

Compiled and Produced by
The San Antonio Office of Sustainability

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Director's Message

It is our pleasure to invite you to join the City of San Antonio at the 2013 Third Global Urban Environmental Accords (UEA) Summit to be held July 11-13, 2013, running parallel to the 57th Annual Sister Cities Conference.

The Urban Environment Accords (UEA) was signed by 52 cities in San Francisco, 5 June 2005, on the occasion of World Environment Day. Today 148 member cities from 52 countries are signatories of the UEA. These accords are a set of 21 concrete actions across seven thematic areas to achieve sustainable development at city level. The key issues addressed include energy, waste reduction, urban design, biodiversity, sustainable transport, environmental health, and water.

The UEA are implementable goals that can be adopted at the city level to achieve urban sustainability, promote healthy economies, advance social equity and protect the world's ecosystems. By succeeding at the city level, the multilateral city commitments of the Urban Environmental Accords can inspire and mobilize commitment at the national level.

The goals of UEA build the legacy of the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, the 1996 Istanbul Conference on Human Settlements, the 2000 Millennium Development Goals and the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development.

International mayors, local officials, environmental experts and other stakeholders will be joining us for the "Green Cities, Smart Growth" conference. You, as environmental stakeholders and supporters, are encouraged to attend this monumental event. Information on registration can be found on page 3 of this issue.

Hope to see you at the Riverwalk in July,
Mary Hammer

Office of Sustainability at the 2013 Walk & Roll to Work Rally



Photo, Fred Gonzales: Office of Sustainability staff at the 17th Annual Walk & Roll to Work Rally

On May 3, over 450 City employees and others walked and rolled to Main Plaza to celebrate alternative forms of transportation such as walking, biking, and taking the bus at the 17th Annual Walk & Roll to Work Rally. The event is put on annually by the San Antonio-Bexar County MPO and is co-hosted by the City. The San Antonio Bikes program is housed in the Office of Sustainability, and Mayor Castro has once again recognized May as National Bike Month. San Antonio has been named a bronze-level "Bicycle Friendly Community" by the League of American Bicyclists.

Neighborhood Electric Vehicles (NEVs)

What's an NEV?

A Neighborhood Electric Vehicle, or NEV, is a fourwheel, all-electric vehicle that conforms to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 500 for "Low Speed Vehicles." The vehicle plugs into a common electrical outlet. No special charging equipment is needed. The standard NEV has a top speed of 25 mph. In the City of San Antonio, NEVs are limited to operation on streets with a speed limit of 35 mph or less. An NEV can cross any street. The State of Texas requires registration, title and insurance like any other motor vehicle.



Above Left: OS Director Mary Hammer speaks at a press conference celebrating the allowance of NEVs on city streets

Above: The National Parks Service shows off their NEV

Below: Guillermo's Restaurant uses their NEV to increase business

Why NEV's?

01 No vehicle emissions

02 Fit neighborhood scale (1/3 of all trips are less than 3 miles)

03 Low cost (1.5¢ per mile for electricity vs 10.5¢ for gasoline car at 30 mpg)

04 Quiet

05 Enable "micro" transit, greater accessibility and business opportunities

06 Save energy, especially oil

Standard NEV Requirements:

01 Seat belts

02 Safety glass windshield with wipers

03 Head, tail and stop lights and reflectors

04 Rearview mirrors

05 Parking brake

06 A conventional Vehicle Identification Number



City Volunteers Help San Antonio Have a Green. Fit. Friendly. Fiesta

More than 180 City volunteers signed up to participate in helping with the City's recycling efforts during this year's annual Battle of Flowers and Fiesta Flambeau parades. Volunteers helped remind and encourage parade-goers of where to properly dispose of their trash and recyclables.

In appreciation for their service, volunteers received commemorative

T-shirts, limited-edition Fiesta medals, and Virgin HealthMiles. One volunteer, Stacy Gonzales with the Capital Improvements Management Services (CIMS) department, was the lucky winner of four complimentary tickets, donated by UMAST, to the Battle of Flowers parade!

Thank you to all the volunteers who signed up and participated in this year's

parades to ensure that San Antonio enjoyed a Green. Fit. Friendly. Fiesta. And, thank you to the Office of Sustainability, the Solid Waste Management Department, and the Department of Communications and Public Affairs for their work in coordinating the volunteer efforts.

Office of Sustainability Profiles: Yamin Aguilar Q&A

01 Hometown? San Antonio

02 Education Background?
M.B.A. in Finance and M.A. in International Relations, St. Mary's University

03 What do you do for fun?
Gardening, painting and drawing

04 Describe your role at the City of San Antonio's Office of Sustainability. Senior Management Analyst: Manage loan portfolio and performance reporting of federally funded program

05 What is your definition of the best vacation ever? Experiencing a culture outside of your own

Options for Household Battery Recycling:

Radioshack
support.radioshack.com/support_tutorials/batteries/batgd-B07.htm

BatteriesPlus
batteriesplus.com/store_details/885.aspx

COSA Household Hazardous Waste
sanantonio.gov/swmd/HHW.aspx

57th Annual Sister Cities International Conference: San Antonio

July 12-13, 2013

As described in the Director's Message, international mayors, local officials, environmental experts and other interested stakeholders are coming together to exchange ideas and best practices of global eco-cities at the third global Environmental Accords Summit in San Antonio.

July 12-13 will also be the 57th Annual Sister Cities International Conference which is connected by our sister city relationship with Gwangju, Republic of Korea, home to the UEA Secretariat created in conjunction with the United Nations Environmental Programme. This year's Sister Cities

Conference is "The Power of Exchange: Creating Sustainable Cities & Sustainable Relationships." Register for both conferences at the Sister Cities website. There's an early bird discount on the price of registration until May 31st!

Register NOW at
sister-cities.org/annual-conference



Sister Cities International
The Power of Exchange:
Creating Sustainable Cities
& Sustainable Relationships

July 12-13, 2013 ★ San Antonio, Texas

Save the Dates:

CEAC Meeting, June
June 7th, 8am, Main Conference Room
1400 S. Flores

Sierra Club June Meeting:
The Battle for the Warbler
June 18th, 6:30pm
Witte Museum Auditorium
3801 Broadway

Third Global Environmental Accords Summit
July 11-13
Hyatt Regency Hotel

57th Annual Sister Cities International Conference
The Power of Exchange: Creating Sustainable Cities and Sustainable Relationships
July 12-13

For more information on Alamo Sierra Club Outings, go to
www.texas.sierraclub.org/alamo/outings

27 Ways SA Keeps Getting Greener: A Summary of Progress

San Antonio is emerging as one of the “greenest” large American cities. In addition to its already famous reputation for hospitality, San Antonio now has:

- ◆ The largest solar power capacity of any city in Texas
- ◆ The largest wind power portfolio of any municipal utility in the U.S.
- ◆ The B-Cycle convenient and affordable bike share system has 35 stations and growing to 50
- ◆ An improved Convention Center that consumes 36% less electricity
- ◆ An international reputation in water conservation accommodating a 67% increase in population over the last 25 years without an increase in overall water consumption
- ◆ A Hertz On Demand 24/7 carshare system which includes an all-electric vehicle
- ◆ The nation’s largest (110 miles) direct recycled water delivery system in the nation. for use by golf courses, parks, commercial and industrial customers, as well as San Antonio’s famous River Walk
- ◆ 100% electric battery buses in the downtown area
- ◆ A fleet of hybrid taxicabs
- ◆ Free downtown on-street parking for hybrid and electric vehicles
- ◆ An expanded River Walk known for its pedestrian friendliness — now incorporating high-efficiency induction lighting
- ◆ A network of over 130 electric vehicle charging stations, many with multiple chargers
- ◆ A strong historic preservation culture which delights visitors and residents!
- ◆ The nation’s second largest Aquifer Storage and Recovery Facility
- ◆ The nation’s first “solar cap” - landfill cover with solar panels
- ◆ The only U.S. city in which all three products of wastewater treatment (gas, solids and water) are commercially sold or recycled
- ◆ The first public utility to purchase power (200 MW) from the Texas Clean Energy Project with 99% carbon dioxide capture
- ◆ An adopted City goal of meeting the 2030 Challenge of zero net carbon buildings
- ◆ A Bus Rapid Transit line powered with compressed natural gas (CNG) articulated vehicles
- ◆ Organic recycling with the goal of 60% recycling of all waste by 2025
- ◆ The largest urban river restoration in the U.S.
- ◆ The State’s largest fleet of CNG-powered refuse trucks
- ◆ Single stream recycling
- ◆ Met all Clean Air Standards—the largest metro area to do so
- ◆ All electric, new 11,500 gross vehicle weight delivery trucks—one of only three cities in the State
- ◆ The first National Park with an electric vehicle charger for public use
- ◆ Caused dramatic water quality improvements with the Mission Reach Ecosystem Restoration and Recreation Project. As a result, the San Antonio River Authority was invited by the World Bank to meet with government officials in India to offer assistance to the Indian government in cleaning up its rivers



Citizens and visitors alike enjoy the various outdoor recreation options, including kayaking and biking, along the recently opened Mission Reach of the San Antonio River