



October 1, 2018

To: Parents of NTX Future City Junior Competitors
Re: NTX Future City® Junior Competition 2018-19

Your student has the opportunity to participate in the North Texas Regional Future City® Junior 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. NTX Future City Junior serves as an introduction to engineering and technology for 4-5th grade students.

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 solve a problem for a city of the future. The steps involved include:
 - a. Developing a concept for a livable city of the future
 - b. Writing an essay on an engineering topic – this year: “Powering Our Future” – develop a solution to make electrical power grids more resilient
 - c. Constructing a 3-D scale model of a section of their city
 - d. And, finally, displaying their model and design to a panel of judges.

Teams receive awards for their work to include plaques, certificates, and gift cards.

Timeline

The Future City program has several phases running from now until the regional competition event taking place in January at UT Arlington.

- Oct-Nov Work on the city concept
- Oct-Dec Research and write the essay
- Nov-Jan Build the 3-D scale model using recycled materials
- Dec-Jan Prepare to display model and answer judges’ questions
- **Sat., 26 Jan N TX Regional Competition at UT Arlington**

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
N TX Regional Coordinator
Future City Competition
www.dfwfuturecity.org