



## Central Texas–Balcones

P.O. Box 157  
Austin, TX 78767-0157  
[www.usgbc-centraltexas.org](http://www.usgbc-centraltexas.org)  
512-470-9923

### 2010-2011 Board Member Application Form

**Nominees:** Please answer the following questions in the space provided and return this completed Application Form plus the signed attached Commitment Form to [buhrich@usgbc-centraltexas.org](mailto:buhrich@usgbc-centraltexas.org) in an electronic format by 5:00 pm, Monday, October 5, 2009.

**Submitted By: E. Parra**

Name: Eduardo J. Parra, P.E., LEED AP BD+C  
Title: Project Manager  
Organization: CDM  
Address: 1777 NE Loop 410 Ste 500, San Antonio, TX 78217  
Membership Category: National and Local Member  
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**Questionnaire** – Please note that answers will appear online as they are answered below:

**a. In general, why do you wish to be a member of the Chapter Board?**

I agree with Tom Friedman when he warns in his book “Hot, Flat, and Crowded” that we are in the Energy-Climate Era. It is the time to take action and promote sustainable growth in different levels. I believe the USGBC has a great responsibility on nurture Cities and Communities to properly grow with the environment. “Going green” needs to be become more than a popular slogan. We need to educate our communities on the necessity and responsibilities of protecting and improving our environment. As a Civil Engineer I would like to offer concrete ideas and solutions and help the Chapter achieve this accelerated market transformation.

**b. Please provide a summary of your professional qualifications, knowledge and experience of most relevance to the Chapter. Also indicate the degree to which you have senior management and executive level experience.**

My professional qualifications are:  
LEED® AP BD+C (2009)  
Professional Engineer License (TX) 2008  
MS in Civil Engineering (Penn State University, 2001)  
BS in Civil Engineering (Universidad Rafael Urdaneta – Venezuela, 1997)  
10+ years of experience in Civil Engineering including Project Management and Disaster Recovery Work  
Former Assistant Professor of Fluid Mechanics

I work for CDM, a consulting, engineering, construction, and operations firm delivering exceptional service to public and private clients worldwide. CDM is committed to continually improving our sustainability performance in the triple bottom line dimensions of environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic growth. In addition, we work closely with our clients in striving for a more holistic approach to environmental and infrastructure improvements, creating, integrating, and delivering the total right solution. This focus on integrated, holistic



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services is represented in work across all our client sectors, such as urban revitalization for municipalities, multi-benefit facilities for international utilities, sustainability performance improvement for industry, and assistance to the many departments and agencies of the U.S. government. CDM is a National Member of the USGBC.

With over 4000 employees in more than 100 offices around the world our Texas presence includes offices in the following cities: Austin, San Antonio, Houston, Dallas, Ft Worth, El Paso, and Weslaco.

**c. The Chapter is committed to strengthening its membership diversity. What resources could you bring to bear (e.g., demonstrated expertise, leadership positions, and willingness) to help further Chapter participation from high priority sectors including: real estate, energy/utility, finance/insurance, residential, corporate, and product manufacturing? You can also address other sectors you think require greater involvement in the Chapter.**

I currently serve as member of the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee and on the Programs Committee of the USGBC. Within CDM, I serve as one of eight National Representatives of the Sustainability Delivery Team and I provide the liaison between the Civil Engineering Discipline and the Sustainability Leadership. Under my role in CDM I have direct support of Environmental Engineers in Austin among other Cities. With regards to high priority sectors, I have worked with improving Energy Efficiency for Cities and Counties and assisted them to secure funding for their improvements.

**One of the important functions of Board members is fundraising and other activities to support priority needs of the Chapter. This may take many forms, including: direct sponsorships; helping secure funding or otherwise opening doors from corporate, governmental, and charitable sources; seeking third-party sponsors; recruiting important new members; in-kind support, etc. Please explain your ability and willingness to participate in resource development.**

CDM provides continuous support for several national and local charities being our number one charity "Water for the People". Our local group has also provided support to the local business community, senior citizen groups, and high school students. In my role I am in contact with business and community leaders always looking forward to assist non-profit institutions that provide a good benefit to the community.

**d. Describe what expertise, experience and resources you would bring to any of the following priority activities: advocacy, LEED, education, research, community and organizational excellence**

**Advocacy:** member of the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee

**LEED:** LEED AP BD+C

**Education:** Former Assistant Professor & former Graduate Student Representative of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers. In both roles I served as student adviser to encourage the high school kids to pursue higher education and to stimulate college students to



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succeed. In addition, CDM offers podcast on relevant industry issues at:

[http://www.cdm.com/knowledge\\_center/podcasts/](http://www.cdm.com/knowledge_center/podcasts/)

**Research:** Currently developing an internal training webinar on the role of the Civil Engineer on Sustainable Development. Past publications:

Hill, D.F., Vergara, A., Parra, E., 2008, "Destratification by mechanical mixers: mixing efficiency and flow scaling", *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*, in press.

McCall, E.J., Chapin, R.W., Parra, E.J., 2002, "Planning a city for tomorrow without filing for bankruptcy". *Magazine of the American Water Works Associations (AWWA) Conference*. San Antonio, Texas.

Parra, E.J., Hill, D.F., 2000, "Mixing Efficiency in Stirred Stratified Flows" *Bulletin for the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Congress of the American Physics Society (APS), Fluids Division*, Vol. 45, No. 9. ISSN: 0003-0503. Washington D.C.

**Community & Organizational Excellence:** active member of the Penn State Alumni Association, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Chamber of Commerce in San Antonio. I am also in constant contact with community leaders in the Rio Grande Valley.

### **e. Describe your experience from other organizations with successful chapter programs.**

I was a member of the USGBC in Houston. It was incredible to see them grow since 2001. All the programs, education, and events are very well put together and I am sure they will be happy to share their lessons learned with us.

### **f. Leadership positions (volunteer or professional staff) with nonprofit governance.**

- United States Green Building Council (national and local member)
- American Society of Civil Engineers (member)
- San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (member of the Government Affairs Committee)
- Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce (member)
- American Council of Engineering Companies (member)
- Coast Oceans and Ports Institute (member)
- Houston International Group (former member)
- Penn State Alumni Association (member)
- National Hispanic Professional Organization (former member)
- East End Chamber of Commerce (Houston – Former member)
- Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (Former member and Graduate Student Rep.)

### **g. Other areas you believe are critical for the Chapter.**

I would like to see green building permeate to infrastructure.

### **h. Please identify any affiliations, memberships, and accreditations which may be pertinent for Chapter leadership.**



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In addition to letter f above, my job requires frequent travel to the Rio Grande Valley. If the chapter has interest in it, I could help serve as a liaison between USGBC member in the Valley and the Balcones leadership.

**i. Are you a chapter member in good standing and employed in the membership category depicted above?**

Yes

**j. Are you able to attend at least nine of the twelve regularly-scheduled Board meetings each year?**

Yes

**k. The Board's conflict of interest policy is summarized in the Fact Sheet. As the full statement indicates, conflicts are not inherently improper but Directors must be conscious of such conflicts and act with candor and care in dealing with such situations. Will you abide by the Chapter's conflict policy and can you do so without significantly affecting your Board responsibilities?**

Yes