

Department of Development Internship

Nicholas Kennedy

Background

- I found this internship within the Department of Development by applying to an internship put out in collaboration with SENR and Greenspot within the city. Unfortunately that internship did not take place because of COVID-19. I was later contacted about this opportunity and completed a phone interview before I was offered the internship.

Introduction

- I began my internship with the City of Columbus in June and will continue it through November. I have worked on a wide array of projects related to sustainability with the Office of Sustainability, the Department of Development, Refuse, and the Planning Department.



Projects:

- Throughout the internship I have completed projects within numerous departments. These projects included policy research, zoning code research, and benchmarking analysis. All projects were presented, and recommendations were made based on the research.



Equitable transportation-oriented development

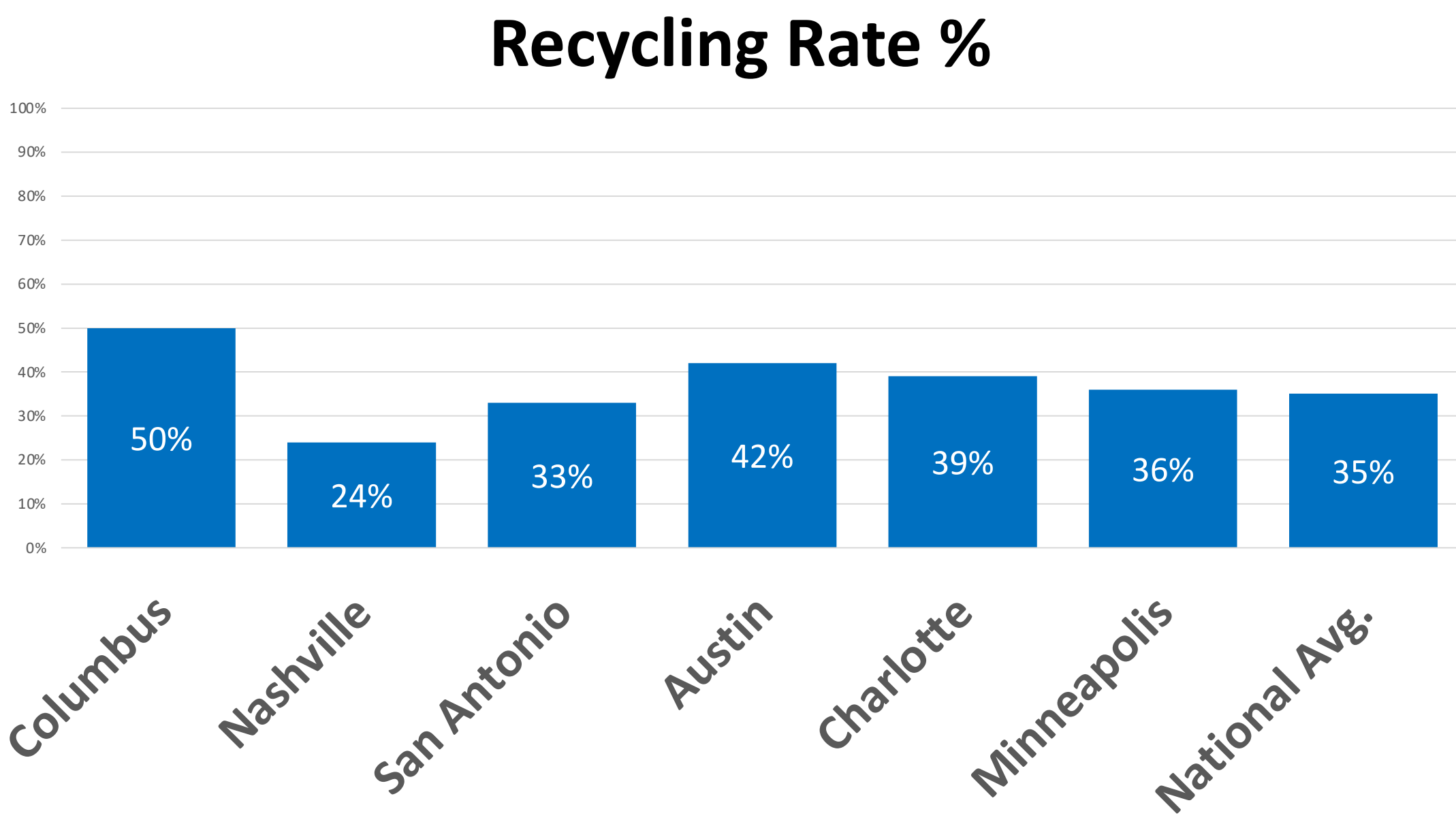
- I researched existing equitable transportation-oriented development initiatives across the country to find what could benefit Columbus.
- Specifically, if rapid bus corridors were built in the city how would we build up the target communities and ensure that displacement will not happen.

Sustainable Zoning Codes

- I analyzed sustainable zoning codes across the country, especially in peer cities to Columbus to find the national trends and potential improvements that Columbus could make. This research could also benefit equitable development.

Columbus' Waste Reduction Efforts

- I performed benchmarking analysis on peer cities of Columbus to find how we compare to these cities in terms of diversions rates and waste reduction goals for the future.
- The cities I focused on were Austin, San Antonio, Nashville, Charlotte, and Minneapolis.



Reflection

- This internship has given me the opportunity to work across different departments in the city government. It is valuable experience that I hope will benefit me in my future career. I was very interested in the project I have gotten the chance to work on and would enjoy a career completing similar projects. This internship has helped me focus on where my true interests lie in regards of my career.
- I would strongly recommend similar internships within the City of Columbus for SENR students. It is great professional experience and can give you a better idea of how a city government truly functions.

THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF
DEVELOPMENT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEUR DEVELOPMENT

