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Meet the 9 nominees selected for the 2025 *Freeways Without Futures* report

Campaigns offer a roadmap to the future of American highway infrastructure.

Washington, DC - The 2025 *Freeways Without Futures* report is [available now!](#) Meet the nine campaigns working to transform the highways in their communities into assets like city streets, housing, green space, and more.

The history of urban freeways in North America has been one of inequity and induced demand. Now, with many of these hulking, burdensome highways reaching the end of their useful lifespans, communities are looking for alternatives to costly highway repair and expansion. The nine campaigns in this report offer a pathway to better health, equity, opportunity, and connectivity in every neighborhood, while reversing decades of decline and disinvestment.

The 9 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

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.



Says CNU President Mallory Baches, “CNU has made extraordinary progress in changing the narrative around the physical, social, environmental, and cultural barriers that urban freeways impose, by providing a platform for those most knowledgeable about their harms. Looking ahead, my goal is to not only offer a platform for their cause but to serve as their resource for the actual design solutions that the removal of these highways demands.”

Want to be more involved with the Highways to Boulevards movement? Join us at CNU 33. New England at Providence on June 11-14, 2025 in Providence, RI. On June 12, our CNU Transportation Resource Forum and Highway Transportation Manual session will advance the products, roles and visibility of Transportation practitioners in CNU. Additional transportation-focused sessions will be available throughout the day. Insights from the 2025 *Freeways Without Futures* report and the discussions at CNU 33 will be integral to maintaining an active cohort and shaping the path forward. [Learn more and we hope to see you there.](#)

Explore previous versions of the report and meet the current nominees at www.cnu.org/highways-boulevards/freeways-without-futures/2025.

About CNU and New Urbanism:

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.

CNU is dedicated to making the design of cities, towns, and neighborhoods a part of how we respond to complex societal challenges, realizing their full potential to expand the social, economic, and environmental opportunities available to all members of each community. By highlighting effective design principles and lowering barriers to change, CNU amplifies the grassroots power of our thousands of members to build and rebuild their communities in ways that improve sustainability, increase accessibility, and promote equity.

