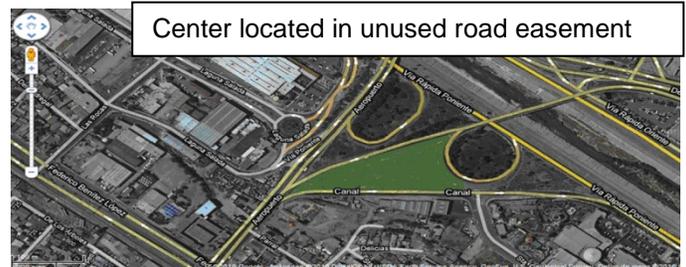


Tijuana Inaugurates Urban Compost Center

- Tijuana is celebrating the opening of the first urban compost center in the border region.
- Border 2012 awarded a grant of \$73,000 to Tijuana Calidad de Vida, a non-governmental organization, creating a partnership with Tijuana's Municipality and TCV to develop landscape grade compost from landscape cuttings supplied by the municipality.
- The 150 tons of compost to be produced is destined to plant trees and nurseries in Tijuana.
- San Diego's Miramar Greenery shared firsthand knowledge on composting with TCV and Tijuana officials, experience which TCV is leveraging to operate the compost center, train the city's parks and two plant nursery's staff, and prepare a compost practice manual applicable to the region.
- The center has already trained 170 individuals from various institutions on how the composting is used to divert food, landscape and other organics from dumps and landfills.
- Using an unused road easement, it demonstrates use of otherwise undevelopable land for green uses.
- During the inaugural event on January 16, 2013, EPA and BECC will announce additional funding to build municipal compost expertise and a compost fair to promote public education on the role of composting as a path to develop zero waste programs. Using less materials, reducing toxics, and recovering materials used, creates a more sustainable community, an objective under the new Border 2020 Program.



Enhancing the ability of cities on both sides of the border to build capacity to improve the environment is a high priority under Border 2020, a binational border environment program (formerly Border 2012). Border 2020 builds on past efforts by emphasizing regional and locally-driven approaches for decision making, priority setting, and project implementation to address the environmental and public health challenges in the border region.

For more information on this program please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/border2020/index.html>

Other Details: The Urban Compost Center is located in Tijuana, Baja CA in district of San Miguel between Boulevards Puente, Insurgentes, and Liga Lazaro Cardenas-Rapid Lane. It is 7,262 m² and at coordinates LO-147-101/103. Tijuana Calidad de Vida (TCV) has an agreement with the municipality to use the undevelopable easement. TCV contact: ccu@calidad-de-vida.org