

13 November 2015

FCC NTX Update: SimCity and the Virtual City deliverable

All:

INTRODUCING JILL FREER, NEW SCHOOL COORDINATOR FOR NTX

I'm excited to announce Jill Freer has volunteered to help coordinating the schools and teams for NTX Future City. So, please set your email systems to receive emails from her address (cc'd on this message).

TEAM CENTER: ENTER TEAMS AND REGISTER MENTORS

If you haven't already done so, log into the online Team Center and enter your teams ... you will need to do this before you can submit any deliverables.

Please tell your team mentors to also enroll in the Team Center (www.dfwfuturecity.org/teamcenter.html). This will give these volunteers access to the team information and the ability to manage teams and deliverables. If you don't have a mentor yet, see http://www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_rsrc.html#menfind for ideas on where to find a volunteer and/or contact our mentor coordinator Tom Hunt Tom.Hunt@lamb-star.com.

SIMCITY DOWNLOADS AND INSTALLATION

Several groups have contacted me with questions about downloading and installing SimCity. The download codes are available through the Teacher Menu in the online Team Center system. I have posted some step-by-step instructions at http://www.dfwfuturecity.org/SC_DL_Instr_updttd.pdf. Also look at the information in the SimCity Resources section (http://www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_rsrc.html#software). And, feel free to contact me with any questions.

BEFORE JUMPING INTO SIMCITY, BEGIN THE PROJECT PLAN

New this year ... the Future City Project Plan deliverable. While the complete plan is not due until January, you should have completed the first two pieces: the Team Goals and Schedule. Look for these forms in the handbook and online. This initial planning will help you organize your project and stay on schedule.

VIRTUAL CITY SLIDE SHOW – INITIAL DEADLINE IS 25 NOVEMBER

The Virtual City slide show is due in about 2 weeks. You will upload your file through the online team center.

The resources you need for the slide show are available from <http://futurecity.org/resources> and include:

- Slide show template
- Benchmark assessment form

Also, please consult the rubric (in the handbook or online) and the background information and rules in the handbook.

My training video (<https://plus.google.com/+DfwfuturecityOrg/videos>) will give you background info and tips for developing a city in SimCity and constructing the slide show.

LATE SUBMISSIONS of the slide show are acceptable through 18 December. Also note: there is a "Partial Participation" option for all teams. This means you do not have to submit all the deliverables. You will still be eligible to display and present your model and be considered for some of the special awards. This way, you will get most of the benefit and experience of the Future City program.

NEXT PHASE – CITY DESCRIPTION (ESSAY)

The City Description – a combination of old narrative and essay writing assignments – is the next deliverable, due on 18 December. Waste Not, Want Not – you can find information and rules in the handbook and reference links online at <http://futurecity.org>. There is also a training video (<http://futurecity.org/resource/waste-not-want-not-webinar-recording-slides>) and copies of past winning essays from the region (http://www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_rsrc.html#more).

FINALLY – it's not too early to begin planning your model. Start collecting recyclables for building materials.

Good luck to everyone. Contact me or Jill if you have any questions.

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