



## 2003 Annual Report

CarFree City, USA  
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## **Message from the President**

2003 was the coming-out year for CarFree City, USA. It was the year we began to take ourselves seriously as more than just a good idea, but rather as a significant force for change in American society. We had engaged in countless conversations with people whose initial skepticism quickly evolved to "What a great idea! I hope you succeed!". This solidified our conviction that carfree development is indeed an idea whose time has come and that the United States is the nation that has the most to learn and most to benefit from moving in that direction.

Our first step was to introduce ourselves more officially to the global network of organizations that promote carfree development. Director David Ceaser represented CarFree City, USA at the "Toward Carfree Cities III" conference in Prague and established many valuable contacts.

We simultaneously initiated the process of formalizing our existence as a nonprofit organization in the United States, filing the necessary paperwork for incorporation, fictitious name, and nonprofit status. These steps culminated successfully in early 2004, when we received IRS approval of our status as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt educational organization.

The subset of the American population that desires a less car-dependent lifestyle is far from insignificant but nevertheless a minority, and those individuals are spread out over a wide geographic area. The internet offers an ideal, low-cost means of organizing and communicating with that community. Our primary program activity in 2003 was to develop our website, which will be the foundation of our communication with the rest of the world. The site includes an integrated database that allows visitors to register their support for carfree development and provide input to our direction via an on-line questionnaire and design issues forum. After completing some finishing touches and testing, we will begin publicizing the website widely in 2004, hoping to gain as many visitors as possible.

We look forward to counting you among our supporters in 2004 and to our journey together toward creating carfree places to live right here in the United States.

Gus Yates

### **Vision Statement**

CarFree City, USA envisions a future where neighborhoods and cities in the United States function without the personal automobile and have greatly improved quality of life as a result.

### **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to promote carfree development that enhances local and global environmental quality, improves personal health, and fosters a sense of community -- simply by minimizing the use of automobiles and trucks. Our specific goal is to create the first carfree city, town or large neighborhood in the United States. Initial steps toward reaching this goal include documenting public demand for carfree living, demonstrating its logistical, financial and regulatory feasibility, educating professionals in the planning and development fields and engaging them in our effort, and identifying an initial site for implementation. Thus, our project will begin with research, education and organization, and eventually lead to nonprofit urban development.

### **2003 Accomplishments**

- Founding of CarFree City, USA as a corporation in the State of California (September 11, 2003)
- Attended "Toward Carfree Cities III" conference in Prague

- Completed a "draft" website and database

## 2004 Objectives

- **Non-profit status:** Achieve non-profit status at both the state and federal levels. (This has been achieved at the time of writing this document).
- **Website renovation:** Complete renovation of our website, including the addition of the following elements: online donation capacity, interactive bulletin boards for user input, new database for registering of individuals interested in carfree living, and more.
- **Document demand:** Begin to document demand for carfree living using our online database. Our goal for 2004 is to have 5,000 registrants in our database by the end of the year.
- **Offline resources:** Develop materials and resources that are not internet based to reach our supporters who do not use the internet.
- **Publicize our project:** Publicize our project to individuals, non-profit groups, businesses, and governments that are supportive of our ideas. In this manner, we will build partnerships for work in the future.
- **Increase funding:** Raise funds so that we can best realize the above goals and objectives. The two main sources of funds will be individual donors and procuring grants.

## CarFree City, USA 2003 Financial Statement (12/31/03)

### Balance Sheet

#### Assets:

Cash	\$	0
Accounts Receivable		0
Furniture and Fixtures		0
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<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>0</b>

#### Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	\$	0
Loans Outstanding		1,485
		<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,485</b>

#### Net Worth:

(Total Assets – Total Liabilities)      (\$ 1,485)

### Income and Expenses

#### Income

Donations	\$	500
Grants		0
Other		0
		<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>500</b>

#### Expenses

Bank service charges	\$	30
Conference registration		72
Contractors (Website programming)		68
Licenses and permits		679
Postage and delivery		141
Printing and reproduction		46

Reference materials	61
Supplies	14
Travel	876
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<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,987</b>
<b>Income minus expenses</b>	<b>(\$ 1,487)</b>

Notes:

1. Totals for net worth and income-minus-liabilities differ slightly due to rounding.
2. The excess of expenses over income was carried forward to 2004 as a loan to be reimbursed by donation income.

**List of Donors:**

Gus Yates

## **CarFree City, USA Board of Directors**

Eugene B. (Gus) Yates, President, Executive Director, Founder

David M. Ceaser, Secretary, Treasurer, Founder

Brian Laurenson

## **Advisory Board**

Matt Griffiths: graphic designer, cyclist

J.H. Crawford: author of Carfree Cities