



CIMS welcomes AD in Real Estate

F. Mike Etienne, Ph.D., has joined CIMS as the new Assistant Director for Real Estate.

Mike has nearly 20 years of experience in municipal and county government. He was the Administrator for Planning and Capital Projects for the Chesterfield County (Va.) School Board for the last three years.

There, he served as manager and liaison to the County Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, and the development community on all matters relating to land-use, real estate, facilities planning, and capital projects. Before that he was the Deputy

Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Richmond, Virginia, responsible for economic development, planning and community development, real estate services, code enforcement, and public works and engineering.

He has a doctorate in Public Policy and Administration, and a Master of Urban and Regional Planning from Virginia Commonwealth University, and a bachelor's in Political Science and Latin American Studies from James Madison University.

Mike, who grew up in Rockland County, N.Y., said he visited San Antonio

once for a conference and a second time as a tourist, and fell in love with the city.

"I was here in the mid-90s on 'best practice' research for the City of Richmond (Va.)," he said. "I looked at downtown and the River Walk, and used San Antonio as a model."

Mike returned to San Antonio in 2004 as a tourist with his wife, Maria. They have a 5-year-old son, Ian.

"After my visits to San Antonio, I kept my eye on job opportunities here," he said. "This is a beautiful city with wonderful people."

"CIMS Real Estate has a great group of managers and employees," he said.



"My vision is to have a more efficient and proactive division that focuses on responsive customer service and accountability."

Mike said he wants to empower his staff to make decisions on their own and accomplish their goals.



CIMS staff on the go!



Lupe Bustos, Accountant I in CIMS Fiscal, and her husband Anthony stand in front of the White House. They were in the Washington, D.C., area to visit their son, U.S. Army Pvt. Oscar de la Garza, who is stationed at Fort Meade in Maryland.

From the Director's Chair - *By Mike Frisbie, P.E., City Engineer*

Hello CIMS and friends! This year is quickly going past us. Still, I enjoy this space to give you an update on accomplishments and news from our department.

First, welcome to Mike Etienne, Ph.D., our new Assistant Director for Real Estate. Mike brings a strong educational background, and community development and real estate expertise to the City. He will play a vital role in building a great San Antonio.

The 2010 City of San Antonio Community Survey Final Report shows that residents are, overall, pleased with our city and its services.

CIMS is only 3 years old, but our department is mentioned in



the survey. Eighty percent of those surveyed who had an opinion were "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the quality of capital projects that have been completed by the City, and 75 percent of those surveyed were "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with City efforts to keep residents informed about capital projects.

Regardless of our job and function in our department, CIMS is committed to top-notch customer service, quality products and results, and fulfilling our mission of "Together, Dedicated to Our Community."

Congratulations to City Architect **Betty Feldman**. Her daughter, Leah, received a Fulbright U.S. Student Program scholarship to

Azerbaijan in comparative literature for the 2010-2011 school year.

Leah, a doctoral student at the University of California at Los Angeles, is one of 1,500 people who received the scholarship. She will teach English in Azerbaijan.

Finally, as City Council prepares to adopt the FY 2011 budget, I want to remind you that CIMS continues to be a good steward of your tax dollars, specifically the funds from the 2007-2012 Bond Program and other sources.

We are holding ourselves accountable to having the 2007 Bond Program substantially complete by June 2012, on time and within budget. I plan to continue bringing you good news every month. Thank you!

Employees completing courses through continuing education

Three CIMS employees recently completed an eight-session Supervisor Training Academy in conjunction with San Antonio College's Continuing Education program.

Brad Hunt, a principal and partner with the WHY Group, taught the course. WHY Group, LLC, is a San Antonio-based organizational development firm.

The academy was a pilot course that the City plans to expand to include mid-level and upper management.

The academy included supervisors from various departments. CIMS employees were **Elisa Garcia**, Department Systems Supervisor, Reporting & Web Portal Support; **Sylvia Ibarra**, Sr. Administrative Assistant, Director's Office; and **Mario Mata**, Environmental Services Coordinator, Environmental Management.

Ten other CIMS employees successfully completed a 42-hour Project Management Certificate Program offered through a partnership with the University of Texas at Austin and San Antonio College. Brad Hunt also taught this course.

Completion of this course is the first step in being



Mario Mata (center), Elisa Garcia (2nd from right), and Sylvia Ibarra (right), completed a Supervisor Training Academy. Standing with them are Elizabeth Braune (left), Human Resources Director, and Brad Hunt from WHY Group.

accepted to test for the Project Management Institute's Project Management Professional Certification. CIMS employees who completed the class are **Sam Hutchins**, Reporting & Web Portal Support; **Chris Alonso** and **Luis Maltos**, Technical Services; **Leticia Arzate**, Environmental Management; **David McBeth** and **Richard Grochowski**, Horizontal; **Randy Matyear**, **Rodney Dziuk** and **Guillermo Moya**, Vertical; and **Debbie Sittre**, Director's Office.

Groundbreaking kicks off enhancements for Pearsall Park

CIMS and Parks & Recreation staff joined District 4 City Councilman Philip Cortez in breaking ground for improvements at Pearsall Park.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held Aug. 18 on the northern section of the park.

On June 3, 2010, City Council approved an ordinance accepting the lowest responsive bid and awarding a construction contract for \$472,900 payable to Finser Construction and Remodeling Inc. Pearsall Park is part of the 2007-2012 Bond Program.

This project provides for trails, a playground, parking lot, solar lighting, kiosk, landscaping, seating, signage, and public art.



CIMS Director Mike Frisbie (2nd from left), District 4 City Councilman Philip Cortez (center), Parks & Recreation Assistant Director Janet Martin (2nd from right), and community members prepare to turn shovels at the Pearsall Park groundbreaking ceremony.

The artist for this public art component is Katie Pell, who was commissioned by the City through CIMS's Public Art San Antonio under

the direction of **Jimmy LeFlore**. She was selected from a call for artists administered by PASA.

Pell worked with Pearsall Park consultants

Bender Wells Clark to design a series of colorful artworks that refer to the history of the park's location, which was once a quarry, a landfill, and now a green space for recreation.

Pell will embed "fossil-like" cast cement objects that will be placed alongside limestone rock "gabion" retaining walls that delineate a new playground area.

In addition to the gabions, the playground surface will be lined with a soft cushion of "TotTurf," featuring colorful graphics designed by the artist.

Project construction is estimated for completion by March 2011. CIMS Landscape Architect **Mark Wittlinger** is the project manager.



Larry Clark from Bender Wells Clark Design explains a rendering of Pearsall Park improvements to City Councilman Philip Cortez and District 4 Chief of Staff Tim Salas.

CIMS Quarterly Meeting



Mike Frisbie congratulates Pat Mota, Capital Projects Officer in David McBeth's Project Management team. Mota was recognized as the latest winner of the CIMS Exceptional Customer Service Recognition program. She was nominated by citizen Ida Lands, who lives in Ridge Stone on Medina Base Road. McBeth's team is managing the Medina Base Road project. Lands said in her nomination form, "Pat sets a high bar that all divisions of the City should strive to achieve." Mota has been a City employee more than 30 years.



5-year service pin recipients are (left to right) Brian Orebaugh, Jose Hernandez, and David Hernandez.

Mike Frisbie is shown in the Page 4 photos with CIMS employees celebrating service anniversaries with the City. In the photo to the right, he is with Robert Blanco, Sr. Construction Inspector in Technical Services, a 25-year employee. Not shown is Emilio Gonzalez, Construction Inspector II.



10-year service pin recipients are (left to right) Courtney McClure, Sam Hutchins, Mary Esther Gaitan, Jaime Camero, Steve Hodges, and Jimmy LeFlore.

Happy birthday in September

CIMS wishes a happy September birthday to our employees:

Mary Gonzalez, Fiscal Services (2nd); **Regina Peaches**, Fiscal Services (2nd); **Edgar Olivas** (temp), Real Estate (5th); **John Wolters**, Horizontal (5th); **John Barrera**, Technical Services (10th); **Richard Grochowski**, Horizontal (11th); **Kristyl Smith**, Real Estate (14th); **Sam Hutchins**, Reporting/Web

Portal Support (15th); **Michael Ortiz**, Environmental Management (16th); **Brad Smilgin**, Contract Services (17th); **Brenda Navarro**, Small Business Division (20th); **Claudia Zarazua-Urquidi**, Public Art San Antonio (21st); **Sara Telano**, Labor Compliance (23rd); **Fernando Lopez**, Technical Services (25th); **David McBeth**, Horizontal (27th); **David Matney**, Horizontal (28th).

Capital Improvements
Management Services (CIMS)
City of San Antonio

CIMS Mission Statement

Together,
Dedicated to Our Community ...
Building a Great San Antonio

Our Core Values

- Accountability & Integrity
- Enjoying every day
- Respecting our customers
- Valuing our diversity & history
- Forward thinking

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