



Future City starts with a question—how can we make the world a better place? To answer it, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students imagine, research, design, and build cities of the future that showcase their solution to a citywide sustainability issue. Past topics include stormwater management, urban agriculture, and green energy. This year's topic: waste management.

Students present their solutions via a virtual city design (using SimCity); a 1,500-word city description; a scale model; a project plan, and a presentation to judges at Regional Competitions in January. Regional winners represent their region at the National Finals in Washington, DC in February. After the competition is over, student participants are not only prepared to be citizens of today's complex and technical world, they are poised to become the drivers of tomorrow.

In addition to the overall Future City winner, several professional organizations had representatives as guest judges to select schools for their Special Award. Timothy Hicks, of Professional Analysis and Consulting, was one of three judges for the SAE Chicago Section.

Special Award Category: Excellence in Mobility Technology – Presented by the SAE Chicago Section.

This Special Award is presented to the project which is distinguished in its design which advances mobility technology to better serve humanity. This may include all forms of self-propelled vehicles including automobiles, trucks, and buses, off-highway equipment, aircraft, aerospace vehicles, marine, rail, and transit systems.

Photos courtesy of Bob Johnson of the Society of Structural Engineers...

