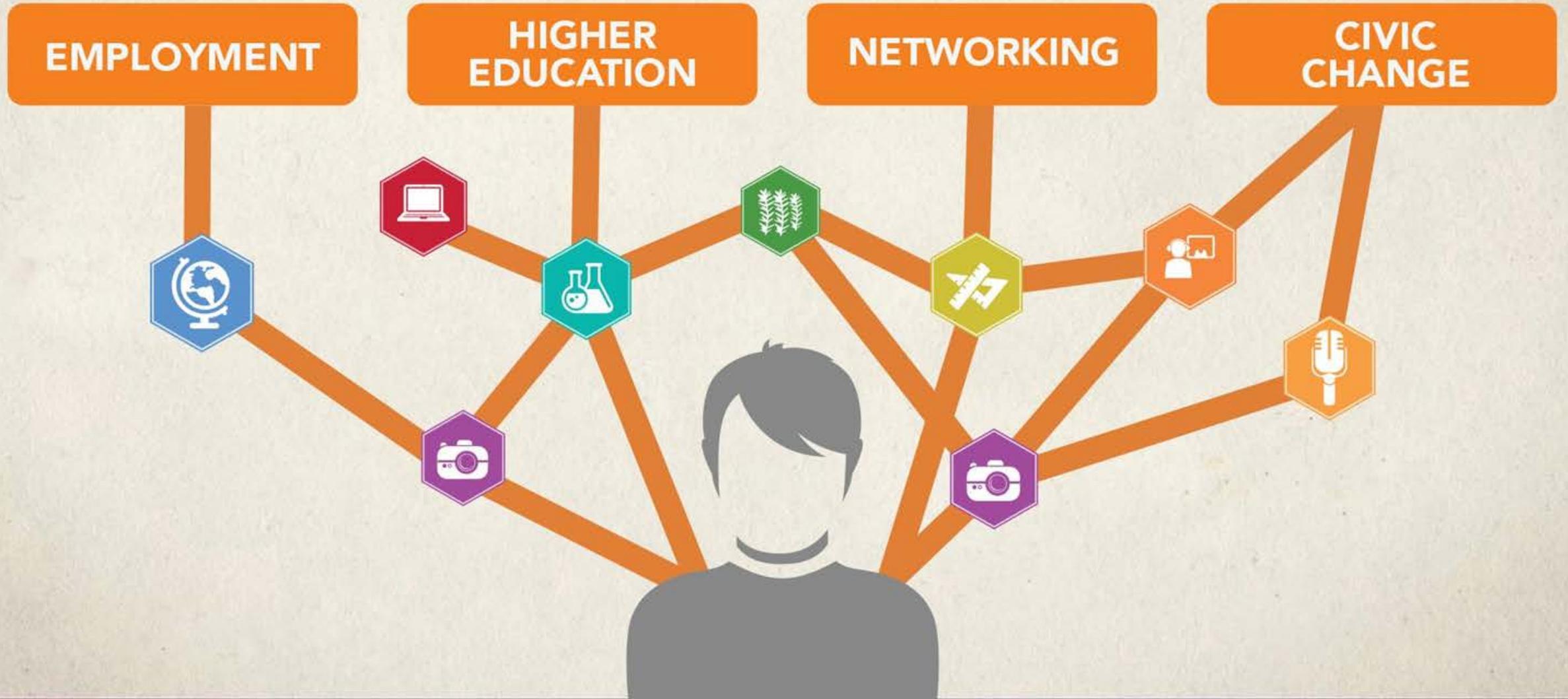




# USE DATA FOR BETTER SYSTEM DESIGN



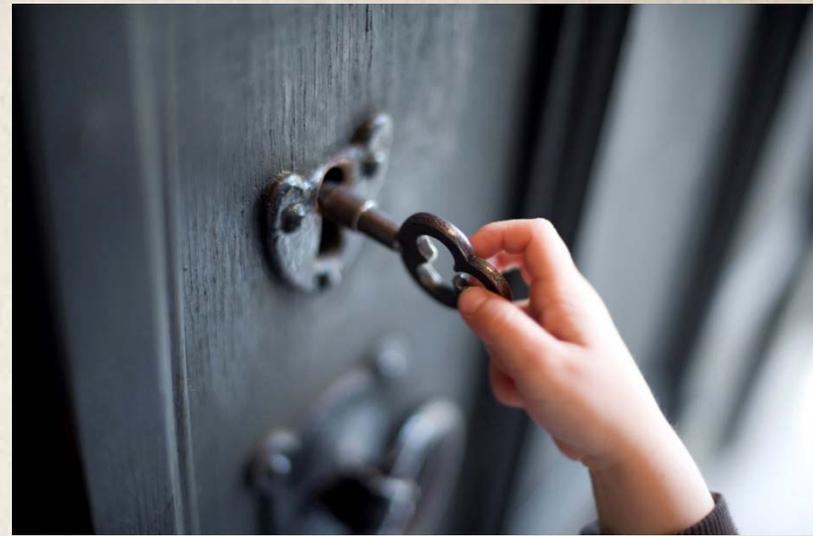
# CAN BE USED TO CREATE LEARNING AND OPPORTUNITY PATHWAYS







# BADGES





**FUTUREREADY**.ws  
The Mayor's Trust for Youth



## Program Description

The City of West Sacramento has established a paid student summer internship program to provide students with practical work experience related to their academic major or chosen field of study. This program provides the City with the opportunity to invest in our future workforce and demonstrate how students can have the career they want in local government while serving their community.

The eight-week internship will provide interns with positive examples of public service, hands on experience, and an insight into how city governments are run.

Interns will spend time job shadowing City employees. Assignments will be based on the level of experience and the department to which they are assigned.

## Eligibility Requirements

In order to be eligible to participate in the Program, the intern must:

- Be a high school junior or senior 16 years of age or older OR be enrolled in an accredited college/university or a graduating high school senior enrolled in an accredited college/university
- Be able to work in the US
- Submit an official City application form
- Priority will be given to Washington Unified School District (WUSD) students who are enrolled in a career-driven pathway or academy. Secondary preference will also be given to other Washington Unified School District students and graduates, and West Sacramento residents.



The poster features a dark blue background with a yellow bridge graphic in the center. At the top, there is a photograph of the West Sacramento skyline with the text 'RALEIGH' and 'WEST SACRAMENTO CA'. A vertical banner on the left side reads 'Strides Towards Entering Public Service'. The main text includes the program name, dates, and contact information. A photograph of a modern building is on the right side.

**City of West Sacramento**

**Summer STEPS**  
Student Internship Program  
2016

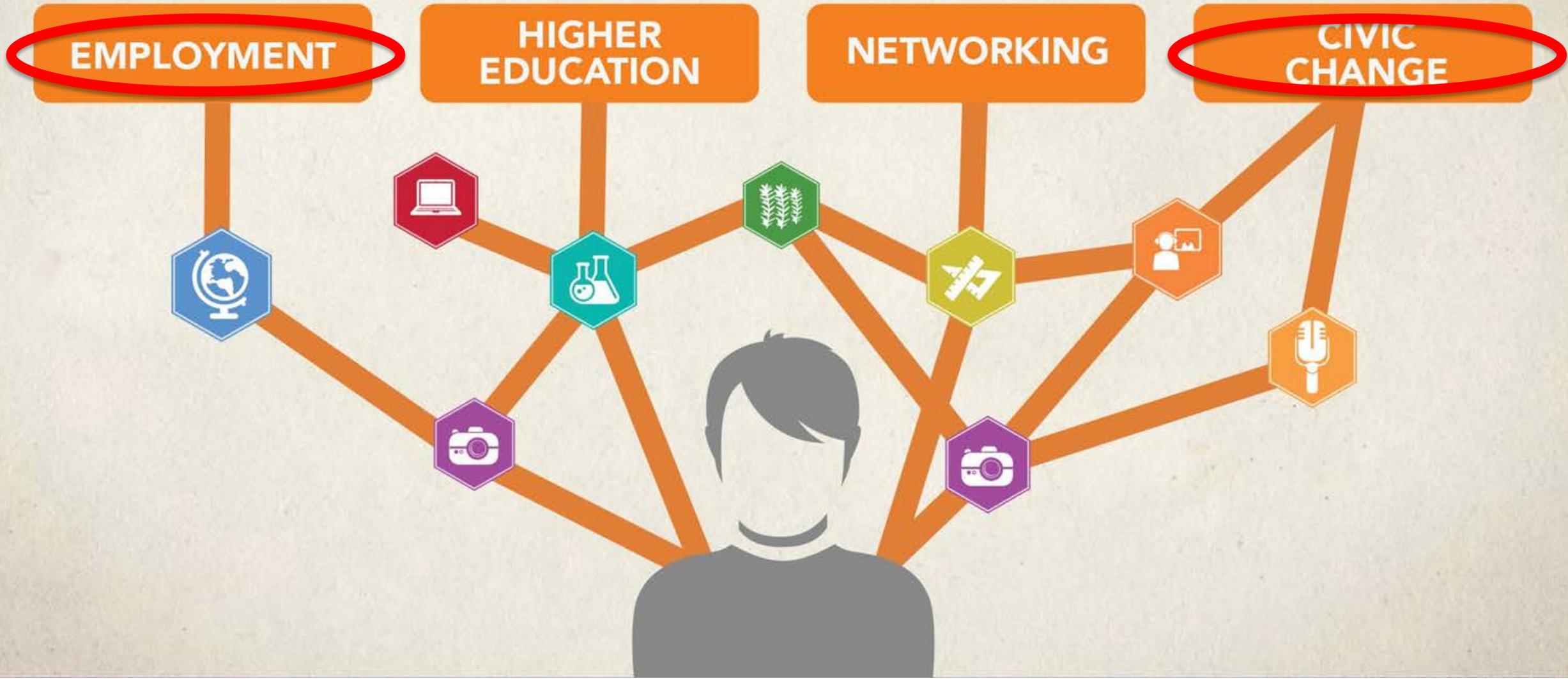
**Strides Towards Entering Public Service**

**Summer STEPS**  
Student Internship Program

Program Start: June 13, 2016  
Program End: August 5, 2016

City of West Sacramento  
1110 West Capitol Avenue  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
(916) 617-4567  
[www.cityofwestsacramento.org](http://www.cityofwestsacramento.org)

# CAN BE USED TO CREATE LEARNING AND OPPORTUNITY PATHWAYS





# INTERESTS

# PEER CULTURE

# OPPORTUNITY

MUSIC

ENTERTAINMENT

VIDEO GAMES

PRODUCTION CENTERED

WEBSITES

MOBILE APPS

SCHOOL

SHARED PURPOSE

EMPLOYERS

PEER GROUPS

SOCIAL MEDIA

FAMILY

MENTORS

OPENLY NETWORKED

HIGHER EDUCATION



## Playlists

Playlists are made up of...

### XP

An XP is a learning experience. XPs can be local or digital.

### Resources

A self-contained piece of media content that can be consumed or used by the learner.



A shareable credential that provides evidence of a learning achievement.



## Opportunity

An activity that is unlocked by earning a badge. Youth earn a badge after completing a Playlist.



# GET LOST



Filters

LET US BE BOLD.  
LET US BE BRAVE.  
LET US BE TOGETHER.

DEAD HENRY

A Brave New World  
Vote Latino

The Big Deal  
Center for Data Science and Public

Center for Data Science & Public Policy  
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

CMCTECH  
CAREER

**BRAVE**

Civic Engagement  
SCIENCE

**BEST BUY**

Soft Circuits  
TECH

**BEST BUY**

Sewing Circuits  
SCIENCE



# MEET THE LRNG CITIES



WEST SACRAMENTO

SAN JOSE

SAN DIEGO

KANSAS CITY

DALLAS

CHICAGO

COLUMBUS

SPRINGFIELD

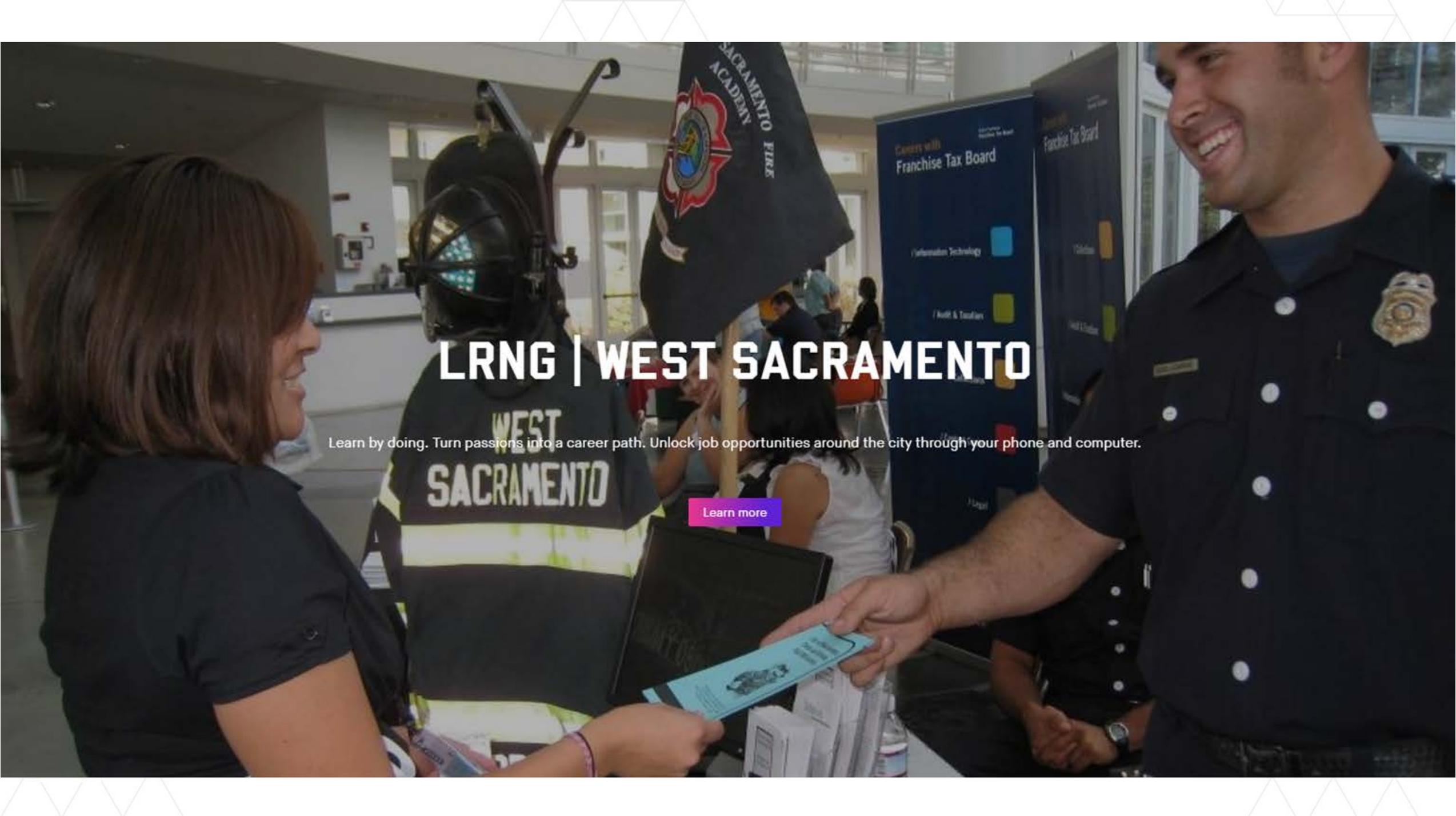
PITTSBURGH

WASHINGTON D.C.

ROCHESTER

PHILLY

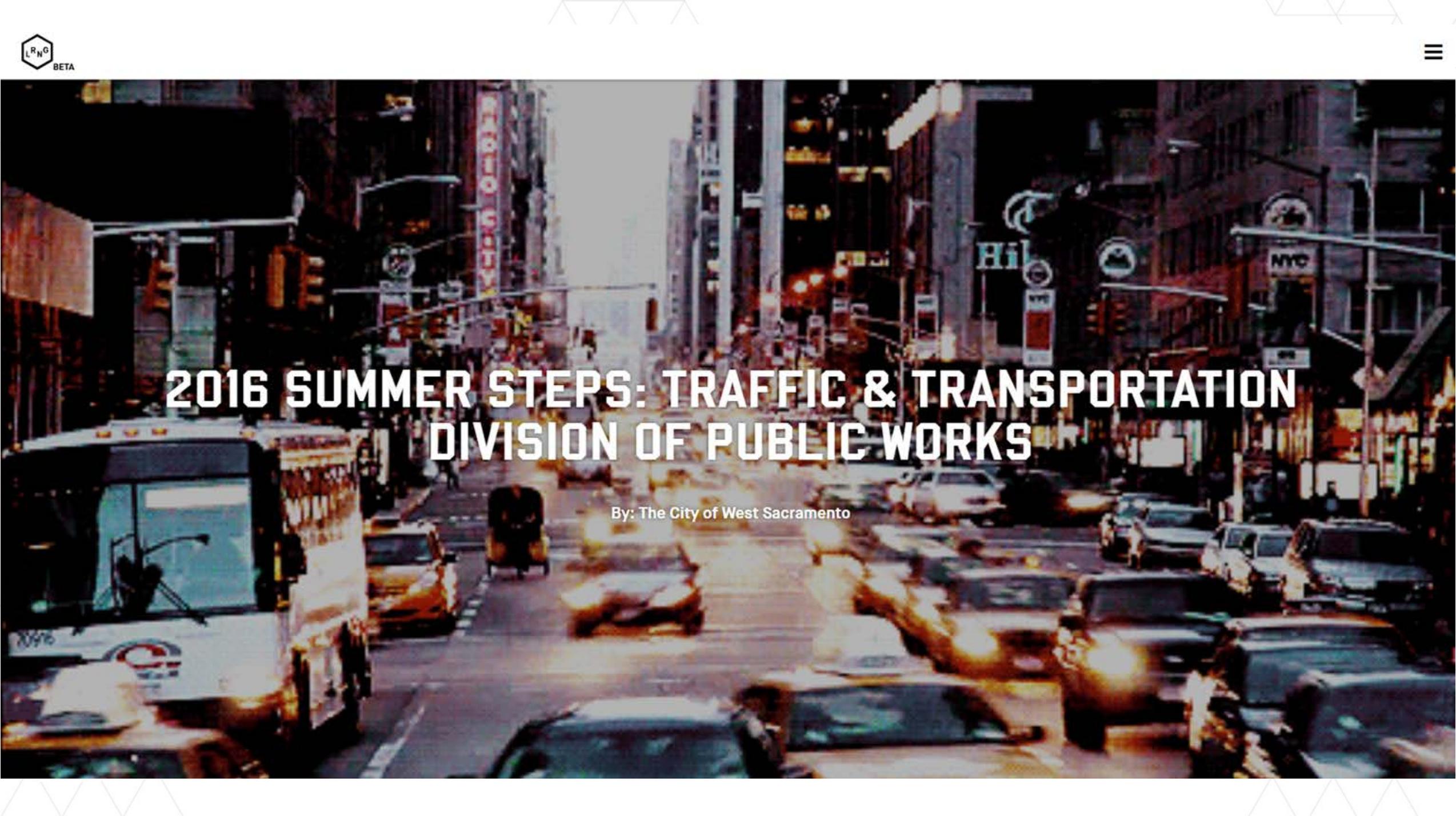




# LRNG | WEST SACRAMENTO

Learn by doing. Turn passions into a career path. Unlock job opportunities around the city through your phone and computer.

[Learn more](#)

A wide-angle, low-angle shot of a busy city street at night. The street is filled with cars, including a white bus in the foreground on the left. The buildings are tall and lit up, with various signs and advertisements visible. The overall atmosphere is vibrant and urban.

# 2016 SUMMER STEPS: TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS

By: The City of West Sacramento



## 2016 Summer STEPS: Traffic & Transportation Division

### Criteria

To earn this badge, complete the following XPs:

- **Transportation Research and Analysis:** Assist staff with project-specific research and analysis. This may include document review, data collection, project site visit(s), research, and project document preparation.
- **Community Participation in Transportation:** Learn about local government and leadership through attendance at one or more local Commission meetings, and participate in the development and facilitation of Community Engagement and Public Outreach activities related to specific transportation projects.
- **Municipal Public Works Experience:** Gain real-world experience assisting citizens with questions at the Public Works Department Counter. Learn about use of GIS applications and technical traffic engineering equipment in the field.
- **Public Works Administrative Support:** Experience working in a professional office setting and apply skills using software such as Microsoft Word and Excel.
- **Professional Development in Transportation:** Attend one or more transportation focused professional organization meetings or events and shadow a transportation professional for a day.
- **Transportation Project:** Complete a professional activity binder that represents all of the projects and assignments completed over the course of your internship, including community participation, and professional development activities.
- Complete a final evaluation with the department representative

### Workforce Competency:

Team Work Ethic

### Competencies & Standards:

Time Management, Problem Solving Skills, Professionalism





Transportation Research and Analysis



Community Participation in Transportation



Municipal Public Works Experience



Public Works Administrative Support



Transportation Professional Development



Complete Final Performance Evaluation With Department Representative



# 2016 Summer STEPS: Traffic & Transportation Division

Issuer:

The City of West Sacramento



Age: Ages 13+

LRNG LVL: Level U

Description:

THIS BADGE IS ONLY AVAILABLE TO THOSE ENROLLED IN THE 2016 CITY OF WEST SACRAMENTO SUMMER STRIDES TOWARDS ENTERING PUBLIC SERVICE (STEPS) PROGRAM

Public works is the combination of physical assets, management practices, policies, and personnel resources that are essential to the safe and efficient operation of the City's public works and transportation systems. The badge focuses on the management of public works and transportation assets and services essential to the City's public works and transportation systems. The badge focuses on the management of public works and transportation assets and services essential to the City's public works and transportation systems.

Outcome =



Badge Approved



Revision Requested

of West Sacramento 2016

Feedback for Treasure

Wonderful work Treasure. Well detailed and articulate work. Each of the learning experiences clearly delineated how you met the criteria for completion.



# EVALUATION

Created on September 9, 2016 at 1:09 PM

Transportation Professional Development



# TRANSPORTATION PROJECT

Created on September 9, 2016 at 1:09 PM

accompany the transportation professional over the course of a work day to learn about the career and document the experience in the form of a memo to be submitted to your mentor. In addition, you will be asked to attend a transportation-focused professional organization meeting or event, provide a photo and write about the experience.

View Post



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# 2016 SUMMER STEPS INTERNSHIP

By: The City of West Sacramento

# CITY OF WEST SACRAMENTO





APPLY FOR 2016 SUMMER STEPS!



Lunch and Learn



Conduct an interview of a city staff member



Parks, Recreation &  
Intergenerational Commission  
Planning Commission  
Port Commission



Watch a Commission Meeting



Attend a City Council Meeting



Earn Department Badge



# City of West Sacramento 2016 Summer STEPS Internship

Description:

THIS BADGE IS ONLY AVAILABLE TO THOSE ENROLLED IN THE CITY OF WEST SACRAMENTO SUMMER STEPS TOWARDS ENTERING PUBLIC SERVICE (STEPS) PROGRAM

Issuer:  
The City of West Sacramento



Outcome =



Badge Approved



Revision Requested

Service (STEPS)  
working in local  
study.

pleted the City of West  
derstanding of job

which is the City of

Age: Ages

LRNG LVL: Le

Career

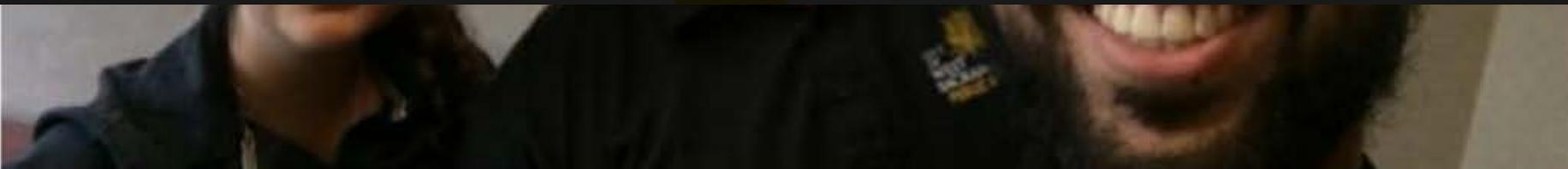
## Feedback for Treasure

Treasure brought passion, curiosity and a drive to deliver high quality work to the Public Works Traffic and Transportation Division. She consistently demonstrated her value to the division and completed all criteria for the 2016 Summer STEPS Internship Playlist.

- Earn a City Department or Division badge



Click below to learn more about your new Badge:







**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
DEVELOP  
THE  
WORKFORCE**







Questions?

Email: [Ian@FutureReady.WS](mailto:Ian@FutureReady.WS)



# Badge Development and Assessment Testimony

**Shannon  
Wells**

**Capital Region Pathway Specialist**

**Foundation for California Community  
Colleges**

**[swells@foundationccc.org](mailto:swells@foundationccc.org)**



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Digital Badges



# LaunchPath and Digital Badges



The screenshot shows the Mozilla OpenBadges website. At the top left is the Mozilla OpenBadges logo. To the right is a navigation menu with links for Earn, Issue, Display, Community, Press, Blog, and About. A 'mozilla' dropdown menu is also visible. The main content area features the headline 'Get recognition for skills you learn anywhere.' Below this are three columns illustrating the process: 'Earn' (a badge icon pointing to a person's profile), 'Issue' (a house icon pointing to a badge icon pointing to a person's profile), and 'Display' (a person's profile pointing to a badge icon on a laptop screen). Each column has a title and a short description. At the bottom, the text reads 'Introducing Open Badges: a new online standard to recognize and verify learning'.

mozilla

mozilla  
OpenBadges

Earn Issue Display Community Press Blog About

Get recognition for skills you learn  
anywhere.

 Earn  
Earn badges for skills you learn online & off

 Issue  
Give recognition for things you teach

 Display  
Show your badges on the places that matter

Introducing Open Badges:  
a new online standard to recognize and verify learning



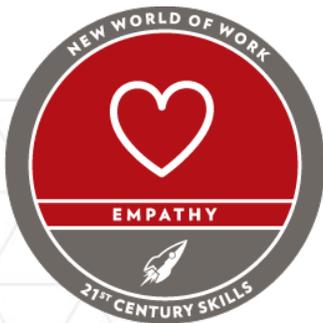
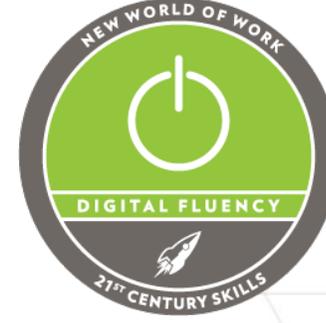
## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Badges- Key activities

### Key Activities

- Assessed national college and career competencies to develop primary attributes for each skill
- Convened Digital Badging Advisory group in August 2015
- Assessment consultant developed ten assessments
- Built assessments in LaunchPath
- Developed design, description and criteria of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills badges
- Trained instructors in August 2016
- Assessments and badges launched early September 2016
- Currently working on the ability for an employer to verify badges



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Badges



# Employer Verification



## Additional Badge Resources

- LaunchPath: [launchpath.com](http://launchpath.com)
- Mozilla: [openbadges.org](http://openbadges.org)
- New World of Work: [newworldofwork.org](http://newworldofwork.org)
- LRNG: [lrng.org](http://lrng.org)





LINKED LEARNING  
ALLIANCE



INSTITUTE FOR  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT<sup>SM</sup>  
*Promoting Good Government at the Local Level*

SACRAMENTO  
COUNTY



FUTUREREADY<sup>.WS</sup>  
The Mayor's Trust for Youth



FOUNDATION for CALIFORNIA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGES



LAUNCHPATH<sup>TM</sup>





THANK YOU!

