



**CNU34 Northwest  
Arkansas**

# CNU34.Northwest Arkansas Congress Program

Edited 5/8/2026

# Special Ticketed Program: Local Government Day

<b>Location</b>	Graduate Hotel Fayetteville: Spoofer's Stone (1 <sup>st</sup> Floor)
8:00 - 8:30am	Coffee and Networking
8:30 - 9:00am	<b>Welcome and Agenda Overview</b> Christina Anderson, City Planner & Deputy Director, City Planning & Economic Development, Kalamazoo (MI)
9:00 - 9:30am	<b>Opening Session</b> <b>The State of Affordable Urbanism: Bringing it Home</b> Shane Phillips, Housing Initiative, UCLA Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies
10:00 - 11:00am	<b>Educational Session</b> <b>Tired of Waiting? City as Developer</b> Rebekah Kik, Assistant City Manager, City of Kalamazoo (MI); Tim Corcoran, Planning Director, City of South Bend (IN); and Eric Kronberg, Kronberg Urbanists + Architects, Atlanta (GA)
11:00 - 12:00pm	<b>Educational Session</b> <b>Rewiring the Public Realm: Creative Solutions for Public Works in Fast-Growing Regions</b> John McCurdy, Director of Community Development, City of Rogers
12:00 - 1:00pm	<b>Networking Lunch sponsored by Buffalo Builders</b>
1:30 - 2:30pm	<b>Educational Session</b> <b>Reimagining Housing Conversations: The CHATS Engagement Experience</b> Duke McLarty & Lindsey Navarrette, Groundwork
2:30 - 3:30pm	<b>Educational Session</b> <b>Rebalancing the Rules: Zoning for Fiscal Health</b> Heather Worthington, Principal, Urban3, former Director of Long Range Planning, Minneapolis (MN) and Brooke Bailey, Performance & Finance Manager, Urban3
3:30 - 4:30pm	<b>Closing Session</b> <b>Incremental Success: Bite-Size Lessons from Big Cities</b> Emily Liu, Planning Director, City of Dallas (TX) & Rico Quirindongo, Planning Director, City of Seattle (WA)
4:30 - 6:30pm	<b>Networking Happy Hour Sponsored by buf STUDIO</b>

# Special Ticketed Program: CNU-A Bootcamp

<b>Location</b>	Graduate Hotel Fayetteville: Brodie Payne A (2nd Floor)
8:00 - 8:30am	Coffee and Networking
8:30 - 10:30am	<p><b>Module 1:</b>  <b>Foundations of New Urbanism and Urban Theory</b>            Course Lead: Ashleigh Walton, Architect and Project Manager, Urban Design Associates            Additional Faculty: Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, University of Miami Professor of Architecture and Director of the Master of Urban Design Program</p>
10:30 - 12:00pm	<p><b>Module 2: Urban Design and Physical Form (How Places are Shaped)</b>            Course Lead: Lauren Kelly, Vice President, MK Design Group, Inc.            Additional Faculty: Sara Bega, Bega Design Studio and Adjunct Faculty, University of Notre Dame</p>
12:00 - 1:30pm	Networking Lunch
1:30 - 3:00pm	<p><b>Module 3: Codes, Policy, and Implementation Tools</b>            Course Lead: Susan Henderson, Principal, Placemakers LLC            Additional Faculty: Larry Gould, Principal, Nelson\Nygaard; Mary Madden, Principal, Madden Planning LLC; Patrick Siegman, Principal, Siegman &amp; Associates</p>
3:00 - 4:30pm	<p><b>Module 4: Planning Process, Community, and Development</b>            Course Lead: Sharon Woods, President and Founding Principal, LandUseUSA            Additional Faculty: Jennifer Hurley, Principal, Placemakers LLC; Rebekah Kik Deputy City Manager, Kalamazoo (MI)</p>
4:30 - 6:30pm	Networking Happy Hour

# Special Ticketed Program: Builder's Day

Location	Fayetteville Town Center: Ozark 2	Fayetteville Town Center: Ozark 3
8:30 - 8:45am	<b>Welcome and Introduction - Building Community</b>	
8:45 - 9:45am	<b>Opening Session</b> PLACES That Create Value: How Mixed-Use Urbanism Outperforms Its Comparable Parts	
9:45 - 11:00am	<b>Education Session 1</b> Paths for Urbanism to Enhance Developer & Investor Returns	
11:00 - 11:15am	break	
11:15 - 12:15pm	<b>Breakout Session Block 1</b> Techniques and Lessons Learned from Incubating Neighborhood Main Streets	<b>Breakout Session Block 2</b> Complete Neighborhood's Shops & Restaurants – The Triple Bottom Line
12:15 - 1:15pm	<b>Lunchtime Presentation</b> Re-Regulating for Attainability in Real Estate Development	
1:15 - 2:15pm	<b>Education Session 2</b> Aligning Design and Development in New Urbanist Real Estate	
2:15 - 2:30pm	break	
2:30 - 3:30pm	<b>Breakout Session Block 2</b> The Tuning of Urbanism and Architecture	<b>Breakout Session Block 1</b> How to Implement Urbanism Through Faith-Based Housing Development
3:30 - 4:45	<b>Closing Panel Discussion</b> Building Better: Lessons Learned from Developing Thoughtfully	
4:45 - 6:60	<b>Networking Happy Hours</b>	

# Wednesday, May 13: Fayetteville Day

8:00 - 10:00am	<b>CNU 34 Opening Market</b> Fayetteville Town Center Outdoor Plaza					<b>First Time Attendee Breakfast Reception</b> Graduate Hotel: Spoofer's Stone (1 <sup>st</sup> Floor)		
<b>Session Rooms</b>	Fayetteville Town Center: Ozark 1	Fayetteville Town Center: Ozark 2	Fayetteville Town Center: Ozark 3	Fayetteville Town Center: Salon B	Fayetteville Town Center: Salon A	Graduate Hotel: Brodie Payne AB (2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor)	Graduate Hotel: Brodie Payne CD (2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor)	Graduate Hotel: Spoofer's Stone (1 <sup>st</sup> Floor)
10:00 - 11:15am	The Complete Story of the Rural-to-Urban Transect	Lessons Learned: Quick-Build In Northwest Arkansas And Beyond	Ramble On	The Core, Practical Distinctions between People-Centered and Car-Centered Design	Reframing Aspirations for Walkable, Equitable Communities: Insights from Sub-Saharan Africa	Accelerating Climate Action at Regional Scale	Research on New Urbanism: Good News, But More Is Needed	Mentorship Huddles
11:15 - 11:45pm	<i>break</i>							
11:45 - 1:00pm	The 8 Cs of Sustainable, Resilient Communities	The Northwest Arkansas Regional Growth Strategy	Learning from Mediterranean and South American Cultures	Mapping the Urban Harvest: Integrating Food Systems and Form-Based Urbanism	Making Room: How Cities & States Can Re-Legalize Co-living	<b>In Conversation:</b> Fireside Chat: Learning from the Archives of New Traditional Architecture	Building a Promising Future for Suburbia	<b>Workshop:</b>  <b>State Legislative Agenda to Support the Future of NWA</b>
1:00 - 1:30pm	<i>break</i>							
1:30 - 2:45pm	Hope VI Retrospective	Lexicon of the New Urbanism Starter Course	Latino Urbanism and the Laws That Shaped the New World	Smart Zoning & Predictive Planning: AI in Code Implementation	The Transect+Traditional Urbanism in Practice: Community-Driven Planning from Indigenous Lands to Latin American Cities	The Walkable City with Jeff Speck	Evaluating Built New Urbanism: Developing the System	
2:45 - 4:00pm	<i>break</i>							
4:00 - 5:30pm	<b>Opening Keynote: Raj Chetty (Fayetteville Town Center: Ozark 1)</b>							
5:30 - 8:00pm	<b>Affiliates Networking Happy Hour(s), Dine-Arounds, and Pub Crawl</b>							
7:00 - 10:00pm	<b>Live Music Jam at George's Majestic Lounge in Fayetteville</b>							

# Thursday, May 14: Dual Spoke Day | Fayetteville Schedule

8:00 - 9:00am	<b>Coffee, Breakfast, Networking Time</b>					
<b>Session Rooms</b>	Fayetteville Town Center: Ozark 1	Fayetteville Town Center: Ozark 2	Fayetteville Town Center: Ozark 3	Graduate Hotel: Brodie Payne AB (2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor)	Graduate Hotel: Brodie Payne CD (2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor)	Graduate Hotel: Spoofer's Stone (1 <sup>st</sup> Floor)
9:30 - 10:30am	The Design of Cities Begins with the Design of Streets	From Languishing to Lively - Transforming Dead Malls into Neighborhoods	Improving Neighborhood Affordability through Traditional Site and Infrastructure Design	Multiplying the Middle: Expanding Housing Choice in Arkansas and Texas	Newest New Urbanists	Safe and affordable: legalizing taller single-stair apartment buildings
10:30 - 11:00am	<i>break</i>					
11:00 - 12:30pm	<b>Fayetteville Main Stage</b> <b>Shared Prosperity: Affordable Urbanism that Expands Opportuniy (Ozark 1)</b>					
12:30 - 1:00pm	<i>break</i>					
1:00 - 2:00pm	Razorback Greenway Corridor Plan: Regional Transect for Seven Cities	Principles for growing transit in a Polycentric region	From Vacant to Vibrant: A Blueprint for Local Retail Revival	Commercial Main Street Architecture: Fayetteville, Bentonville, Rogers	CNU Latino Gen Z Urbanists: Organizing the Next Generation of Leaders	Expanding Housing: Applying the International Residential Code up to Eight-Units
2:00 - 2:30pm	<i>break</i>					
2:30 - 3:30pm	Incremental Development: Training, Codes, Coalition	Trail Network Planning from Vision to Regional Transformation: Lessons from the Razorback Greenway and Beyond	How to be a Lovable Engineer: Engineering New Urbanism	Transportation Context Classifications (DOT) and the Local-scale Transect	Bridging Planning and Engineering for Human-Scale Streets	Emergency Vehicle Access - An Update on Research and Code Reform
3:30 - 4:00pm	<i>break</i>					
4:00 - 5:00pm	Streamlining Housing Development with Pre-Approved Plans	Designing Participation: Setting Your Project up for Success	CNU Transportation Forum	Framework versus Free-for-all: A Building Types Approach to Zoning Reform	From Strip Malls to Main Streets: Retrofitting Suburban Neighborhoods	New Urbanist Design and Retrofit for Rainwater Conveyance and Detention
5:30 - 10:00pm	<b>Happy Hours, Affiliate Events</b>					

# Thursday, May 14: Dual Spoke Day | Bentonville Schedule

7:00 - 8:00am	Bentonville Running with the Urbanists (see details in app)					
8:00 - 9:00am	Coffee, Breakfast, Networking Solo					
<b>Session Rooms</b>	The Record Downtown: Record North	The Record Downtown: Record South	First Baptist Church: Worship Center	First Baptist Church: Studio 2	First Baptist Church: Chapel	21C Museum & Hotel: Main Gallery
9:30 - 10:30am	Implementing Climate-Adaptive Urbanism	Small Towns Leading the Way on Zoning Reforms	Planning for the Transportation Future: Urban Design Strategies for Transit-Ready Development	A Tale of Two Transect-Based Cities	Resiliency in the face of post-natural disaster recovery.	Art Rom: Observing and Analyzing the City - Plein Air
10:30 - 11:00am	break					
11:00 - 12:30pm	<b>Bentonville Main Stage: Public Life by Design: Building Places People Love (FBC Worship Center)</b>					
12:30 - 1:00pm	break					
1:00 - 2:00pm	Building the Practice with Practice	CNU Salon	The Town Architect's Craft and Design Review across Transects	Pattern Writing: The Design DNA for Livable Neighborhoods	Toward a Model Adaptation Legislation Guidebook	Art Room: Classic American Urban Building Design
2:00 - 2:30pm	break					
2:30 - 3:30pm	The Climate Action Handbook for Urbanists: Engaging the Movement	CNU Salon	The Transect and Firm Culture: A Tale of Two Practices	The Role of Pattern Books in the Design of Places People Love	DIY Disaster Recovery: Using the Transect to Address Immediate Needs	Art Room: Neighborhood Design
3:30 - 4:00pm	break					
4:00 - 5:00pm	Small Wheel Coalition Kickoff	CNU Salon	The Invaluable Lessons of Failure: A Look Back at the Mistakes that New Urbanists Can't Afford to Forget!	Laying the Foundation for a Main Street Design Toolkit	Why Planners and New Urbanists Should Study Ecology	<b>Art of the New Urbanism Volume II Book Launch and Reception</b>
5:00 - 6:00pm	break					
6:00 - 9:00pm	<b>Charter Awards Reception and Ceremony Heartland Whole Health Institute Gallery</b>					

# Friday, May 15: Bentonville Day

8:00 - 9:30am	<p><b>Chapter Networking Breakfast</b> 21C Museum &amp; Hotel Main Gallery</p>							
9:30 - 10:00am	<p><i>break</i></p>							
<b>Session Rooms</b>	The Record Downtown: Record North	The Record Downtown: Record South	First Baptist Church: Worship Center		First Baptist Church: Studio 2	First Baptist Church: Chapel	The Ledger: Classroom (1 <sup>st</sup> Floor)	The Ledger: Assembly Room (1 <sup>st</sup> Floor)
10:00 - 11:30am	<p><b>Closing Keynote: Eric Klinenberg</b> First Baptist Church: Worship Center</p>							
11:30 - 12:00pm	<p><i>break</i></p>							
12:00 - 1:15pm	The Data is In! New Urbanism is Good for Your Health	Family Foundations	Reporting and Request for Ideas following the New Urban Council XI: Affordable Urbanism		The Software of Community: Building Social Fabric Through Design	Fire Code – Where to go from here? Fight or Collaborate	Faith as Infrastructure: Strategic Planning with Churches in Disinvested Communities	The Economics of Urbanism 101: Form Follows Finance
1:15 - 1:45pm	<p><i>break</i></p>							
1:45 - 3:00pm	Great BODs (Bicycle-Oriented Developments): Supporting Urbanism through Regional Bikeways	New urbanism and agriculture: Creating healthy communities and conserving farmland	Council IX additional content		Reimagining Housing Conversations: The CHATS Engagement Experience	<p><b>Workshop: Fire Safety that Supports Urbanism</b></p>	Re-Establishing Urban Roots - Vision for Reparative Design	CNU France and the Transformational Ecosystem
3:00 - 3:30pm	<p><i>break</i></p>						<p><i>break</i></p>	
3:30 - 4:45pm	2026 Legacy Projects	From Design to Development: Bridging Vision and Viability	Council IX additional content		Walmart Home Office: Design Decisions for a Walkable, Connected Campus		-	Reimagining Cultural and Civic Districts: “Continuous Transformations” in Germany
4:45 - 5:00pm	<p><i>break</i></p>							
5:00 - 8:00pm	<p><b>Closing Party</b> The RODE House at the Momentary</p>							

# Community Open House Day

Saturday, May 16

Location	Fayetteville Town Center: Ozark Ballroom
8:30 - 9:00am	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b> Robert Burns, Program Director, Home Region, Walton Family Foundation
9:00 - 9:30am	<b>Why the New Urbanist Dialogue Matters to the Future of the Region</b> Marques King, Founder, Fabric[K] Design
9:30 - 10:15am	<b>Visualising Growth: How data can help us see the value (and possibilities) of our region more clearly</b> Joe Minicozzi, Founder and Principal, Urban3
10:15 - 11:00am	<b>Forward 2050: Regional Transportation Plan for Northwest Arkansas</b> Tim Conklin, Executive Director, and Nicole Gibbs, Assistant Director, Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission
11:00 - 11:30am	<b>Growing Home: Northwest Arkansas Regional Growth Strategy Update</b> Matt Lambert, Principal, DPZ Co-Design
11:30 - 12:30pm	<i>intermission</i>
12:30 - 1:20pm	<b>What's at Stake for Northwest Arkansas: A conversation on the human impact of planning for growth.</b> Nelson Peacock, President and CEO, Northwest Arkansas Council; Tim Conklin, Executive Director, Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission; Wes Craiglow, Executive Director, ULI Northwest Arkansas
1:20 - 2:10pm	<b>Streamlining Infill: Pre-Approved Buildings Across Four Cities</b> 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
2:10 - 3:00pm	<b>Trail-Oriented Development: Applying the Transect to Active Transportation Infrastructure</b> 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
3:00 - 3:30pm	<b>Fire Code Reform and State Legislative Policy: CNU 34 Workshop Findings</b> John McCurdy, Director of Community Development, City of Rogers
3:30 - 4:30pm	<b>Carrying it Forward: A panel of regional leaders on the impact of this discussion</b> Mayor Greg Hines, City of Rogers; Mayor Stephanie Orman, City of Bentonville; Mayor Molly Rawn, City of Fayetteville; Mayor Doug Sprouse, City of Springdale
4:30pm	<b>Closing &amp; Gratitude</b> 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