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Balcones Resources Celebrates Groundbreaking Ceremony for new San Antonio MRF

San Antonio, TX – Balcones Resources broke ground on their new state-of-the-art materials recovery facility (MRF) on Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at 11 AM CDT. The site at 6006 Freeport Road was busy with construction activity as attendees gathered in front of a refurbished podium, courtesy of San Antonio’s Office of Historic Preservation. The event speakers included Balcones’ CEO Adam Vehik and CCO Joaquin Mariel; as well as the City of San Antonio’s District 4 Council Member Dr. Adriana Garcia-Rocha; Director of Solid Waste, David Newman; and Deputy Director of Solid Waste, Josephine Valencia.

[The City of San Antonio awarded Balcones Resources with their municipal recycling contract](#) last year, kicking off the development of the Balcones Resources Recycling Campus. The contract is set to commence in August 2024. The recycling facility represents a \$61-million investment in the San Antonio community’s recycling program. It will process both residential and commercial single-stream material. It will feature the latest in sortation technology, with a processing capacity of over 50 tons per hour, to support the City’s zero waste goals. It will serve as a community resource, equipped with an education center for outreach initiatives, and drop-off options for materials not accepted in the curbside program.

“I was very intrigued about [this project] because of the education center, and specifically the viewing gallery,” said Dr. Garcia-Rocha. “As an educator I am always happy to be able to tell our students how we do things. This [site] is near three school districts!”

“Our industry is plagued by a lot of misinformation about what works in recycling and what doesn’t,” Vehik said. “And we want to be a resource that allows you to really understand what is going on in the recycling world.”

The campus design prioritizes employee wellness and safety, while the [equipment features the latest technology](#) to ensure Balcones produces the highest-grade material possible. All recyclable materials will be marketed in North America, prioritizing Texas-based companies. Balcones will create approximately 70 new full-time environmental jobs in San Antonio to operate the facility.

“This is a source of pride,” said Vehik. “We care about recovering as many recyclables as we can, and we care about building strong partnerships with our customers. Everything we do we take a lot of pride in, and we hope that is something that can be shared with the City of San Antonio.”

On-site resources will include:

- Employee wellness amenities including integrated walking trails, recreational facilities, and an employee garden program.

- Recycling Education Center equipped with an interactive viewing gallery and featuring education outreach activities for the community.
- Energy conservation design innovations, including solar panels, passive lighting, native landscaping, and electric charging stations.
- Drop-off options for recyclable materials outside of the City program.

For more information, please contact Alexandra Gyarfas at agyarfas@balconesresources.com.

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About

Balcones Resources is a comprehensive environmental services company specializing in recycling and document destruction. Established in Austin, TX in 1994, Balcones is now the largest independent material processor in the Southwest United States. Balcones is deeply committed to diverting recyclables away from the landfill and producing best-in-class quality material for new products. Services extend to education outreach initiatives focused on increasing recycling participation and promoting a circular economy. Balcones operates five recycling facilities in Texas, Arkansas, Arizona, and Florida.

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