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MAY 2012

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POWER2 KIOSK DISPLAYS REAL-TIME ENERGY DATA



Employees and visitors to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center (CMGC) can now take a 90-second tour of the City's new "solar system," without leaving the building. The educational monitor is connected to the solar tree on the CMGC parking deck. The kiosk provides real-time data on energy production and energy savings connected to the solar system.

The energy generated by the solar structure is used to help power the deck's electrical system, which includes lighting, security systems, elevators, gates, and electric vehicle charging stations. Kiosk viewers will learn about the current energy output; energy generated over the lifetime of the project; over the last five days; and energy created on the day the site is being viewed. Visitors will also learn how the energy generated and/or saved compares to other natural resources. The kiosk also features information about other City solar projects and the latest news on Charlotte's energy initiatives.

PROJECT COMPLETED: VEHICLE WAYFINDING

MONTHLY FACTOID

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A study found that public transportation in the U.S. currently saves 37 million metric tons of carbon emissions and 4.2 billion gallons of gasoline annually. That equates to 2.4 tons of carbon emissions and 223 gallons of gasoline saved per person per year.

- Source: APTA's "Broadening the Connection between Public Transportation and Energy Conservation" Study

FORWARD TO A FRIEND



The Vehicle Wayfinding and Parking Guidance Signage project will reduce vehicle miles traveled by providing parking, event and travel information on Variable Messaging Signage, and available in "real-time". This includes four large dynamic message signs, as well as parking guidance system signs at 15 parking decks in Uptown.

(CLICK HERE) to view the page that allows you to view all of Center City's parking and transit options. Click on the blue parking icons to see the number of spaces currently available at many of the largest parking facilities.ities and other trip purposes to Charlotte's Center City. Fully completed, the entire system will eliminate 1.7 million miles of driving per year, reducing annual greenhouse gas emissions by 670 metric tons.

(CLICK TO VIEW MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT >)

BIKE! CHARLOTTE 2012



This year's BIKE! Charlotte events were a success. There were seventeen days of bicycle related events and promotions used to encourage families, friends, and colleagues to break out the bike and use it as a means of transportation and recreation. Events took place from April 27 through May 13, 2012.

The intention of the 2012 edition of BIKE! Charlotte was to empower the citizens of Charlotte to incorporate the bicycle into their life.

NEW COMMERCIAL RETROFIT GRANT RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

(The funding for this round of retrofits is being provided by the Southeastern Energy Efficiency Alliance.)

- Thompson Place Apartments
- Park Avenue Partners (Post & Grey)
- Phat Features
- Lucinda Blackmon (OCAR)
- PSP Properties, LLC
- EllisLWilliams_Carmine St.
- Solideal
- BBR/Fairington LLC; The Fairington Apt.
- BBR/Hamptons LLC; The Hamptons at Southpark Apartments
- BNP/Harris Hill LLC; DBA Bridges at Mallard Creek Apartments

Keep an eye out for next month's newsletter for more details about these projects.

[\(CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO ON THIS PROJECT >\)](#)

PROJECT UPDATE: COMMERCIAL BUILDING RETROFIT - CHIMNEYS APARTMENTS

Updates were completed on these apartments through the Multi-Family Unit Component of the Commercial Building Retrofit Program. All of the windows and doors were replaced with Energy Star windows and doors to all 214 units. [\(CLICK HERE TO SEE MORE ABOUT THE COMMERCIAL RETROFIT PROJECT >\)](#)

POWER2 LIVE GREEN GRANT RECIPIENTS



Congratulations to the 2012 Power2 Live Green Grant recipients who received \$10,000 to apply to making upgrades and educating the neighborhood on energy usage. This grant encourages neighborhoods to implement practical strategies for reducing energy use and costs; which saves money and our environment.

- Revolution Park Neighborhood Home Improvement Project
- Graham Heights Neighborhood Association
- Plaza Midwood Neighborhood Association
- Enderly Park Neighborhood Association
- Park Crossing Owners Association
- Northwood Estates Community Organization
- Queens Towers HOA
- Oaklawn Park Improvement Organization
- Commonwealth Morningside Neighborhood Association
- Washington Heights Community Assoc. Inc
- Grier Heights Community Improvement Organization

[\(CLICK HERE FOR MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT >\)](#)

NICOLE STOREY HONORED WITH COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

Nicole Storey, of the City of Charlotte's Neighborhood and Business Services Department was presented with the first- ever Community Sustainability Award in the Buildings & Homes category at the First Annual Community Sustainability Awards, sponsored by Sustain Charlotte.

As the Community Energy Conservation Coordinator with the City of Charlotte, Storey is the Project Manager for the Commercial Building Retrofit Program, Neighborhood Energy Challenge Power2 Live Green, The Green Neighborhood Assessment Tool (component of QOL Study), and the Better Buildings Program and Green the Avenue, a partnership with Presbyterian Healthcare and the Charlotte Chamber.

[\(CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO >\)](#)

POWER2 ELECTRIC VEHICLES AT TRY ON SCIENCE EVENT



A Power2 Nissan Leaf car and electric recycling truck, from the City of Charlotte's new electric vehicle fleet, was on display Uptown on Friday April 13th during the free lunch-hour science-themed 'Try On Science!' street event hosted by Discovery Place to kick off its North Carolina Science Festival events. [\(CLICK HERE TO SEE MORE >\)](#)

CHARLOTTE RECEIVES HONORABLE MENTION IN SIEMENS SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY AWARD

The City of Charlotte has received an Honorable Mention for its efforts related to sustainability in the Siemens Sustainable Community Awards program.

The program provides a national platform for recognition of organizations that have taken tremendous steps to improve quality of life, be a steward of the environment, and increase the ability to sustain a successful community for future generations. The program received over 130 applications from 40 states. Charlotte is the only city in the Carolina's recognized for this award.

[\(CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO >\)](#)

***GET RE-CHARGED FOR FREE UNTIL JULY!**

[\(CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE LOCATIONS OF THE STATIONS >\)](#)

***PROJECT UPDATE: CENTER CITY RECYCLING**

Uptown Recycling Tons Collected

| Month | Amount | Month | Amount | Month | Amount |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| August 2010 | .68 | January 2011 | .57 | January 2012 | .74 |
| September 2010 | .41 | February 2011 | .16 | February 2012 | .67 |
| October 2010 | .17 | March 2011 | .59 | March 2012 | .81 |
| November 2010 | .37 | April 2011 | 1.30 | | |
| December 2010 | .0 | May 2011 | .79 | | |
| | | June 2011 | .94 | | |
| | | July 2011 | 1.03 | | |
| | | August 2011 | 1.03 | | |
| | | September 2011 | 1.27 | | |
| | | October 2011 | 2.01 | | |
| | | November 2011 | 1.80 | | |
| | | December 2011 | 1.72 | | |
| | Total: 1.63 | | Total: 13.21 | | Total: 2.22 |

Project Total: 17.06 Tons

This is the amount of tonnage that has been collected from the recycling receptacles installed along Tryon Street since the Center City On-Street Recycling program launched in August 2010.

HISTORIC SOUTH END CHOSEN FOR PARTICIPATION IN PORTLAND ECO-DISTRICT INSTITUTE

A team led by staff from the City of Charlotte's Neighborhood and Business Services Department recently participated in the Portland Oregon Sustainability Institute (POSI) Eco-District Institute. The EcoDistricts Institute is a peer-learning workshop that brings together experts in neighborhood planning, urban design, green infrastructure, project finance, and public policy to present sustainability related best practices from around North America and beyond.

City staff and representatives from Charlotte Center City Partners were hosted by POSI to facilitate establishing Historic South End as an internationally recognized Eco-District. Strategies that were evaluated included expansion of the farmer's market, community gardens, bike & car share programs, district energy including Solar PV and geothermal heat, green financing, residential & business composting, eco-concierges and green amenities for apartment and condominium communities.

[\(CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO >\)](#)

*DID YOU KNOW?

Ozone is at its peak May through September.

In 2011, Charlotte had 106 days with an air quality index of moderate or unhealthy for sensitive groups on the ozone chart. CATS encourages residents to ride public transit, vanpool, carpool, bike or walk instead of driving alone.

Learn what you can do on CATS '[Clear the Air Campaign Page](#)'. For more information about CATS and its services, visit www.ridetransit.org.

*UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **May 19th** - 5th Annual Charlotte Clean and Green Festival at Elizabeth Park ([MORE INFO >](#))
- **May 22nd**- Clean Energy Lobby Day ([MORE INFO >](#))
- **May 23rd** - NCSEA's Clean Energy Connections Seminar: "Advancing NC's Clean Energy Future" in Wilmington, NC ([MORE](#))

INFO >

- **May 24th** - 2012 NC Legislative Session Kick-Off Webinar (**MORE INFO >**)
 - **June 12th** - Clean Energy Lobby Day (**MORE INFO >**)
 - **June 12th** - "Making Energy Efficiency a Part of Corporate Culture" Webcast (**MORE INFO >**)
 - **June 18th** - "Implementation Initiatives to Advance Alternative Fuel Markets Funding Opportunity" Announcement (**MORE INFO >**)
 - **August 22nd** - NCSEA's Clean Energy Connections Seminar: "Crafting a Professional Playbook for Clean Energy Financing & Development." in Charlotte (**MORE INFO >**)
 - **September 18-20th** - Hybrid, Electric and Advanced Truck (HTUF) National Conference & Expo in Charlotte (**MORE INFO >**)
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Power2 Charlotte is funded by a grant from the US Department of Energy, this is one of 17 City of Charlotte projects to receive funding through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program, part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. To learn more about Charlotte's energy strategy, visit Power2Charlotte.com

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