

City of San Antonio: Mission Verde Sustainability Plan

Strategy #5: Community Outreach

Initiative #9: Create a Green One-Stop Center to coordinate sustainability efforts and to provide information to residents and businesses.

San Antonio has a large number of groups working on different aspects of sustainability. These include CPS, SAWS, the City's Office of Environmental Policy, and AACOG, as well as stakeholders such as Build San Antonio Green, Solar San Antonio, and the Clean Tech Forum. With Mission Verde, there will be community-based sustainable efforts, such as the Green Retrofit and Green Jobs Program. It will be essential to coordinate these various sustainability groups and efforts and to create one central source of information for sustainability.

A Green One-Stop Center could house sustainability groups, coordinate their efforts, demonstrate sustainability, and provide one central and accurate source of information to residents and businesses. It could be a City-owned facility or an independent non-profit that works with or is under contract to the City.

A committee has been formed under the leadership of the ACC and the Clean Tech Forum to explore the creation of a sustainability center called the Alamo Clean Tech Learning Center. The committee has representatives from the City, SAWS, CPS, the Pearl Institute, ACC, the Clean Tech Forum, Southwest Research Institute, Incarnate Word University, Solar San Antonio, as well as business and community leaders. The center could teach, coordinate, demonstrate and provide information on sustainability. Possible locations for the center include the Pearl Brewery and, ultimately, the new sustainable ACC development that will be built at the Playland site just north of downtown.

The efforts of this group should be the genesis of a public private partnership between the City and various stakeholders to create a sustainability center in San Antonio.

Action

Work with public and private stakeholders in creating a center to coordinate sustainability efforts and provide a central source of information for sustainability.

Timetable

April 2009: Finalize programmatic design

July 2009: Finalize conceptual plan