Welcome to the new season of Future City!! We have a really interesting topic this year...students will be challenged to create an Age Friendly City! If you checked out the essay explanation you can see that the number of seniors in our population is growing by leaps and bounds.

There are innovative engineering, technology and science related solutions being practiced and explored to keep everyone active and independent for as long as possible. Can your students come up with more innovative solutions for our cities of the future?

We look forward to hearing their creative ideas as they explore this topic! My recommendation is to find a “senior” mentor for your team in addition to your usual mentor (or maybe they already are a senior)! Invite a grandparent, great aunt, or maybe a retired staff member from your school or youth organization to come in and be interviewed by your students. Encourage the students to talk to members of their own family. Create a really personal mission for your students to provide engineering and technology solutions that will impact the quality of life for their own family members.

We hope this theme will inspire them because, then, in return the students will inspire us with their amazing solutions and cities!

If you have not registered, please do so and get in on our Indiana raffle next week for 2 free school registrations and some free extra t-shirts for your team(s).
Register at: www.futurecity.org

If you are not planning on attending the competition due to distance or other conflict (those of you from last year who are in Indianapolis or south of there) but you are still using program materials and/or doing the project in class, please still register. We need 20 registrations for our state (organizations, not teams) in order to qualify sending a team to nationals. Explore how you can participate in an abbreviated version of the program called Future City Lite in your curriculum as a challenge-based project for your classroom even if you cannot do the entire program!

See www.etcs.ipfw.edu/fcc

Also, I am very happy to share that the Urban Planning Dept. of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is interested in getting involved in Indiana Future City! They will be sharing with us soon how they plan to participate so stay tuned. We know they are considering offering mentors to our Indianapolis Future City schools next year. Those who register this year will be the first on our list for them to contact if they decide to make this commitment!

Mark your calendars for the Future City Educator Workshop held in Fort Wayne. The date is September 21st and the time is from 4:30-7:45. This is an annual workshop to review the competition requirements, network with our wonderful “veteran” Future City teachers who so generously share their classroom and Future City school program hints and Best Practices. We provide a light dinner, help with SimCity, and professionals who provide background on the current theme. No charge this year! Register now!

Future City Educator Workshop Registration Link

Thanks everyone and your Indiana Future City Committee looks forward to a great year for Future City in Indiana!!