

**Introduction from Mr. John Baily**  
Sponsoring Teacher for Future City Team  
Howard Bishop Middle School

Mr. Mayor and Commissioners, thank you for having our students here today.

One month ago, a team of six students from Howard Bishop Middle School competed against 23 other teams at the Tampa regional Future City competition. Our team placed 2nd against 23 teams. As far as we know, this is the first team from Gainesville to participate in this 28 year old competition.

The Howard Bishop team ("Hedgeslugopolis") met weekly for 5 months after school and some weekends and holidays, imagining the challenges and opportunities for our city 100+ years in the future. They crafted an essay, a model city (largely from recycled materials), and a live presentation for a city with a resilient, sustainable water supply.

Future City starts with a question: How can we make the world a better place?

To answer it, teams of Middle School students across the country 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, public spaces, and green energy. The 2019-2020 theme is Clean Water: Tap Into Tomorrow.

At the competition, they were scored on their project plan, essay, model, presentation, and a city simulation they ran on SimCity.

Today, the students would like to show you their model and give their presentation.