

# CNU 34 Northwest Arkansas

## COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, May 16th | 8:30am - 5:00pm | Fayetteville Town Center

**A free all-day Community Open House hosted by the Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU).**

This public event invites residents to connect with local planners, designers, and community leaders discussing topics like walkability, transit, housing, economic opportunity, and regional growth. Hear from nationally renowned speakers and learn about trends influencing the region as well as how residents, businesses, and local government can shape the future for better outcomes.

8:30 AM

### Welcome and Opening Remarks

**Robert Burns, Program Director, Home Region, Walton Family Foundation**

9:00 AM

### Why the New Urbanist Dialogue Matters to the Future of the Region

**Marques King, Founder, Fabric[K] Design**

Many of the challenges that come with rapid growth require solutions that are multifaceted - bringing together policy and design to see the whole picture. In this framing session, learn how the interconnected practice of New Urbanism is so important to the conversations happening about growth across the region.

9:30 AM

### Visualising Growth: How data can help us see the value (and possibilities) of our region more clearly

**Joe Minicozzi, Founder and Principal, Urban3**

Almost all growth brings economic stimulation to communities, but not all growth carries the same level of value - immediately and over time. In this presentation, learn how new urbanists leverage publicly-available data to visualize value.

10:15 AM

### Forward 2050: Regional Transportation Plan for Northwest Arkansas

**Tim Conklin, Executive Director, and Nicole Gibbs, Assistant Director, Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission**

Forward 2050 is Northwest Arkansas's long-range metropolitan transportation plan, designed to guide how the region grows, connects, and invests over the next 25 years. Explore how the plan guides growth and investment to create a more connected, multimodal, and fiscally responsible regional future. Attendees will learn how Forward 2050 links growth management with transportation investment to support vibrant downtowns, attainable housing, and safe, resilient infrastructure.

11:00 AM

### Growing Home: Northwest Arkansas Regional Growth Strategy Update

**Matt Lambert, Principal, DPZ Co-Design**

The Northwest Arkansas Council's regional growth strategy reflects more than a year of research, analysis and engagement with residents, local officials and business leaders. Recently completed, come hear an update on this strategy.



11:30 AM

### Intermission

Scan to Register

**12:30 PM****What's at Stake for Northwest Arkansas: A conversation on the human impact of planning for growth.**

- **Nelson Peacock, President and CEO, Northwest Arkansas Council**
- **Tim Conklin, Executive Director, Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission**
- **Wes Craiglow, Executive Director, ULI Northwest Arkansas**

Representatives from organizations across the region who work daily on growth, development, and planning dive into the human aspects of this work. Hear a new perspective connecting us all to the big picture thinking often associated with regional growth planning and how the ideas of New Urbanism can support and expand this work.

**1:20 PM****Streamlining Infill: Pre-Approved Buildings Across Four Cities**

- **Matthew Petty, CEO Pattern Zones Co.**
- **Kyle Clifton, Planning Director, City of Claremore, OK**
- **Leslie Karr, Planning Director, City of Overland Park, KS**
- **John McCurdy, Director of Community Development, City of Rogers, AR**
- **Jonathan Curth, Planning Director, City of Fayetteville, AR**

Municipalities across the tri-state region are deploying pre-approved building programs to accelerate quality infill development. This showcase presents four nearby jurisdictions ranging from 20,000 to 200,000 in population that have adopted pre-approved building portfolios to streamline permitting and make infill development more accessible to builders.

**2:10 PM****Trail-Oriented Development: Applying the Transect to Active Transportation Infrastructure**

- **Julie Flynn, Principal, The Street Plans Collaborative**
- **Kourtney Barrett, CEO of Velocity NWA**
- **Matt Hoffman, Architect, President of Blockwright and Pattern Zones Co-Founder**
- **Tyler Overstreet, Director of Planning, City of Bentonville**

How can trails function like transit corridors to shape regional growth? This session examines Trail-Oriented Development (TrOD) as a strategic planning framework that integrates active transportation infrastructure across the urban-to-rural Transect.

**3:00 PM****Fire Code Reform and State Legislative Policy: CNU 34 Workshop Findings**

**John McCurdy, Director of Community Development, City of Rogers**

**3:30 PM****Carrying it Forward: A panel of regional leaders on the impact of this discussion**

A panel of elected leaders from across Northwest Arkansas will discuss the importance of the conversations had during CNU 34 and reflect on the lessons learned that will continue to influence the future of the region.

- **Mayor Greg Hines, City of Rogers**
- **Mayor Stephanie Orman, City of Bentonville**
- **Mayor Molly Rawn, City of Fayetteville**
- **Mayor Doug Sprouse, City of Springdale**

**4:30 PM****Closing & Gratitude**

**Mallory Baches, President, CNU, with CNU34 Local Host Committee Co-Chairs  
John McCurdy, Director of Community Development, City of Rogers, and  
Ward Davis, Principal and Founding Partner, High Street Real Estate Development**