



August 1, 2016

To: Parents of Future City Competitors
Re: Future City® Competition 2017-17
North Texas Region

Your student has the opportunity to participate in the North Texas Regional Future City® Competition. Future City is a national program sponsored by the engineering community to promote technological literacy and engineering to middle school students. Our goal is to interest young people in the math, technology and scientific studies needed to develop the engineers of the future.

Because the project involves *lots* of volunteer-engineer mentors and *lots* of parent/community volunteers – in addition to lots of fun and hard work – it is important for both students and parents to understand the project requirements:

1. Students participate as a team consisting of three students, an educator, and a volunteer-engineer mentor representing their group/organization.
2. The goal is to design a livable city of the future by:
 - a. Using *SimCity*™ software to simulate their city concept
 - b. Writing an essay on an engineering topic – this year: “The Power of Public Spaces”
 - c. Constructing a 3-D scale model of a section of their city
 - d. And, finally, presenting their model and design to a panel of judges.

The winning team from the regional competition gets an expense-paid trip to Washington, DC for the National Competition in February 2017. The first-place team from the National Competition wins a trip to the US Space Camp.

Timeline

The Future City program has several phases running from now until the regional competition event taking place in January at UT Arlington. Participating teams may need to meet after school and on occasional weekends in order to meet the program deadlines.

- Oct-Nov Work on the city plan and *SimCity* design
- Oct-Dec Research and write the essay
- Nov-Jan Build the 3-D scale model using recycled materials
- Dec-Jan Prepare the verbal presentation
- **Sat., 28 Jan** **N TX Regional Competition at UT Arlington**
- Feb Winning team competes in National Competition in Washington, DC

We hope that you will support the students and us as they explore the future and learn how engineers turn ideas into reality with the Future City program.

Educator

Jean Eason
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Future City Competition
www.dfwfuturecity.org