

C O N N E C T E D URBANDEVELOPMENT

G L O B A L C O N F E R E N C E 2 0 0 8

Gavin Newsom

42nd Mayor

City and County of San Francisco

As San Francisco's youngest mayor in 100 years, Gavin Newsom has brought fresh ideas and renewed energy to the City and County. He has earned a reputation as an innovator on issues ranging from homelessness to the environment, healthcare to education.

Mayor Newsom has elevated San Francisco's environmental stature. In 2004, he unveiled San Francisco's Climate Action Plan, which aims to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions by more than 2.5 million tons by 2012 and curb global warming. He set a course for San Francisco to have the cleanest public transportation fleet in the nation by 2007 and transition the city's entire taxi fleet to hybrid, alternative fuel, and green vehicles. Newsom has also committed to studying existing alternative sources of energy such as tidal, wave, and wind power.

By securing \$8 million dollars in federal and local funds, Newsom has implemented sweeping streetscape improvements across the city. As part of the Clean and Green Initiative, this Better Streets Program is a coordinated city effort to repair existing roadways, to redesign streets for more efficient traffic flow, and to beautify city streets with sustainable plantings, trees and community gardens.

Before embarking on his career in public service, Newsom was a successful small businessman. In 1992 he opened his first local business, the PlumpJack Wine Shop. Newsom grew up in the Bay Area and graduated from Santa Clara University in 1989 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. In 2005, Newsom earned an honorable mention as one of Time Magazine's Best Big City Mayors and was named one of the World Economic Forum's Young Global Leaders.

