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Nine campaigns selected for the 2025 Freeways Without Futures report

These campaigns offer a roadmap to the future of American highway infrastructure.

WASHINGTON, DC -- The 2025 Freeways Without Futures report features nine local campaigns representing communities advocating for equity and reconnection during a time of reckoning for North American urban freeway infrastructure. The nine campaigns in this report offer a roadmap to better health, equity, opportunity, and connectivity in every neighborhood, while reversing decades of decline and disinvestment.

The nine nominated freeways in the report are:

- I-35 in Austin, Texas
- NY State Routes 33 and 198 in Buffalo, New York
- Interstate I-980 in Oakland, California
- Interstate 45 Expansion in Houston, Texas
- Interstate 175 in Saint Petersburg, Florida
- IL 137/Amstutz Expressway/Bobby Thompson Expressway in Waukegan and North Chicago, Illinois
- DuSable Lake Shore Drive (US 41) in Chicago, Illinois
- US-101 in San Mateo County, California
- US-35 in Dayton, Ohio

We are at a time where much of this infrastructure is nearing the end of its functional life. Now is a great opportunity to choose differently and learn from the successful examples of replacement of in-city highways with street networks and caps. The campaigns featured in this report illustrate the evolution of the Highways to Boulevards movement and envision reparative infrastructure that reknits communities, addresses the damage caused by these highways, and centers community priorities.

Thanks to the hard work of local campaigners, more and more city highways are being considered for removal. Today's campaigners can look at the success stories of freeway removals nationwide to inspire change in their communities. We can see in real time the positive economic, environmental, and social impacts these removals have on previously burdened communities. The nine nominees featured in this report represent the future of local campaigns and offer inspiration to those looking to address the burdens of city highways in their own communities.

The full 2025 Freeways Without Futures report will be released in late April 2025. Explore previous versions of the bi-annual report [here](#). All questions can be directed to Lauren Mayer at lmayer@cnu.org.



About CNU:

The Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU) is a member-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit championing better design of cities and towns to improve lives and strengthen communities for all. For over thirty years, CNU has been the leading organization in reforming city-building across the country, gathering the broad spectrum of practitioners and advocates who share our mission.

