

Program Book



CNU 33 New England
at Providence
June 11-14, 2025

The 33rd Annual Congress for the New Urbanism
Held in Providence, RI from June 11th to the 14th, 2025

Table of Contents

Tours 2

Local Government Day 17

New Urbanist Outreach Day 20

CNU 33 Sessions 24

Sponsors 67

Tours

Newport's Old Urbanism (CNU33T01)

6/11/2025, 8:30 AM–3:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Glenn Gardiner, Jill Chin, Kim Salerno

While Newport is nationally renowned for its collection of mansions and alluring rocky coastline, New Urbanists flock to this city to discover the historic sites, small commercial buildings, and people-scaled streets that are the foundation of our modern-day practice. Our walking tour travels through the core of this 18th century city looking at: The Point, an historic gridded street neighborhood mapped by early Quaker settlers; Historic Hill and the Redwood Library, the first neoclassical building in the new world; Bowen's Wharf, a prime example of late 20th Century New Urbanist planning; and a stop at one of the Rhode Island Slave Medallion sites. Along the route, see buildings designed by Peter Harrison, Richard Morris Hunt, and Sir Christopher Wren as well as examples of vernacular architecture of Newport. Attendees are invited to consider how historic development created such a distinct and memorable place, while continuing to influence through the modern-day.

CEUs: 4.5 LU / 4.5 CM / 4.5 PDH / 4.5 LH

Cracking the NIMBY Code: Context Appropriate Design for Affordable Housing (CNU33T03)

6/11/2025, 8:30 AM–12:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Kathy Bazinet, Paul Attemann

The "East Bay" of Rhode Island consists of several residential communities that understand the importance of creating affordable housing but might not want it in their backyard. Working in collaboration with Union Studio Architecture and Community Design, the East Bay Community Development Corporation developed two communities in the Town of Barrington that overcame the NIMBY hurdle. The first neighborhood, Sweetbriar, includes 47 affordable homes in a mix of duplexes and townhouses arranged around a common green. Based on the success of that project, East Bay and Union were able to design and develop a second neighborhood, Palmer Pointe, that added another 40 affordable homes in a mix of townhouses and stacked flats. Together, Sweetbriar and Palmer Pointe illustrate how affordable housing, when designed to respect the local context, can ultimately be accepted by even the most resistant of communities.

CEUs: 3 LU / 3 CM / 3 PDH / 3 LH

Bike Like a Boston Local (CNU33T11)

6/11/2025, 8:30 AM–3:30 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Ben Katz, Chris Dempsey, Lucy Gibson

Hop on a bike for a 10 mile tour that highlights some of Boston and Cambridge's best bike infrastructure. Our adventure begins in Boston's North End where we will experience revolution era streets and modern raised, separated bike lanes. Pause along the Rose Kennedy Greenway to learn about the "Big Dig" and how the City of Boston completely transformed the area by relocating the formerly elevated interstate highway underground, creating a new pedestrian greenway in its place. Then, experience the ever-evolving bike networks of Boston and Cambridge. Different design configurations and best practices will be identified as well as the barriers faced when these lanes were first built, how the bikeway designs were developed, and we'll review what might be done differently if the project was starting over. This will be a full day trip with a stop for lunch.

CEUs: 3.5 LU / 3.5 CM / 3.5 HSW / 3.5 LH

Sunny Day Flooding: The effects of climate change on coastal communities (CNU33T28)

6/11/2025, 8:30 AM-3:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Bari Freeman, Teresa Crean

Low-lying and surrounded by water, the Ocean State's magical "City by the Sea" is especially vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and sea level rise. Led by Bari Freeman, Executive Director of Bike Newport, and Teresa Crean, the City of Newport's Director of Sustainability and Resiliency, this tour will explore what changes the City of Newport is experiencing and what proactive and preventative measures the City has planned to respond to climate change and increase resilience. Together we will visit and discuss locations and infrastructure at high-risk. Stops will include the Point Neighborhood, the Cliff Walk, Easton's Beach, King Park, and several stormwater runoff management sites. We'll tour the area using responsible zero-carbon-emitting transportation - human powered (not electric) bicycles! The ride is approximately 10 miles.

CEUs: 4.5 LU|HSW / 4.5 CM|SR 1 / 4.5 HSW / 4.5 LH

Hearty Cyclists Bike the East Bay (CNU33T34)

6/11/2025, 8:30 AM-1:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Alyson Fletcher, Arnold Robinson, Drusilla van Hengel, Eliza Berry

Take a 20-mile round trip ride on the East Bay Bike Path to Warren for a tour of the area's efforts to address climate change adaptation and resilience. Warren, a historic waterfront town, faces increasing climate hazards and coastal flooding. In response, local leaders and citizens developed a plan to reduce flood damage and explore managed retreat for at-risk properties. Led by Arnold Robinson, AICP, this e-bike tour highlights Warren's Market to Metacom plan, which includes recommendations that combine resiliency efforts with redevelopment to create a new transit-connected neighborhood featuring diverse housing options and commercial spaces. Additionally, researchers from the University of Rhode Island (URI) will discuss their four-year project to develop a decision-support system for Warren that will integrate key data points and infrastructure information, helping the community make science-based decisions on strategies to address flood risk and well-being. URI's project

demonstrates how a multi-disciplinary approach to community engagement critically informs research and, in turn, how research can inform planning and decision making.

CEUs: 3 LU|HSW / 3 CM|1 SR / 3 HSW / 3 LH

Reckoning with Urban Renewal (CNU33T13)

6/11/2025, 9:00 AM–12:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Claire Andrade-Watkins, Katy Pickens, Marisa Brown

Providence's Benefit Street, also known as "The Mile of History," is the city's earliest surviving neighborhood with buildings dating from the late 18th century. Despite its historic value, in the 1950s the neighborhood was nearly destroyed by the city's urban renewal plan and Brown University's campus expansion. Preservationists, architects, art historians, and others rallied to create the nation's first urban renewal plan that featured historic preservation as a key part of redevelopment. Many homes were purchased and renovated in an attempt to preserve the architectural heritage of the neighborhood. The plan saved many buildings, but scores of residents, mostly African American and those with Cape Verdean heritage, were displaced. The Providence Preservation Society has inherited those efforts, positive and negative. Hear from their executive director about how historic preservation and city planning can be used to revitalize while retaining existing residents.

CEUs: 3 LU|HSW / 3 CM / 3 HSW / 3 LH

Mashpee Commons: Examining the original transformation and ongoing legacy of a key New Urbanist project (CNU33T12)

6/11/2025, 9:30 AM–4:30 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Brian Kuchar, Sarah Chace Cotter, Tom Feronti

The transformation of the former New Seabury Shopping Center in Mashpee, Massachusetts, into a robust urban town center began over 30 years ago with the determined vision of Buff Chace to introduce density, activity, and community at the intersection of two state highways on Cape Cod. Mashpee Commons, now a locus of the town's civic buildings and entertainment, had many evolutions and obstacles along the way. Developers battled regulatory challenges, public perception of density and parking, and the 2008 recession which slowed plans to add neighborhoods surrounding the center. Now, density at Mashpee Commons is being heralded by the Cape Cod Commission as a key way to protect the watershed and reduce emissions. This tour will showcase the original innovations that made Mashpee Commons famous among New Urbanists and the ongoing work to ensure that this legacy model of suburban retrofit continues to demonstrate the values of density and urbanism in New England.

CEUs: 4.5 LU / 4.5 CM / 4.5 HSW / 4.5 LH

A Partnership for Old and New: the Pine Street Historic District (CNU33T23)

6/11/2025, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Carla DeStefano

The Pine Street Historic District on the south side of Providence currently has about sixty remaining houses from the 19th century, a mere fraction of what existed during the neighborhood's peak. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997, the district lost many of its buildings to the interrelated tragedies of urban renewal and highway construction, which in turn caused population loss and, ultimately, blight. Since that time, many community advocates and groups – including SWAP (Stop Wasting Abandoned Property) – have worked to preserve the remaining structures and incentivize infill development to bring the district back to life. This tour will demonstrate the importance of historic preservation working hand-in-hand with new infill construction to bring homeownership, rental housing, and mixed-use commercial spaces, back to an area that once thrived.

CEUs: 2 LU|HSW / 2 CM / 2 PDH / 2 LH

Patching Urban Fabric with Public Art Interventions: Examples by The Avenue Concept in Providence's Downtown District (CNU33T16)

6/11/2025, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Tracy Jonsson-Laboy

The Avenue Concept (TAC) is a nonprofit organization with a mission to thoughtfully curate and skillfully produce visual public art and experiences with artists and communities in the US. Since 2012 TAC has produced over 300 pieces of public art in Rhode Island using mostly privately generated funds. Today the impact of the work is visible as a tangible mood-shifter in Providence's Downtown, where TAC's murals, specifically, have been used to patch the urban landscape to create safe avenues, monumental place-markers, and wayfinding visual aids that contribute to the City's drive to create a thriving and revitalized business district. This tour visits a portfolio of works by international, regional and local artists, led by a TAC Staff member.

CEUs: 2 LU / 2 CM / 2 HSW / 2 LH

Connecting Communities to the Coast: The Fields Point Urban Coastal Greenway (CNU33T15)

6/11/2025, 1:00 PM-5:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Chris Waterson, Curt Spalding, Jason Witham

As the most southern area of Providence, Fields Point is a historic park and prolific natural resource that was adversely impacted by shoreline filling in the 20th century and eventually restored into an Urban Coastal Greenway (UGC). Today, the UGC extends over 3000 linear feet and provides expanded public access to Narragansett Bay for nearby communities. The creation of the greenway is an example of non-governmental collaboration to redevelop brownfields, create coastal access, and protect habitats while overcoming the challenges of siloed environmental management and regulatory practices. Through the partnership of Save The Bay Center, Johnson and Wales University Harborside campus and Prov Port, the greenway was built in independent phases with unique objectives, including on-site stormwater management, education, and recreation. Speakers from these NGOs will share why each group decided to create their segment for the benefit of their organizations and the community.

CEUs: 3.5 LU|HSW / 3.5 CM / 3.5 HSW / 3.5 LH

From Highway to Innovation District: walk through the process of redeveloping I-195 land (CNU33T22)

6/11/2025, 1:00 PM–4:30 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Caroline Skuncik, Kevin Chong, Tim Love, Zoë Mueller

More than a decade has passed since Interstate I-195 was relocated, freeing up 26 acres of land in Providence for redevelopment. The land was placed in the control of the I-195 Redevelopment District, a quasi-public state agency charged with maximizing economic development and knitting back together the neighborhoods bifurcated for decades by the raised highway infrastructure. This tour will showcase the over \$1 billion of public and private investment in the District as well as a discussion of future plans. Participants will learn about public space investments including: the 7-acre District Park; the award-winning Michael S. Van Leesten Memorial pedestrian bridge, built across the Providence River on former highway foundations; and the Providence Riverwalk. Participants will also get to see first hand District-led placemaking projects including: Dune Brothers seafood shack, Tizzy K's ice cream storefront, and a hard hat tour of the new year-round park pavilion opening in mid-2025.

CEUs: 3.5 LU / 3.5 CM / 3.5 HSW / 3.5 LH

La Broa': Exploring the roots of Latin culture in the South Side of Providence (CNU33T32-A)

6/11/2025, 1:00 PM–4:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Marta V Martinez

Known by locals as La Broa' (broh-ah), Broad Street connects four distinct neighborhoods in South Providence and is well known as a vibrant Latin-centered sphere filled with

entertainment, food, and small businesses. Since the 1960's, it has been the center of Hispanic commerce, activism, and Latin cultural expression. Join Marta V. Martinez, Executive Director of RI Latino Arts, for a walk along Lower Broad Street. Learn about the many lives of the street from the 1700's to present day as an indigenous trailway, the site of the first electric trolley line, a case study of the failures of the interstate highway system, and finally as a story of transformation and urban renewal when Latinos began to settle and rebuilt. Along the way, you will see recent investments by the city to improve safety and accessibility and have the option to purchase drinks or food from one of the many bodegas, fruit stands, Caribbean food eateries or Chimi Trucks.

CEUs: 2.5 LU / 2.5 CM / 2.5 PDH / 2.5 LH

Attainable Infill: Missing Middle Housing Options in East Providence (CNU33T04)

6/11/2025, 1:30 PM–4:30 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Joel VanderWeele

Explore some of East Providence's latest urban infill development using the East Bay Bike Path, the first multi-town bike path built in Rhode Island that follows the old Providence and Bristol Railroad. Visit Residences at Riverside Square, an infill housing project with 16 affordable rental apartments for 30–60% AMI households, including three units for youth aging out of foster care. Known locally as "the Old Vamco Site," the long-vacant property, once plagued by hazardous chemicals from a jewelry finishing operation, has been remediated. The second stop will be Ivy Place, a thoughtfully conceived urban infill project that introduces thirteen new homeownership units at 60–100% AMI to the heart of one of East Providence's main street corridors in the Waterfront District. A defining feature of the project is the inclusion of four Live/Work townhouses along Taunton Avenue, the city's main commercial corridor.

CEUs: 3 LU / 3 CM / 3 HSW / 3 LH

Reconnecting People and Rivers in Historic Fall River (CNU33T05)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM–4:15 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Ken Fiola, Kurt Teichert, Sarah Page

Cross over the Taunton River and into the heart of Fall River, a historic mill city that is in the process of reconnecting neighborhoods and providing direct access to Boston through the new commuter rail. Stops include a Portuguese marketplace, the Waterfront Cultural District, a mill redevelopment project, and city parks. The focus of the tour is the Route 79–Davol St. Corridor Improvements Project that has removed an elevated highway and is creating a multi-modal urban boulevard, connecting residents to the Taunton River and leaving 19 acres for new development. Lastly, visit the Narrows Center for the Arts, a multi-disciplinary arts center that houses multi-function spaces and a craft brewery. In the third-floor performance space, participants will have views of the many riverfront developments and tour hosts and

participants will have the opportunity to review and discuss the plans for renewal and redevelopment. **CEUs:** 5 LU / 5 CM / 5 HSW / 5 LH

Deep Roots: Urban Agriculture, Affordable Housing, and Neighborhood Revitalization in Trinity Square (CNU33T18)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM–1:15 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Andrew Cook, Ben Willis, Carla DeStefano, Ellen Asermely, Paul Attemann, Raffini .

The Trinity Square district serves as a gateway between downtown and South Providence, a vibrant area rich with landmarks of former affluence and signs of disinvestment. This walking tour circles the historic Grace Church cemetery, stopping at three Union Studio-designed projects showcasing revitalization efforts by organizations deeply committed to their community. The first stop is the Southside Community Land Trust (SCLT) headquarters, a CNU 2023 Charter Award (Merit) recipient. In 2022, SCLT transformed an 1850s livery building into a hub for urban agriculture, featuring educational spaces, shared processing and kitchen facilities for local farmers, and small retail spaces for food businesses. The second stop is Trinity Place and Townhouses, an urban infill project by Stop Wasting Abandoned Properties (SWAP) in 2015. This mixed-use, missing-middle development restored the urban fabric around a prominent block while providing affordable housing. The final stop is the North Elmwood Revitalization, a 2008 project that converted an architecturally significant street into 56 affordable housing units. This effort preserved and adapted four historic mansions and added new infill structures, blending restoration with new construction.

CEUs: 3 LU|HSW / 3 CM / 3 HSW / 3 LH

Where the Saltwater Ends: Centuries of Evolution of The Woonasquatucket River (CNU33T20-A)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM–1:15 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Dara Clough, Eric Weis, Lisa Aurecchia

The Woonasquatucket River (the Narragansett name translates to "where the saltwater ends", indicating that a portion of it is tidal) has been a vital waterway for thousands of years. For native peoples, it served as a transportation route to Narragansett Bay and the Atlantic, and a source of food, including anadromous fish spawning upstream annually, and land along the river was important as a site for trade and festivals. During the Industrial Revolution, the river was dammed to power factories, leading to severe pollution. Its flow was channelized, shores were built up, and heavy metals and toxins filled the riverbed, devastating wildlife. In the 1990s, the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council began addressing 200 years of damage. Efforts included building fish ladders, restoring wetlands, creating miles of shared-use paths, adding parks, constructing new housing, and bringing people back to the river. This bike tour will explore the river's history of damage and restoration, its transformation into a greenway, and the variety of facilities created along its route.

CEUs: 3 LU|HSW / 3 CM|1 SR / 3 HSW / 3 LH

Charrette High School: Downtown Providence through the eyes of its youngest advocates (CNU33T30)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM-12:15 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Kathy Vespia, Samantha Miller

Founded in 2018, the Charrette Charter High School is a community-based school in Providence, with a unique focus on historic preservation and urban planning, cultivating a sense of civic responsibility and an appreciation for the role we all play in shaping the cities we call home. Charette students have spent their spring semester of Urban Planning designing a tour that showcases the city's progress, development, and living examples of New Urbanism. Visit the Superman Building and nearby Kennedy Plaza and walk down the Washington Street corridor to the Providence Public Library.

La Broa': Exploring the roots of Latin culture in the South Side of Providence (CNU33T32-B)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM-1:15 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Marta V Martinez

Known by locals as La Broa' (broh-ah), Broad Street connects four distinct neighborhoods in South Providence and is well known as a vibrant Latin-centered sphere filled with entertainment, food, and small businesses. Since the 1960's, it has been the center of Hispanic commerce, activism, and Latin cultural expression. Join Marta V. Martinez, Executive Director of RI Latino Arts, for a walk along Lower Broad Street. Learn about the many lives of the street from the 1700's to present day as an indigenous trailway, the site of the first electric trolley line, a case study of the failures of the interstate highway system, and finally as a story of transformation and urban renewal when Latinos began to settle and rebuilt. Along the way, you will see recent investments by the city to improve safety and accessibility and have the option to purchase drinks or food from one of the many bodegas, fruit stands, Caribbean food eateries or Chimi Trucks.

CEUs: 2.5 LU / 2.5 CM / 2.5 PDH / 2.5 LH

The Whole World in One Square Mile: Historic Pawtucket and Central Falls (CNU33T08)

6/12/2025, 12:45 PM-5:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Bianca Policastro, Lillian Picchione, Maria Rivera, Peter Friedrichs

Join local officials on a one-stop ride up the Northeast Corridor, America's busiest intercity rail line to the cradle of the American Industrial Revolution, Pawtucket, and the adjoining mill city of Central Falls – "The Whole World in One Square Mile." The train station shared by the two communities closed in the 1980's and was relocated to straight track nearby, opening in 2023. After disembarking the train, we will go on a walking tour of large-scale mill campuses,

vestiges of urban renewal, and thriving immigrant communities. The tour will include stops along National Register Landmarks, affordable housing developments, urban gardens, community parks, and educational facilities. Bankrupt 12 years ago, Central Falls is experiencing a renaissance as it reinvests in itself. Pawtucket is opening a new chapter following the relocation of the PawSox, the Boston Red Sox's AAA team.

CEUs: 3 LU / 3 CM|1 EQ / 3 HSW / 3 LH

A Stately Connection: A walking journey through History and Mobility (CNU33T10)

6/12/2025, 1:30 PM–5:30 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Bob Billington, Eric Weis, Mary Bulso, Pete Sutton

Join us on a 6-mile walking tour along the Blackstone River Greenway, starting at Market Square in downtown Woonsocket, RI, and extending to Blackstone, MA. This tour will highlight the unique role of the greenway as the second official cross-state shared use path, connecting Rhode Island and Massachusetts through a tapestry of historical preservation and modern transportation. A key highlight of the tour is the 7-span stone arch viaduct, a century-old structure that was once part of the Charles River Railroad. For decades, it carried passenger trains, playing a crucial role in connecting communities across the region. Although train service ended 50 years ago, the viaduct continues to serve its original purpose of linking places and people, now as part of the Blackstone River Greenway. This rail-to-trail conversion extends the viaduct's legacy, supporting regional mobility and community connections in a new way, while honoring the transportation history that shaped the Blackstone Valley. As we walk, you'll learn about the extensive efforts to convert these historic rail corridors into a modern greenway, preserving the character of the past while promoting sustainable, active transportation. We'll also explore the partnerships between Rhode Island and Massachusetts that made this cross-state project a reality, overcoming environmental and regulatory challenges along the way.

CEUs: 3.5 LU / 3.5 CM|SR 1 / 3.5 HSW / 3.5 LH

A Neighborhood in the (Re)Making (CNU33T09)

6/12/2025, 2:00 PM–5:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Carrie Zaslow, Clark Schoettle, Kari Lang, Mark Van Noppen, Siobhan Callahan

Three partners came together 40+ years ago to revitalize a historic neighborhood of Providence. Hear from the neighborhood association, the for and non-profit developers, and lender on how they used tools of historic preservation to organize, incentivize, promote, and address issues of abandonment and decline. Explore how those efforts continue to affect the neighborhood today. Leaders of the West Broadway Neighborhood Association will discuss preservation and placekeeping, raising such questions as "To what extent does revitalization

change places?" and "What are the virtues of doing it well and where are the inevitable pitfalls?" The Armory Revival Company will discuss their approach to market rate and affordable housing development, highlighting the conversion of the first hospital for Jewish people in Providence into luxury apartments. The Providence Revolving Fund will showcase their innovative home repair, lending, and development programs. The tour will end at Moniker Brewery.

CEUs: 3 LU|HSW / 3 CM / 3 HSW / 3 LH

Residential Conversion: A second life for Westminster Street (CNU33T25-A)

6/12/2025, 2:30 PM–4:30 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Buff Chace, Cliff Wood, Jason Bouchard-Nawrocki, Steve Durkee

The compact historic buildings and mixed-use blocks that give downtown Providence its charming sense of place have, over the past 30 years, been lovingly restored and creatively converted into housing and commercial space. Buff Chace, the guiding force in the revitalization of the Westminster Street corridor, will lead you through the restoration and conversion of the Lapham, Wit, and Trayne buildings which created 52 new residential units. Learn about the storied history, architectural challenges, and unique construction materials of each building, and how the project included the sleek construction of a new small-footprint building without impacting the historic integrity of the district. Lastly, enjoy a walk through the redesigned Grant's Block Park which includes a new dog park and learn about the importance of creating a green third space to increase foot traffic, improve wayfinding and safety, and cultivate community engagement in the heart of a downtown.

CEUs: 2 LU / 2 CM / 2 HSW / 2 LH

New Investments in Newport's North End (CNU33T02)

6/13/2025, 8:30 AM–3:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Angela Lima, Colin Kane, Patricia Reynolds, Peter Friedrichs

Newport's North End is home to a centuries-old US Navy Base and War College. Non-governmental land adjoining the base has undergone strip development and postwar affordable housing for several decades. Recent efforts by the City to improve the area under the Hope VI program have leveraged the principles of New Urbanism – reconstructing affordable housing, establishing a community college campus, and working to expand industries that serve the base. The Newport Pell Bridge, which connects Newport to the mainland, was built into this neighborhood in 1969 and features an outdated web of highway infrastructure. Recognized by the APA in 2023 as the top economic development plan in the nation, the soon to be completed FHWA project is converting the highway to a boulevard, building a park-and-ride, and constructing shared-use paths to better connect the area to historic downtown Newport.

CEUs: 4.5 LU|HSW / 4.5 CM|1 Law / 4.5 HSW / 4.5 LH

Top-Down Mandates, Bottom-Up Solutions: Franklin's Path to Revitalization (CNU33T07)

6/13/2025, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Brad Chaffee, Cobi Frongillo, Nathan Carlucci

Explore Franklin, Massachusetts, a town embracing greater density while working to balance local control and state mandates. This tour will showcase the town's response to the MBTA Communities law requiring denser development near transit hubs. A local Council member, a prominent local developer, and representatives from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Livable Communities will illustrate the tension between local control versus state involvement in zoning decisions, as well as Franklin's embrace of the mandate as a tool to foster locally driven transit-oriented development. Participants will see firsthand how the local developer has transformed sites within the TOD districts to encourage housing diversity, walkability, and economic vitality. Walk through Franklin's downtown commercial district to explore newly built residential developments, on-going projects, and areas that have the potential to transition from single-family to higher-density, mixed-use neighborhoods.

CEUs: 3.5 LU / 3.5 CM / 3.5 HSW / 3.5 LH

Revitalization and Reclamation in a Historic Riverside Mill District: Partnerships for Affordable and Healthy Housing and Parks (CNU33T17)

6/13/2025, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Alicia Lehrer, Anusha Venkataraman, Dominique Resendes, Kurt Teichert, Linsey Wallace, Michelle Bleau

The Olneyville neighborhood, often called Providence's second downtown, is a historic mill and immigrant housing area along the Woonasquatucket River. This tour highlights projects led by One Neighborhood Builders, a community development organization creating affordable housing and fostering vibrant, healthy communities. Participants will learn about Central Providence Opportunities: A Health Equity Zone, a collaboration of 25+ stakeholders working to eliminate health barriers. The tour includes projects like Sheridan Small Homes, five net-zero energy condos designed with RISD Architecture students. Nearby is Riverside Park, a revitalized mill site with community gardens, bike paths, fish ladders, playgrounds, and a bicycle training facility, part of the Woonasquatucket Greenway. This Brownfield Showcase Community exemplifies partnerships between nonprofits and government. The tour features a bus ride across the city and a walking tour of neighborhoods and parks.

CEUs: 4 LU / 4 CM / 4 HSW / 4 LH

Off-site Modular Home Building: From Factory to Finished Product (CNU33T21)

6/13/2025, 8:30 AM–3:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Felipe Polido, Jessica Boatright, Vikas Enti

Take a guided tour of a cutting-edge modular home-building factory, led by experts in urban planning and engineering. Discover the innovative, software-driven process of off-site modular construction that turns digital designs into completed homes ready for occupancy. Learn how quickly deployable microfactories streamline production, adapt to local zoning and environmental conditions, and enhance efficiency. The tour also includes visits to two triple-decker homes in Somerville built using this factory. The first, completed and occupied, serves a single-family homeowner who created a multigenerational living space for their family. The second, still under construction, is owned by the Somerville Community Corporation, which acquired property owned by Neighborhood of Affordable Housing (NOAH) to protect its tenants and identified space for another triple-decker. This work-in-progress offers participants a chance to see the on-site assembly process in action.

CEUs: 3 LU / 3 CM / 3 PDH / 3 LH

Aquidneck Time Immemorial: A Ride through Historic Newport (CNU33T27)

6/13/2025, 8:30 AM–3:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Akeia de Barros Gomes, Art Spivak, Bari Freeman

Venture outside Newport's urban core to see architectural examples from pre-contact, colonial, Gilded Age, and more recent eras on a bicycle tour hosted by Bike Newport and the Newport Historical Society, two local nonprofits working together to make Aquidneck Island culture and history accessible by bicycle. Bike Newport's Bari Freeman, Newport Historical Society's Akeia de Barros Gomes, and URI's Art Spivack will guide a seven-mile experience on pedal bikes (not electric) to experience Newport's vibrant history from Indigenous settlement to present day. This tour will highlight the physical layout of the city; the evolution of navigating streets by foot, bike, and car; and the interwoven histories of Native Americans, European settler-colonists, people of African descent, and others who have lived and worked in Newport until now. Along the way, learn about active transportation advocacy work at the municipal and state level to improve roads for biking and walking.

CEUs: 4.5 LU|HSW / 4.5 CM / 4.5 HSW / 4.5 LH

Providence Parks Network: 20 Acres of Collaboration (CNU33T14)

6/13/2025, 8:30 AM–12:30 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Nora Barre, Sarah Summers

This tour will lead you on a 3-mile loop of the Providence Parks Network by foot and then by boat, highlighting the contiguous interconnection of 20 acres of public parks and the collaboration between the non-profit, business, and municipal sectors that make it all possible. Sites along the tour will illustrate the redevelopment of downtown public space, the activation of the waterfront including Providence's unique riverwalk, and District Park, a vibrant open space that was created as part of the relocation of a portion of Interstate I-195. As a hub of community gathering, District Park encompasses over 7 acres of contiguous walking paths and green space, the terminus of the Urban Coastal Greenway, and the award winning Michael S. Van Leesten bridge, built on the piers and abutments of the former I-195.

CEUs: 3.5 LU|HSW / 3.5 CM / 3.5 HSW / 3.5 LH

A Tale of Two Cottage Courts: Cottages on Greene and Castle Street Cottages (CNU33T06)

6/13/2025, 1:00 PM–4:30 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Don Powers, Jonathan Ford, Len Iannucci

Cottage courts strike a nice balance of increased density with forms that are sympathetic to a single family community. The historic waterfront town of East Greenwich includes two such award-winning cottage courts: Cottages on Greene and Castle Street Cottages. The Cottages on Greene, recipient of the CNU 2011 Charter Award, includes 15 detached and semi-detached cottages on just under an acre of land that was previously an auto repair shop. A range of efficient unit types helped attract residents looking for attainable housing and a sense of community. The Castle Street Cottages are located in a historic neighborhood of single family homes and cottages. By comparison, the units are a bit larger and designed for a different price point, although the project still includes a few deed-restricted affordable homes. Together, these two cottage courts provide a great sense of what's possible with the cottage court typology.

CEUs: 3 LU / 3 CM / 3 HSW / 3 LH

The Synergy of Sims Ave (CNU33T33)

6/13/2025, 1:00 PM–4:30 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Asaad Miller, Jessica Lance, Lindsey Scannapieco, Liz Maillie, Lucie Searle

Sims Avenue has been a site of great transformation and investment generated by The Woonasquatucket Vision Plan, including brownfield remediation to construct Farm Fresh RI in addition to a new pedestrian bridge, kayak launch, and pocket park. Lining Sims Avenue, Farm Fresh, The Steel Yard, the Industrious Spirit Company (ISCO), and 50 Sims create a dynamic destination for the evolving Valley Arts District. This tour will explore how Scout, a design and development practice, has transformed the 113,000 square foot manufacturing facility of 50 Sims into a hub for makers, small scale production, and workforce development. You will have the opportunity to meet tenants and learn about the creative development approach at 50 Sims. The tour will also travel to the surrounding locations of Farm Fresh, The Steel Yard, and Lit Arts to see how 50 Sims fits into the wider context of a district dedicated to shared prosperity. This tour will finish with a happy hour finale at Buttonwoods Brewery.

CEUs: 3.5 LU|HSW / 3.5 CM|1 EQ / 3.5 HSW / 3.5 LH

The Elephant in the Neighborhood: Ongoing efforts to revitalize a landmark (CNU33T19)

6/14/2025, 9:00 AM–12:00 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Everett Abitbol

The Cranston Street Armory is over 117 years old, 165,000 square feet, and the centerpiece of the Broadway-Armory Historic District. Unfortunately, it has also been vacant for over 30 years – including a listing on the 11 Most Endangered Historic Places list in 1997. Multiple efforts to find a steward for this site have fallen through, including a 2020 bid secured to reinvent the neighborhood fixture. A big "elephant in the room", the vacant Armory inspires a line of questions about how to guide investment on such a massive scale. In this tour, you will learn about the state-led, community-engaged public process to select a master developer in 2020 and how they were going to make it work.

CEUs: 2.5 LU / 2.5 CM / 2.5 HSW / 2.5 LH

New New Urbanism Neighborhoods: Boston Seaport and Assembly Row (CNU33T24)

6/14/2025, 9:00 AM–3:30 PM

Track: Tours (ticketed, off-site)

Speakers: Patrick McMahon, Russell Preston, Sarah Lewis

Discover urban redevelopment on the "Building the City" tour, highlighting Boston's Seaport District and Somerville's Assembly Square—two of the region's most innovative neighborhoods. This tour begins in the Seaport District, where industrial waterfronts have been transformed into a vibrant, mixed-use hub. Explore adaptive reuse, innovative zoning, and waterfront resilience strategies that redefined this area. Next, visit Assembly Square in Somerville, a transit-oriented development success story. Walk through Assembly Row, a lively district blending residential, retail, and office spaces around a transit node. Learn about financing models, public-private partnerships, and multimodal design approaches behind its success. Guided by experts integral to these transformations, this tour provides actionable ideas and strategies for creating walkable, thriving neighborhoods. Whether your interest lies in adaptive reuse, waterfronts, or transit-oriented urbanism, this tour showcases the power of collaboration in city-building.

CEUs: 3.5 LU|HSW / 3.5 CM / 3.5 HSW / 3.5 LH

Local Government Day

The Case for New Urbanism in the Municipal Setting (CNU33082-1)

6/11/2025, 9:00 AM-9:50 AM

Track: Local Gov't Training

Speakers: Jake Day

This opening session will make the foundational arguments for why new urbanist practices have a place in the work of municipalities of all sizes. Attendees will hear from Maryland Secretary of Housing and Community Development, Jacob Day, who has decades of experience advocating for accessible urbanism, including during his tenure as the Mayor of Salisbury (MD). **CEUs:** AIA: 1 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 PDH / CNU-A: 1 LH

Regulatory Reform: New and Established Approaches to Legalizing Better Urbanism (CNU33082-2)

6/11/2025, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

Track: Local Gov't Training

Speakers: Dan Bartman, Mary Madden, Sarah Lewis

This full-group session will provide an overview and examination of the evolving practice of code reform at the local level – from incremental approaches to complete zoning overhauls. The end of single-family zoning and parking minimums that has hit the news recently maybe concerning to some municipalities, but this session will help planners and elected officials understand the benefits of such changes. Code reform experts and local government officials will provide best practices, discuss what you need to know when presenting the case-for-need, and share advice on how to build a coalition of support for reform efforts in your community. **CEUs:** AIA: 1 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 PDH / CNU-A: 1 LH

Expanding Transportation Reliability Options (CNU33082-3)

6/11/2025, 11:10 AM-12:00 PM

Track: Local Gov't Training

Speakers: Wes Marshall

Attendees will learn current best practices and cutting-edge implementation of multimodal planning and street design, new incremental steps to improve public transportation systems and the movement of people, as well as how to apply interdisciplinary stakeholder engagement strategies to effectively expand transportation infrastructure in a sustainable and community-centered way. **CEUs:** AIA: 1 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 PDH / CNU-A: 1 LH

Using Data to Leverage Land Value (CNU33082-4)

6/11/2025, 11:10 AM-12:00 PM

Track: Local Gov't Training

Speakers: Joseph Minicozzi

Attendees will examine how market forces impact the built environment. Specifics include how land is valued and taxed, what publicly available data exists and how it can be leveraged, and unique ways to use data to drive progress in your municipality.

CEUs: AIA: 1 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 PDH / CNU-A: 1 LH

Not Fighting Alone (CNU33082-5)

6/11/2025, 12:10 PM-1:30 PM

Track: Local Gov't Training

Speakers: Mitchell Silver

Municipal staff and elected officials often run into pushback when advocating for forward-thinking, people-focused policies, particularly when those ideas challenge long-standing practices. Former Commissioner of NYC's Department of Parks and Recreation, Mitchell Silver, delivers an inspirational message on the power of community in tackling the transformation we all wish to see in our municipalities. Most importantly, Mitchell highlights the critical value of connecting with a broader network of like-minded peers across the country who are championing similar efforts. Participants will leave feeling more equipped- and less alone- in pursuing the transformations their communities need.

CEUs: AIA: 1 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 PDH / CNU-A: 1 LH

Progressive Public Works and Services Solutions (CNU33082-6)

6/11/2025, 1:40 PM-2:30 PM

Track: Local Gov't Training

Speakers: Wayne Feiden

Attendees who select this breakout option will learn about the physical solutions in the public realm that impact quality urbanism - from streets to parks to traffic calming - from Wayne Feiden, FAICP, who served over 30 years as director of the City of Northampton's planning department. Learn how to communicate more efficiently with public works, understand the multiple stakeholders they may be reporting to, and learn new solutions to managing the streetscape to optimize urban design.

CEUs: AIA: 1 HSW AICP: 1 CM ASLA: 1 HSW CNU-A: 1 LH

Municipal Financing Solution (CNU33082-7)

6/11/2025, 1:40 PM-2:30 PM

Track: Local Gov't Training

Speakers: George Proakis

Attendees will hear about the development of municipal budgets and discuss key financing strategies to support walkability and density, including traditional bonds, public-private

partnerships, grants from higher levels of government, impact investing, and other innovative forms of financing. **CEUs:** AIA: 1 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 PDH / CNU-A: 1 LH

Wins and Losses: Finding Success in a Shifting Political Landscape (CNU33082-8)

6/11/2025, 2:40 PM-3:40 PM

Track: Local Gov't Training

Speakers: Heather Worthington, Katya Spear

This session will feature case studies in which municipal staff were able to maintain the momentum to build more walkable, sustainable, and equity-supportive urbanism in the face of major political wins (or losses). Speakers will discuss how to continue pushing forward even when their political landscape has changed – sometimes for the better, though oftentimes for the worse. Attendees will learn tips for shifting messaging to influence public perception, navigating pushback, and educating new leaders on the importance of walkable urbanism from multiple perspectives – from economic to social and beyond.

CEUs: AIA: 1 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 PDH / CNU-A: 1 LH

Progress over Perfection: Small Wins for Long Term Success (CNU33082-9)

6/11/2025, 3:40 PM-5:00 PM

Track: Local Gov't Training

Speakers: Rico Quirindongo

During this session, attendees will participate in a discussion about the importance of incremental successes over the long-haul. Rico Quirindongo, Director of the City of Seattle's Office of Planning & Community Development, will share how he has maintained a proactive vision for revitalizing and reimagining the City's historic landmarks and neighborhoods through multi-agency collaboration, for over 25 years. He will highlight the need for marking small wins, explore how to identify common setbacks that will likely be faced across various reforms, and provide guidance on how to avoid pitfalls to ensure that social change is realized through community-invested civic projects.

Following Rico's presentation the session will conclude with a Q+A and reflection of the day's sessions with all speakers.

CEUs: AIA: 1.25 LU / AICP: 1.25 CM / ASLA: 1.25 PDH / CNU-A: 1.25 LH

New Urbanism Outreach Day

The Influence of New Urbanism in the City of Providence (CNU330100)

6/11/2025, 8:45 AM–9:30 AM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Speakers: Andres Duany

In this opening session, attendees will be introduced to the impact and influence of New Urbanism in the city of Providence over the past four decades, including the evolution and legacy of the Downcity Master Plan, key investments in the historic core, and other notable projects that had an outsized impact on the growth of the region.

Contemporary Urbanism: The Role of the Region (CNU330101)

6/11/2025, 9:30 AM–10:00 AM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Speakers: Scott Wolf, Todd Zimmerman

Todd Zimmerman and Scott Wolf, the official emcees of New Urbanism Outreach Day, have been working and living in Providence for decades. They will jointly discuss the role of the region in contemporary urbanism, the value that regionalism has in building a sustainable future, and develop an understanding of concepts that help define the region – from the center to the edge.

Walkability and the Region (CNU330102)

6/11/2025, 10:00 AM–10:45 AM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Speakers: Jeff Speck

New England resident, planner, and long-time New Urbanist Jeff Speck will provide the introductory overview of one of the core principles of our movement: Walkability. Attendees will learn the why of walkability – promoting increased physical and mental health, a reduction in emissions, fostering social connections, and boosting local economies – in addition to how walkability can be achieved at the local and regional scale.

Commentary: Zoning, Code Reform, and the Region (CNU330103)

6/11/2025, 10:45 AM–11:00 AM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Speakers: Scott Wolf, Todd Zimmerman

Todd and Scott reflect on zoning, code reform and the region in the context of New England

Form-based Lite: A Zoning Approach for Small New England Cities (CNU33026)

6/11/2025, 11:00 AM-11:45 AM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Speakers: Jonathan Palazzolo, Loren Rapport, Meagan Tuttle, Tim Love

During the past few decades, the Congress for New Urbanism has been the national platform to communicate the benefits of form-based zoning and to provide a platform for different methodologies to be presented and discussed. This session will focus on recent efforts to develop a form-based model that is particularly well-suited to New England cities where development opportunities are located in struggling commercial corridors and near-downtown residential neighborhoods that are required, because of state mandates, to upzone to allow for missing middle housing. Most recently adopted form-based frameworks aim for a high level of architectural specificity by requiring a limited number of building types in specific mapped districts. This method can present challenges to municipal planners, residents, and developers alike. For small cities eager for private investments, this perception, even if unwarranted, makes elected officials suspicious of form-based zoning approaches. Against this backdrop, a new form-based lite zoning framework may have a better success rate at improving the design of multi-family housing development, while making room for more housing than current regulations allow.

Commentary: How land value impact urban development (CNU330104)

6/11/2025, 11:45 AM-12:00 PM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Todd and Scott discuss how land value impacts urban development in New England

Municipal Land Value and the Case for New Urbanist Development (CNU330105)

6/11/2025, 12:00 PM-12:30 PM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Speakers: Joseph Minicozzi

In this session, attendees will learn the fundamentals of how to understand municipal value of land, and the way that walkable mixed-use environments are not only more enjoyable and offer more choice, but are more efficient for cities and towns to service at the same time.

Commentary: Adaptive Reuse, Historic Preservation, and Character (CNU330106)

6/11/2025, 1:15 PM-1:30 PM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Todd and Scott discuss the importance of adaptive reuse, historic preservation, and character in New Urbanism

Leveraging New England's Historic Infrastructure (CNU330107)

6/11/2025, 1:30 PM–2:15 PM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Speakers: Don Powers

Attendees will learn from case studies in the creative adaptive reuse of historic structures across the region and receive an overview of the importance of programs like the State and Federal historic tax credits in making these catalytic projects pencil out.

Commentary: Acknowledging Inequity and Missteps (CNU330105)

6/11/2025, 2:15 PM–2:30 PM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Todd Zimmermand and Scott Wolf discuss why it is critical, in New Urbanist practice, to acknowledge inequity and missteps

From Renewal to Repair: Toward more Equitable Regions (CNU33055)

6/11/2025, 2:30 PM–3:15 PM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Speakers: Edgar Adams, Raymond Watson, Zoë Mueller

Sites impacted by urban renewal have become the focus of calls for reconciliation and reparations for the racist housing and development policies that continue to this day. The landscape that we occupy has been shaped by a history of dispossession, slavery and discrimination. What are our responsibilities and accountability as academics and professionals to address this history and heal these sites of past harm? The reparations process in Providence highlighted the loss of community identity due to urban renewal; and the impact of suburbanization on educational opportunities for those who remained. Marginalized communities also found themselves unable to access job opportunities that also migrated from the urban core. A brief survey of the history of Urban Renewal in Providence and the reparations process will serve as a jumping off point for a broader discussion of how we can keep faith with these communities to create more equitable metropolitan regions and a more equal landscape of opportunity. There will be an opportunity to share what has worked in other communities and to learn how members have engaged with under represented communities in New England to aid in the process of reconciliation and repairing lost community.

Commentary: The Arts and Urbanism (CNU330108)

6/11/2025, 3:15 PM–3:30 PM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Todd and Scott discuss the role that art plays in human-scaled urbanism

Providence's Arts-First Approach and the Next Steps for the "Creative Capital" (CNU33036)

6/11/2025, 3:30 PM–4:15 PM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Speakers: Ian Catmur, Jason King, Joseph Mulligan

Providence is in the middle of its biggest upgrade since the 1990s after Duany-Plater Zyberk completed the Downcity Master Plan(1990). The next steps for the "Downcity Renaissance" include the conversion of Kennedy Plaza into a public square, the addition of grocery stores and a food hall, & physical & programmatic upgrades to WaterPlace Park. These projects are just one part of the city's continuing transformation. The 1990 Plan stimulated small-scale investments which filled vacant buildings with restaurants, shopping, & offices and led to the lively street life Jane Jacobs advocated. But centerpiece of the Plan was an investment in the arts. There was no downtown arts scene & the Downtown's "arts-first" strategy became a model for other parts of the city. It worked in the Wickenden Street area, the Jewelry District, Federal Hill, & Fox Point and is helping emerging areas like The Steel Yard, the Armory, & Chalkstone Boulevard. This session looks back at the city's renaissance from the perspective of who lived it & discuss what is next for the "Creative Capital."

Closing Commentary: The Arts and Urbanism (CNU330108)

6/11/2025, 4:15 PM–4:30 PM

Track: NU Outreach Day

Todd and Scott weave together the threads of this program and how attendees can gear up to get the most out of the remainder of CNU 33.

CNU 33 Sessions

Main Stage Coordinating Urban Resilience: Strategies that Help Regions Respond to Climate Impacts (CNU33077)

6/12/2025, 8:30 AM–10:00 AM

Track: Main Stage

Speakers: Carl Elefante, Douglas Farr, Mallory Baches, Matt Lambert, Shin-pei Tsay

As cities confront the mounting pressures of climate change, housing shortages, and aging infrastructure, a regionally coordinated, New Urbanist approach to resilience is more essential than ever. This Main Stage brings together leading voices in planning, design, and policy to explore how a deeper understanding of our urban environment from historic preservation and the adaptive reuse of existing urban fabric, to data analysis of demand and performance can serve as powerful tools in the climate response toolkit. Drawing on research, real-world case studies, and innovation at the municipal level, speakers will explore how local governments and multidisciplinary practitioners can collaborate to shape a comprehensive, equity-driven climate policy platform grounded in urban resilience. Through this discussion, attendees will gain insights into the critical intersections of design, policy, and preservation in advancing a regional response to climate impacts.

CEUs: 1.25 HSW / 1.25 CM / 1.25 HSW / 1.25 LH

Revitalize | Resettle: Preparing Communities for Climate Migration through PLACE Assessments (CNU33060)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: Climate, NU Starter Course Series

Speakers: Anne Tate, Garlynn Woodsong, Hillary Brown

As climate chaos accelerates, American communities face an urgent need to adapt, relocate, and reimagine the future. At the intersection of climate migration and rural revitalization, PLACE Initiative and What's Next East Kentucky?! (WNEKY) have been working together to co-develop a framework for community readiness rooted in equity, resilience, and local empowerment. This session explores the PLACE Community Assessment Tool, a framework based on nine PLACE Principles, developed to help communities (especially small towns and rural areas) become more livable, welcoming, and ready for new residents. With support from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), this tool has been tested and refined with four Kentucky communities to engage diverse residents and guide collaborative economic development efforts. We will situate this work within the broader vision presented in Revitalize | Resettle, Hillary Brown's powerful call to align the reinvention of legacy towns and rural communities with the emerging realities of climate displacement. As we anticipate a new wave of internal migration, how can we help receiving communities prepare with intention, compassion, and opportunity for all? Attendees will learn how assessment tools, planning frameworks, and narrative shifts can help communities build the capacity to welcome climate migrants, restore their local economies, and anchor sustainable futures.

CEUs: 1.25 HSW / 1.25 CM / 1.25 HSW / 1.25 LH

Building Regional Resilience Through Local Economies (CNU33010)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: NU Starter Course Series, Providence/New England Region

Speakers: Andres Duany, Fernando Pages Ruiz, Korkut Onaran

This session explores how a network of strong local economies can contribute to the coherence and resilience of metropolitan regions. Four brief presentations will introduce best practices and set the stage for an interactive discussion, addressing the following questions: 1) What is the role of regional governments in supporting/creating strong local economies through regulatory and financing tools? 2) How can local economies drive the creation of robust regional networks? 3) What are the primary barriers to building effective regional networks and thriving local economies? Participants will collaboratively identify strategies and solutions to strengthen local-regional connections, fostering sustainable and equitable metropolitan development.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

The Principles of New Urbanism and Coherent Metropolitan Regions (CNU33087)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: NU Starter Course Series, Urban Design

Speakers: Ashleigh Walton

This introductory session provides an overview of the foundational principles of New Urbanism with a focus on regional scale solutions to today's interrelated community-building challenges. Guided by the Charter of the New Urbanism, attendees will examine how issues such as disinvestment, sprawl, environmental degradation, and social inequity are interconnected and demand integrated regional responses. An emphasis on the importance of coherence across transportation, housing, economic systems, and ecological frameworks, creates a path toward more walkable, inclusive, and resilient communities.

CEUs: AIA: 1.25 HSW / AICP: 1.25 CM / ASLA: 1.25 HSW / CNU-A: 1.25 LH

Report on an International Collaboration for Research into Practice: CNU and IMCL (CNU33049)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: Other

Speakers: Mallory Baches, Michael Mehaffy

This meeting will include a report from the 61st International Making Cities Livable conference in Cortona, Italy, in which the CNU was a partner. As speaker Ashleigh Walton reported in CNU Public Square: "Throughout the days of the conference, practitioners, researchers, and implementers from around the world gathered to share effective tools and strategies, backed up by research findings, for the creation and preservation of livable cities... These research findings and so many others make the IMCL conference unique in a world where practitioners

are often still making the case for New Urbanist principles with anecdotes. Professors, PhD students, mayors, designers, and planners presented detailed research data, backing up those principles in a tangible way." She continued, "This need for strategies is why CNU is excited to continue to partner with IMCL and grow from the research presented there. The opportunity to convene at conferences like IMCL is critical to CNU's focus on the impact of institutional barriers to walkable, sustainable, equity-supportive urbanism." The session will continue with discussion by attendees in preparation for the next IMCL conference. Ashleigh Walton's full article is [here](#).

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

The Planner's Pledge: From Concept to Action (CNU33043)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: Other

Speakers: Anne Phillips, Emily Talen, Jeff Speck

Last year, more than 200 of CNU32's attendees participated in the soft rollout of the Planner's Pledge, a fledgling attempt to create a Hippocratic Oath for planners. You signed the pledge, got pinned, and gave your advice on how to move it forward. Move forward it has. The Planner's Pledge Initiative (plannerspledge.org) is now a non-profit corporation with significant seed capital from foundations and a mandate to spread the word and build a coalition around what distinguishes good planning from bad. A grassroots effort to reform planning from the bottom up is about to begin in earnest, with an outreach campaign, an educational website, a book in the works, and a nationwide effort to form partnerships across disciplines and organizations in support of a reformed profession. Can you help? Are you curious to learn more? Please join Anne Phillips, executive director of The Planner's Pledge Initiative, Emily Talen, and Jeff Speck as they elicit your help in shaping the Planner's Pledge into the new movement that planning desperately needs.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Art Room: Observing and Analyzing the City – Plein Air Techniques (CNU33073-1)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: Other

Speakers: Arti Harchekar, David Csont, Mark Nickita, Victor Dover

Are you interested in learning design, sketching, illustration, photography and other techniques directly from some of the New Urbanism's leading practitioners? Here's your chance! The CNU Art Room features up-close and hands-on workshops to help you hone your skills. Participants of all skill levels are welcome – no prior illustration or design experience is needed.

Hand drawing is a powerful tool to assist seeing and understanding the built environment. Grab your sketch pad, brushes, digital tablets and other graphic tools of choice as we learn techniques for observational sketching and painting in the field. This session will focus on urban structure, architectural elements, streetscapes and individual buildings. Leading practitioners will provide helpful tips and demonstrations of techniques.

CEUs: AIA: 1 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 PDH / CNU-A: 1 LH

Enjoying life without minimum parking mandates: lessons from cities that removed them (CNU33034)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: Policy

Speakers: Patrick Siegman, Sara Bronin, Tony Jordan

Minimum parking requirements cause great harm. As UCLA Prof. Donald Shoup writes, they "increase traffic congestion, pollute the air, encourage sprawl, increase housing costs, degrade urban design, prevent walkability, damage the economy, and penalize people who cannot afford a car." Hundreds of cities, towns, and villages have removed them. Should your town be next? To help you decide, this session will showcase the experience of half a dozen US cities that have removed all minimum parking mandates, citywide. Drawing on recent research and our speaker's own experience as practitioners, journalists, and advocates, we will present the consequences (both pro and con) of removing minimum parking mandates. We'll describe how removing minimum parking mandates has affected: 1. housing supply, rents, and home prices 2. economic development 3. motor vehicle ownership and use 4. traffic and pollution We will also share lessons learned on keeping curb parking readily available, without leaning on the crutch of off-street parking mandates; maintaining durable majority support for parking reform, and how to get it done in the first place.

CEUs: 1.25 HSW / 1.25 CM / 1.25 HSW / 1.25 LH

Complete Streets are Plural– Stroads, Streets, and Networks (CNU33064)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: Transportation

Speakers: Lukas Ballo, Patricia Tice

What happens when cutting-edge street design tools meet smart urbanism with a sense of humor? Transformation! This session will ground you in foundational street design principles and then release you to apply those skills at a network level using innovative planning tools. We'll start with a round of Street/StRoad Blackout Bingo—a playful yet insightful way to break down the details of what truly separates stroads from real streets. Then, we'll describe the changes that are making walking and cycling viable even in the most difficult suburban areas. Next, we'll apply an E-Bike City design toolkit developed at ETH Zurich, that allows planners to apply these changes at a network level. Finally, we'll talk about how this approach can be applied to create new networks within older suburban retail centers and release you to apply what you've learned. Through a hands-on design exercise, attendees will apply psychological street design concepts and network-wide reallocation strategies to create a walk/bike transition plan in an existing area. Come ready to laugh, experiment, and challenge the way we shape our street systems.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Walking into the Future: The Theory and Practice of Promoting Coherence through Walkability (CNU33059)

6/12/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: Transportation

Speakers: Celeste Frye, DeWayne Carver, Melissa Lee, CNU-A

Our session will share best practices for promoting walkability, connectivity, and green transportation in both urban and rural centers. Walkability is the key to transportation sanity, but implementing it across a regional scale can be challenging. In urban areas, transportation engineers struggle to understand the intimate scale needed to enable the dance of the street. On the other hand, rural towns can be quite walkable, but the large blank canvas of agricultural land can set a community up for dysfunctional development futures. Ultimately, whether in urban or rural settings, implementing successful walkability interventions requires deep technical expertise, robust public-private partnerships, and equitable community engagement plans. To illustrate this in practice, we will discuss several case studies from our team's work in New York City and Florida. First, we will delve into two Florida DOT projects: the context classification system and the mental frameworks project that are utilizing the transect idea and principles of psychology to address walkability head-on. Then, we will share how the Future of Fifth project, which reimagines a portion of Manhattan's iconic Fifth Avenue as a pedestrian-first boulevard, has leveraged people-first community engagement and dynamic public-private partnership to achieve success. We will conclude our educational session with an interactive activity that encourages attendees to strategize walkability interventions in their own communities.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

In Conversation: Reconsidering Recovery Response (CNU33069)

6/12/2025, 11:45 AM–1:00 PM

Track: Climate

Speakers: David Dixon, Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, Mallory Baches, Neal Payton, Ricardo Alvarez-Diaz, Taylor Schenker

In commemorating the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, CNU recognizes this milestone opportunity to critically reflect on lessons learned from the Mississippi Renewal Forum, as well as the many subsequent natural disasters that have devastated communities across the country and around the world in the two decades since, including the devastating Los Angeles area wildfires most recently. In this In Conversation lunchtime session, practitioners as well as CNU members who have lived experience of the trauma that these events cause to communities will discuss ways that New Urbanists, and CNU as an organization, can best serve communities when and where these crises continue to happen.

CEUs: 1 HSW / 1 CM | 1 SR / 1 PDH / 1 LH

A River Runs through It: Climate Adaptation in Urbanizing Cities (CNU33011)

6/12/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Climate

Speakers: Maggie Winter, Taryn Sabia

Inundated roads, neighborhoods, and strip malls in Tampa highlight weaknesses in the city's resilience networks. At the same time, community responses underscore the vital role of social and information networks. Tampa Bay's urban and rural landscape complicates meaningful engagement and forecasting for the County's Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan. Recent record-breaking hurricanes have tested infrastructure and development patterns, offering a critical moment to reassess adaptation strategies. While coastal flooding from hurricanes is expected, the juxtaposition of flood scenario modeling and real-time experiences reveals the scale of vulnerabilities and interconnections between social networks, infrastructure, and natural resources. This proposal critiques the common adaptation choices of retreat, accommodation, or fortification, suggesting a framework that considers cultural histories and generational identities, especially in marginalized communities. In this context, resistance to retreat challenges long-standing waterfront relationships and the notion of a thriving city, prompting a reevaluation of adaptation strategies that reflect both community needs and environmental realities.

CEUs: 1 HSW / 1 CM / 1 HSW / 1 LH

Model Climate Adaptation Enabling Legislation (CNU33031)

6/12/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Climate

Speakers: Camille Cortes, Hazel Borys, Korkut Onaran, Scott Bernstein

This is a brainstorming session to create a synopsis for a model legislation for states, aiming at enabling climate adaptation in USA. The four brief (4–5 minutes) presentations shall introduce focus areas to guide the brainstorming. Presenters will mediate the session. A brief summary of some of the recent inspirational state legislations, including those of Colorado, Minnesota, Oregon, and Utah, and a summary of some of the previous work produced by various meetings at CNU will be part of the brief presentations. These summaries shall be provided as lists on posters as references. The presenters will solicit participation by members who have been vocal on the subject in the past. The attendees will be asked to focus on practical policies and consider today's political realities.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

The Housing Crisis: Where do we go from here? (CNU33072)

6/12/2025, 1:15 PM–5:00 PM

Track: Housing

Speakers: Anne Tate, Ashleigh Walton, Cori Hines, Ellen Shachter, Eric Kronberg, Jenifer Acosta, Rico Quirindongo

Attendees are encouraged to bring laptops and tablets to this workshop!

In three connected, interactive work sessions we will consider how CNU members can contribute our expertise and advocacy to meaningfully address the housing crisis. Thirty five years ago CNU founders set out to change community expectations around development and suburban sprawl, We need to apply that same focused energy and know how to assure that our neighborhoods provide housing for all. First, participants will contribute to an expansive compendium of strategies for increasing the supply of housing. During the second part of the session, we we will share policies for improving housing stability and expanding forms of financing to make housing more attainable and more secure. In the final part of the session, each table will model the difficult conversations that take place around housing development and policy changes in our communities, considering how to reframe expectations, break down assumptions, overcome opposition, and build coalitions to advance the building of better neighborhoods.

CEUs: 3 HSW / 3 CM / 3 HSW / 3 LH

Revitalizing and Rebuilding the Waterfront: Downtown Providence (CNU33067)

6/12/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: NU Starter Course Series, Providence/New England Region

Speakers: Anna Beheshti-Rhodes, Chris Martin, Greg Tuzzolo

Presenters from Arup and Stimson will discuss their work on the Providence Riverwalk Resilience Project. This work is the continuation of the larger effort of the City to reshape its public spaces since the late 90s, described as the "Providence Renaissance". The team will explore the relevance of the project in the relation to its historical and urban contexts and present their multi-disciplinary approach to produce a comprehensive design for Waterplace Park and the adjacent downtown riverwalks and roadways. While these areas have been underutilized, they offer a potential cultural anchor for the public in downtown Providence, as witnessed by the popularity of the WaterFire events held there throughout the year, and to reconnect the area to the City's urban trail network and nature corridor. The team will discuss their effort working on behalf of the City to reposition this downtown waterfront by inviting the perspectives of architects; urban designers; pedestrian modelers; civil, structural, and transportation engineers; acoustic and lighting designers; and more. They'll share the challenges and opportunities of the project and the design solutions that came from this collaboration regarding resilience, activation, connectivity, rewilding, and placemaking; and how these compare to other recently renovated American cities' riverwalks. And they'll share how they engaged the community to ensure that the design would protect what is loved about the space while improving the functionality and resilience of the area. This is an opportunity for participants in the session to see first-hand the value of deep cross-discipline collaboration and the impactful and innovative designs that are possible when bringing a wide range of perspectives and areas of expertise together.

CEUs: 1 HSW / 1 CM / 1 HSW / 1 LH

Art Room: Physical Design at the Scale of the Region (CNU33073-2)

6/12/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Other

Speakers: Arti Harchekar, Shelley Poticha, Victor Dover

Are you interested in learning design, sketching, illustration, photography and other techniques directly from some of the New Urbanism's leading practitioners? Here's your chance! The CNU Art Room features up-close and hands-on workshops to help you hone your skills. Participants of all skill levels are welcome – no prior illustration or design experience is needed.

For New Urbanists, physical design is a critical component of the regional planning process (not just written policy). In this interactive hands-on session, learn techniques for utilizing drawing and cartography to analyze and organize the physical world at the scale of the region.

CNU Transportation Resource Forum and Highway Transformation Manual (CNU33024)

6/12/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Transportation

Speakers: Adam Bonosky, Larry Gould, Michael Riebe, Phil Veasley

This gathering is designed to advance the products, roles and visibility of Transportation practitioners in CNU, with emphasis on the path forward for the Highway Transformation Manual: For the Manual: Update on discussions with publishers and funders Effect of changes to federal government Continue to assemble willing members and providers to provide content. Changes to needed content and sources. For the Forum: Recruit subject matter experts to advise staff Identify likely 2025–6 issues Discuss other tasks/roles/issues for CNU Transportation practitioner cohort.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Metro Connector: How High-Capacity Transit Could Bring Transformational Benefits to the Providence Region (CNU33076)

6/12/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Transportation

Speakers: Jessica Lance, Jim Vandermillen, Theresa Carr, Tom Kravitz, Zach Agush

RIPTA's Metro Connector project is exploring the potential for Bus Rapid and Light Rail Transit to connect Providence with Central Falls and Pawtucket to the north, and Cranston and Warwick to its south. This alternatives analysis will be evaluating a shortlist of alignments and station locations as of CNU33 and considers factors such as ridership, cost, economic development potential, and land use changes needed as part of its analysis. This project builds on Transit Forward RI 2040.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

The Perfect Little Town (CNU33038)

6/12/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Urban Design

Speakers: Andres Duany, Dhiru Thadani

This session is an analysis of the little town of Uz's, patinaed by time, and the built environment reflects a rich townscape, beauty in the natural materials, and charm in the scale of the building types. All these support delightful walks to meet daily needs. The town teaches us to embrace imperfection, not stress over little details, but focus on what is essential and find beauty in the simplicity of harmonious materials. This historic town embodies all the urban design principles of new urbanism with excellent governance, adherence to the transect, and clear hierarchy of typologies. The town has a prominent skyline punctured by the Duchy residence, Bishop's, King's and Cathedral's towers. In addition, there are a series of lower towers on residential apartments that create local exclamations to guide residents and visitors through the medieval plan. The primary arcaded town square was made by intentional demolition of buildings, and is not a platonic shape, but rather a series of overlapping rectangles that create intimate nooks for outdoor activities.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Tulsa's Global District: The lasting impact of a CNU Legacy Project (CNU33006)

6/12/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Urban Design

Speakers: Joe Nickol, Olga Handal

The Tulsa Global District, a vibrant hub of minority-owned businesses and culture in Tulsa, Oklahoma, was the focus of a 2022 CNU Legacy Project. The program for this legacy charrette included three components: activation of a newly created Nam Hai Square; facilitating a Global District Board of Directors retreat to chart a course for its internal operating system; and to create a 12-month road map for the District. The immersive activation and charrette for CNU sparked the momentum for a targeted Strategic Investment Plan, focusing on analysis, connections, retail and public space, and site development. Key successes stemming from the Legacy Project and subsequent efforts include the design of "The Square at Nam Hai," a new public space to be located on the same site as the Legacy Project activation. The project also spurred the design of a pedestrian pathway, the "Celebration Trail," connecting key areas within the district. Additionally, progress has been made on securing ground leases and master leases for properties within the district, paving the way for future development and revitalization. This session will highlight the lasting impact of CNU Legacy Projects and their ability to catalyze positive change in communities. Join us to learn how the Tulsa Global District's ongoing transformation serves as an inspiring example for future CNU initiatives across the country.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Adaptation in Action: Four Regions Respond to Climate Impact (CNU33053)

6/12/2025, 2:30 PM–3:45 PM

Track: Climate

Speakers: Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, Galina Tachieva, Marc Wouters, Martin Dreiling, Sikes Ragan

Adaptation in Action: Four Regions Respond to Climate Impact Adaptation to climate impacts is a slippery topic. Unlike mitigation, in which the causes of global warming can be universally engaged and thus garner a broad constituency, the geographically specific and sometimes very local response of adapting to impacts scatters focus and support. New Urbanism's reduction of vehicle dependency is an obvious mitigation response. New Urbanism's principles put into practice for resilience deserve more attention. Four presentations will illustrate adaptation responses to a variety of impacts in different parts of the country, including projects responding to coastal flooding in two different conditions, inland flooding and landslides, and fire defense at the wildfire urban interface. Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk (DPZ CoDesign) will provide a brief overview of climate adaption response and the tools the New Urbanism offers. Marc Wouters (Marc Wouters Studios) will describe a series of post-Sandy initiatives to protect New York City's shoreline from sea level rise, storm surge events, and increasing rainfall among the most intensive project specific efforts in the country. Galina Tachieva (DPZ CoDesign) will describe strengthening coastal communities in Florida as an alternate middle ground between inaction and radical upheaval. Sikes Ragan (principal, Village of Cheshire) will describe the performance of a North Carolina community that weathered recent flooding and landsliding. Martin Dreiling (Dreiling Terrones Architecture) will describe the regional transect mapping tool developed to guide communities in planning and building defensively in fire-prone areas.

CEUs: 1.25 HSW / 1.25 CM | 1 SR / 1.25 HSW / 1.25 LH

Planetary Urban Issues and Team 11 (CNU33015)

6/12/2025, 2:30 PM–3:45 PM

Track: Climate

Speakers: Garlynn Woodsong, Stephen Goldie

CNU members have had an active and long engagement in global urban issues. Some are currently involved in and/or contribute to influential international organizations such as UN-Habitat, Habitat III, the New Urban Agenda, SDG Cities, ISOCARP, IMCL, My Liveable City, World Urban Forum, & more. This involvement has contributed to key international agreements relevant to CNU, including United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 11 ("Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable") and Habitat III's New Urban Agenda. Team 11 is a coalition of CNU members who want to progress beyond this ad hoc approach, valuable as it has been, to a more coordinated collaboration and exchange with international organizations concerned with urban outcomes and their impact on the sustainability of humanity. We propose to be CNU's corridor of praxis, a two-way dialogue about how to build better cities & help to save humanity, & to advance this objective through learning from our international colleagues and then extending into sharing our new urban perspectives, before co-developing solutions, tools & projects to achieve SDG11.

CEUs: 1.25 HSW / 1.25 CM / 1.25 HSW / 1.25 LH

The Case for Forever (CNU33086)

6/12/2025, 2:30 PM–3:15 PM

Track: Development

Speakers: Gabriel Metcalf, Scott Bernstein

California Forever is a proposed new town development to be located in Solano County in the Bay Area metropolitan region. It is intended to reach a population of 400,00 persons by 2040. The project faces formidable barriers to entitlement: the current land use is dominated by agriculture, state law requires considerable analysis and a local referendum prior to urbanization. The developer is promoting this as a higher-density, walkable and transit-oriented community, and believes it can show, through environmental review, that it can meet requirements to minimize motorized traffic, emissions, water and energy supplies, and housing element requirements. Two existing cities, Suisin City and Rio Vista, have recently taken steps to annex the intended development, which abuts environmentally sensitive lands and an Air Force base. Local leaders there and regional environmental organizations (including the Greenbelt Alliance & the Sierra club) have formed an organization, Solano Together, to challenge this development. Complicating the story, in January of this year the developer released a companion proposal to spearhead a shipbuilding industry resurgence, to be centered nearby in an inland seaport, also in the same county; that proposal has preliminary support of the Bay Area Council, a region-wide civic leadership organization, and California YIMBY supports the overall proposal, the fate of which will be determined by a series of considerations in 2025 and 2026.

Revitalizing and Reimagining the Working Waterfront: South Providence (CNU33068)

6/12/2025, 2:30 PM–3:45 PM

Track: NU Starter Course Series, Providence/New England Region

Speakers: Adam Anderson, David Everett, Manuel Cordero Alvarado, Monica Huertas

The Providence waterfront – a historically critical element of the City's culture and economy – is at a critical juncture. Community members are advocating for public access and other changes that support community health and safety, while the City updates its Comprehensive Plan and the port operator develops a master plan. This project showcase will share ongoing work along the Providence waterfront, including the Public Street Waterfront Access, the Port Community Working Group, and the port planning process – to share how communities can address critical challenges while creating vibrant and sustainable waterfronts. These projects will highlight key themes, including: Engagement and Participatory Planning: The City's Comprehensive Planning process included a strong engagement component including a focus on the waterfront. The Public Street project included a strong participatory planning framework that included community members in the decision making process. Access, Community Health and Safety: The Public Street project will create a safer and more accessible waterfront for community members while improving coastal ecology and stormwater management. The Port Community Working Group has assembled a variety of stakeholders to study measures to improve air quality, reduce noise pollution, and promote safe mobility infrastructure. Climate Change and Sea Level Rise: Several projects are underway to include measures to protect critical infrastructure and create green infrastructure that can absorb stormwater and mitigate flooding. Changing Waterfront Industries: Both during the Comprehensive Plan process and the port planning, the changing nature of waterfront industries was a critical consideration as stakeholders seek to create a more diverse and sustainable economy that supports local community members.

CEUs: 1.25 HSW / 1.25 CM / 1.25 HSW / 1.25 LH

Traffic calming by design-FBC's and design strategies for safe, lively streets (CNU33041)

6/12/2025, 2:30 PM-3:45 PM

Track: NU Starter Course Series, Transportation

Speakers: Patricia Tice, Patrick Siegman

Do your drivers interact with your pedestrians like human beings or treat everything like big boxes that are in their way? Bad driver behavior is a perfectly human response to bad urban form--but what if your street design or form based code (FBC) could reverse that? We act more human when we interact at a human scale. Good behavior emerges when we intimately understand the perceptual limitations that are baked into our brains and bodies. This session will detail these physical limitations and then describe street design strategies and FBC provisions that could change your traffic for the better. We will include a discussion of how to transition from regional facilities to local streets and back again. Most importantly, we will also discuss how different agency silos will respond to these changes and provide tips for generating win-win approaches all of your stakeholders can embrace.

CEUs: 1.25 HSW / 1.25 CM / 1.25 HSW / 1.25 LH

Art Room: Neighborhood Design (CNU33073-3)

6/12/2025, 2:30 PM-3:45 PM

Track: Other

Speakers: Eduardo Castillo, James Dougherty, Kenneth Garcia, Xavier Iglesias

Are you interested in learning design, sketching, illustration, photography and other techniques directly from some of the New Urbanism's leading practitioners? Here's your chance! The CNU Art Room features up-close and hands-on workshops to help you hone your skills. Participants of all skill levels are welcome – no prior illustration or design experience is needed.

The New Urbanism is all about crafting great neighborhoods for people. In this exciting session you'll get to take a site, roll up your sleeves, grab drawing supplies and then learn step-by-step how to design your first neighborhood.

Case Studies in Zoning-Based Flood Risk Mitigation Across New England (CNU33012)

6/12/2025, 2:30 PM-3:45 PM

Track: Policy

Speakers: Caroline Skuncik, Helen Donaldson, Matthew Littell, Zoë Mueller

Since 2018, a few cities with vastly different conditions from Miami to New York City have established flood zoning to protect their communities from catastrophic flooding. While it is tempting to think of flood zoning and the architectural adaptations it informs as a set of one-size-fits-all best practices, case studies show that, in practice, it requires an intensely local and custom approach with dynamic interdisciplinary teams. Through case studies in the largest cities in three New England states (Boston, MA; Providence, RI; and Portland, ME) we will show how an intentional process can leverage technical and political lenses to tease out a community's collective risk tolerance and establish flood zoning that codifies architectural solutions that effectively balance (1) the science of local hydrology and flood risk models, (2) the structure of relevant existing municipal and state regulations, and (3) local policy goals that may be in tension with flood risk mitigation such as the activation of ground floors and retail vibrancy, and accessibility, retention of water-front uses and access, affordable housing production, and historic preservation.

CEUs: 1.25 HSW / 1.25 CM / 1.25 HSW / 1.25 LH

Tokens, Tickets, and Tactics: Gaming the Curb for Public Understanding (CNU33075)

6/12/2025, 2:30 PM–3:45 PM

Track: Transportation

Speakers: Drusilla van Hengel, Tony Jordan

This is a participatory session on the state of Parking Reform. The team will present Urban Works' Reinventing Parking board game, which helps players feel the power of parking fees and parking enforcement in a way that regular presentations do not. Participants will discuss how to communicate with the general public about parking reform.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Decarbonization for New Urbanists Enhancing: the Inherent Environmental Advantages of Traditional Urbanism (CNU33054)

6/12/2025, 4:00 PM–5:00 PM

Track: Climate

Speakers: Douglas Farr, Joe Haskett, Julie Klump

This session is of-the-moment; sidestepping the tiresome and binary, NU-debate between adaptation and mitigation in favor of a practical path forward on climate action. New Urbanists are uniquely positioned to advance the practice of decarbonization, both at the master planning and building scales. Moderated by Doug Farr this panel of three urbanist thinkers and practitioners will inform and make the case that decarbonization and passive buildings are both highly desirable and readily attainable by New Urbanists. This session will explore how to design and build carbon-free communities that align with the principles of sustainable, human-centered urbanism. Attendees will learn how thoughtful, more traditional design choices, electrification and Passive House standards can contribute to reducing a both building's carbon footprint and energy use. Drawing from real-world examples, experts in development and practical applications will also discuss how specific metrics like the Energy Use Index (EUI) and third-party verification are essential in achieving performance goals. The session will also discuss more traditional frameworks like LEED and will discuss how the Passive House approach, performance based, offers a simpler approach to follow in

achieving these goals and highlight how New Urbanist principles can guide cities toward a sustainable, low-carbon future.

CEUs: 1 HSW / 1 CM / 1 HSW / 1 LH

Strategies for Coastal Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Planning: Sea Level Rise and Economic Development on the Atlantic Coast / Transforming Coastal Adaptation Narratives (CNU33066)

6/12/2025, 4:00 PM–5:00 PM

Track: Climate

Speakers: Kara Babcock, Leah Handwerger

Two showcases demonstrate strategies for coastal climate adaptation and resiliency planning:

1) Sea Level Rise and Economic Development on the Atlantic Coast

–Eastern Shore Land Conservancy (Delmarva Peninsula/Eastern Shore in Maryland)

2) Transforming Coastal Adaptation Narratives: Urban Resilience Beyond Survival

–Preserving History: Assessments and Climate Adaptations at the House of the Seven Gables', Salem, Massachusetts

–'Market to Metacom Climate Resiliency', Warren, Rhode Island

–'Keeping History Above Water', Newport's historic Point neighborhood in Newport, Rhode Island

Scroll to bottom and click for full descriptions of all projects featured in this Showcase session

CEUs: 1 HSW / 1 CM / 1 HSW / 1 LH

Sea Level Rise and Economic Development on the Atlantic Coast

6/12/2025, 4:00 PM–5:00 PM

Track: Climate

Speakers: Leah Handwerger

This is the first Project Showcase in the session **Strategies for Coastal Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Planning (CNU33066)**. Must attend this session in conjunction with Transforming Coastal Adaptation Narratives for CE credit.

Urban3 has modeled sea level rise data for Atlantic Coastal communities in Maryland, Virginia and Florida. Using our proprietary analysis and modeling approach, we examined data for the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy and created models that show the impact of sea level rise and storm surge on land use for the Delmarva Peninsula/Chesapeake Bay Area. Local governments will be able to use these models to make data-informed decisions about land-use regulation, conservation and other regulatory actions.

Leah Handwerger will discuss the project and implications for development in the Eastern Shore over the next several decades. They will discuss the methodology of this work, how it can impact future policy work in the affected cities, and implications for other cities on the

Atlantic Coast. We also hope to add an elected official from Eastern Shore to round out the panel discussion, which will be moderated by Heather Worthington, Principal for this project.

Transforming Coastal Adaptation Narratives

6/12/2025, 4:00 PM–5:00 PM

Track: Climate

Speakers: Kara Babcock

This is the second set of Project Showcases in the session Strategies for Coastal Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Planning (CNU33066). Must attend this session in conjunction with Sea Level Rise and Economic Development on the Atlantic Coast for CE credit.

Coastal climate threats offer unexpected opportunities to strengthen urban fabric and advance New Urbanist principles while building resilience. This session examines, at three scales, New England communities that are transforming climate adaptation from survival strategies into catalysts for positive urban change.

In Salem, MA, the House of the Seven Gables campus demonstrates how cross-disciplinary partnerships between government and cultural institutions, planners, architects, and engineers can preserve historic assets while enhancing public spaces and repairing urban fabric. In Warren, RI, the Market-to-Metacom project reimagines retreat planning as an opportunity for economic revitalization by creating a vibrant, mixed-use corridor and restoring natural coastal systems. In Newport's Point neighborhood, an innovative regulatory frameworks help maintain a walkable historic district while adapting to flood risks.

Drawing insights from Probable Futures' enterprising work on climate engagement, the session explores how breaking down silos and identifying positive opportunities enables communities to envision climate adaptation as an upshot for creating better places. Speakers will discuss how new collaborative frameworks between policy, planning, and climate action can help dense coastal communities thrive rather than just survive.

An Insider's Guide to Building Net-zero Neighborhoods People Love (CNU33028)

6/12/2025, 4:00 PM–5:00 PM

Track: Climate, NU Starter Course Series

Speakers: Ben Willis, Matt Grocoff, Sara Hammerschmidt

Climate change demands that we evolve conventional development practices, particularly at the neighborhood scale: Veridian at County Farm--a new, mixed-income, net-zero neighborhood and 2023 Charter Merit Award winner--is not waiting around to start. The project team will pull back the curtain on the process to discuss how a project's vision, values, design, financing, and regional partnerships can expand access to attainable housing, challenge conventional paradigms, and create more resilient places that resonate with future homeowners and better support their ecosystem. New Urbanists often speak about sustainability at the neighborhood level, while high-performance building experts speak at the building detail level, in what can feel like two separate languages. Projects like Veridian help bridge the gap between the two communities and give a fuller picture of building sustainably and attainably.

CEUs: 1 HSW / 1 CM | 1 SR / 1 HSW / 1.25 LH

Art Room: Block Design (CNU33073-4)

6/12/2025, 4:00 PM–5:00 PM

Track: Other

Speakers: Thomas Dougherty, Xavier Iglesias

Are you interested in learning design, sketching, illustration, photography and other techniques directly from some of the New Urbanism's leading practitioners? Here's your chance! The CNU Art Room features up-close and hands-on workshops to help you hone your skills. Participants of all skill levels are welcome – no prior illustration or design experience is needed.

Blocks are fundamental to neighborhood design, and their details matter. In this session we will use sketching to analyze key block types and their elements, from simple to complex. Our discussion will include opportunities and principles for the design of mid-block urbanism.

CEUs: AIA: 1 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 PDH / CNU-A: 1 LH

Conflicting Mandates – Don't Forget Stormwater (CNU33018)

6/12/2025, 4:00 PM–5:00 PM

Track: Policy

Speakers: Daniel Hyer, Jeremy Goldstein, Kendra Moon

As urban spaces become increasingly programmed, and necessarily so, how can we as planners, engineers, administrators, property owners & all those who contribute to public realm thoughtfully include the requirements associated with stormwater management in our places? Based on recent technical work, we'd like to present how important it is to ensure that environmental regulations, specifically those related with stormwater management, do not conflict with the zoning, planning & administrative regulations guiding development – thus working against the principles espoused by CNU & the many cities working to implement policies aligning with good urbanism practices. Our experience suggests that conflicting mandates arise not out of malicious intent, but rather, decision & policy makers lacking full insights related to technical requirements. Navigating the tension between environmental regulations & zoning policy can be fraught with misunderstanding, stakeholder tension & frustration. This educational series is meant to share real data from recent projects & foster awareness of basic technical requirements of stormwater management in light of zoning & development policy.

CEUs: 1 HSW / 1 CM / 1 HSW / 1 LH

Massachusetts's Cultural Districts Initiative: Reexamining Policy, Purpose, and Process for Greater Impact (CNU33003)

6/12/2025, 4:00 PM–5:00 PM

Track: Providence/New England Region

Speakers: Carolyn Cole, Michael Bobbitt, Susan Silberberg

Winner of a 2023 CNU Charter Award, Massachusetts's Cultural Districts Initiative is an act of state legislature that seeks to creatively strategize & support the implementation of community & economic development interventions to drive economic growth, strengthen distinctive local character, & help communities foster their cultural sector & expand their tax base, benefitting everyone. In this session, participants will get a glimpse into a process involving over two dozen state agencies & offices collaborating to reexamine existing statutory policy & establish a base structural support for designated cultural districts & the communities who preserve them. **CEUs:** 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Transit Connectivity across Jurisdictions and State Lines: Rhode Island Transit Master Plan Update (CNU33074)

6/12/2025, 4:00 PM–5:00 PM

Track: Transportation

Speakers: Amy Pettine, Dan Brogan, Jarred Johnson, John Flaherty, Zach Agush

For seamless travel across a region, the biggest obstacles are arbitrary jurisdictions, and especially a state line. These borders simply don't align with people's travel needs, leaving travelers unable to use public transportation or make excessively long journeys with complex transfers. A coherent regional framing requires serving markets that transcend agency service areas. This requires coordination between services, including schedules, customer information and fare policy. The update provides a model for agencies facing the need for regional coherence.

FWF Future Program meeting

6/12/2025, 4:00 PM–5:00 PM

Track: Transportation

Speakers: Larry Gould, Mallory Baches

This Future Program meeting about CNU's Freeways Without Futures bi-annual report will be an opportunity for CNU to solicit feedback on ways that this program can evolve to be more effective and responsive to the current state of freeway removal.

Art of New Urbanism Book Launch & Reception

6/12/2025, 5:15 PM–6:00 PM

Track: Other

Speakers: Charles Bohl, James Dougherty, Victor Dover

One of the most important contributions of New Urbanists has been the ability to visually communicate timeless planning and design concepts to people from all walks of life. The illustrations are a means to an end – to get plans and proposals for more vibrant, walkable communities approved and built. But many of these illustrations are compelling works of fine art in their own right. It's these artistic works that most often stay with people, as visions of what great neighborhoods could be. The Art of the New Urbanism book assembles 260 works

from over a hundred practitioners representing the first three formative decades of this art and artistry.

Join James Dougherty, Chuck Bohl and Victor Dover for this book-launch session, which will feature 10 of the 100 contributors to the book. Each artists will share the vision, methods and intentions behind some of the stunning illustrations in this newly released book. A reception and book signing follows with all royalties donated to the CNU.

2025 Charter Awards Reception and Presentations (CNU33085)

6/12/2025, 6:30 PM–8:30 PM

Track: Charter Awards Special Programming

Speakers: Rico Quirindongo

On Thursday, June 12 at 6:30pm in the Biltmore Ballroom at the Graduate Hotel please join us for the 2025 Charter Awards Ceremony.

The Charter Awards recognize excellence in architecture, landscape design, urban design, and planning, especially work that engenders more equitable, sustainable, connected, healthy, and prosperous communities. Particular attention has been given to entries that exemplified Coherence Within the Metropolitan Region, aligning with this year's focus at CNU's Annual Congress in Providence, RI, a city that has prepared for future eventualities and demonstrated an impressive regional resilience that has carried New England through centuries of extreme weather events and economic upheavals. The 2025 Charter Award winners are projects that have improved residents' health and happiness, financially strengthened local governments, and helped protect the natural environment. In short, the Charter Awards honor places that celebrate people and improve their lives.

How to Eat An Elephant: An Incremental Development Approach for Large-Scale Projects (CNU33002)

6/13/2025, 9:00 AM–10:00 AM

Track: Development

Speakers: Lindsey Scannapieco

This session will propose a how-to guide for how to tackle large (100,000 sqft) redevelopment projects. The presentation will highlight the value of temporary activations within a long-term development vision, an incremental development approach, and how to align social, community and financial capital to make a large project a reality. The presentation will use the Bok Building (340,000 sqft) as a case study (CNU Charter Award 2020) in proposing a framework to be applied to all projects. Because how do you eat an elephant -- one bite at a time!

CEUs: AIA: 1 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 PDH / CNU-A: 1 LH

What to do when you don't have "Comps" (CNU33022)

6/13/2025, 9:00 AM–10:00 AM

Track: Development

Speakers: Sharon Woods

This session focuses on easy and free data that can be garnered to identify the optimal price (and/or rent) per square foot – even when "Comps" aren't available for Missing Middle Housing formats. Data sources include a) Building Permit Survey; and b) online search tools.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Upper Missing Middle Housing Types (CNU33048)

6/13/2025, 9:00 AM–10:00 AM

Track: Development

Speakers: Joel VanderWeele, Payton Chung

"Missing Middle Housing" success stories so far have mostly resulted in townhouses, if anything at all. Hear from developers and architects about higher-density "upper Missing Middle" housing types, including code challenges and geometric solutions for vertically stacking housing units, the economics of what densities actually incentivize redevelopment, access and parking challenges, and why townhouses have such a huge economic advantage.

Missing Middle HOWsing: Implementation & Results (CNU33040)

6/13/2025, 9:00 AM–10:00 AM

Track: Housing

Speakers: Emma Brown, Jason Wittenberg, Neil Heller

Missing middle housing, the range of multi-unit housing types between single-family homes and larger multi-family buildings, historically played an important role in providing affordable housing choices, yet these housing types have been made illegal in most American cities for decades. Many communities across the country are now eliminating single-family-only zoning, and the Twin Cities were at the forefront of this regulatory revolution. Now that many planners and designers understand the regulatory changes required to enable missing middle housing, discourse must shift to effective implementation strategies and achieving high-quality results. In this session, Twin Cities planners and a Portland-based planning consultant and developer will discuss approaches to removing housing barriers and implementation strategies that help meet the growing demand for walkable urban living, respond to shifting demographics, and achieve diverse housing choices at different price points. Attendees will learn practical, applicable strategies that not only highlight regulatory changes, but also focus on tangible implementation steps to increase flexibility for housing development.

CEUs: AIA: 1 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 PDH / CNU-A: 1 LH

A 6-point Visual Check to Better Podium Building Façades (CNU33052)

6/13/2025, 9:00 AM–10:00 AM

Track: Housing

Speakers: Adam Bonosky

Our downtowns are seeing a proliferation of podium buildings. Given building codes and the demand for housing, it is easy to see why. The problem is that while the buildings may be in the right place, they tend to detract from the vibrancy of a street. Municipalities have recognized this and tried to remedy the situation by implementing certain regulations or requirements. While these are well-intentioned, they are the same ones that have led to this situation and, most importantly, they are focusing on the wrong elements. Providence is no exception. The Providence Journal has articulated this fact. If we want to have better designs in our downtowns, then we need to reconsider what our regulations focus on and what they require. This exercise will highlight what our regulations should entail by applying a visual check to an existing condition. Participants will embark into Providence to conduct a review on a podium building that has been locally lamented. Participants will be provided with their own worksheet and conduct a six-question visual check of the site. This visual check is a step-by-step review of existing conditions that work together to identify what is and is not working for a facade design. The visual check will be followed with an example of how designing with the principles behind the visual check can improve the façade of an existing podium building and lead to more vibrant downtowns.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Promoting Office-to-Residential Conversion in Boston and Beyond: Policy, Methodology, and Impact

6/13/2025, 9:00 AM–9:35 AM

Track: NU Starter Course Series, Urban Design

Speakers: Jessica Malcolm, Jocelyn Chiou, JT Keller

This is the first set of Project Showcases in the session By the Community, for the Community: Innovative Centers Through Interdisciplinary Collaboration. Must attend this session in conjunction with New Urbanist Tools for Innovation Districts for CE credit

Since 2022, Utile has been collaborating with Boston and Massachusetts public agencies to identify the most viable candidates for office-to-residential conversion across 12 municipalities, understanding that such conversion is one important tool—among many others—to address the regional housing crisis. These projects specifically analyzed compact, mixed-use urban cores (including downtown Boston), seeking viable candidates whose conversion would help revitalize downtowns and add diverse housing options better matched to recent demographic trends. The unique opportunity in the New England region is its wealth of prewar office stock, whose building typology—as the presentation will explain—is well-suited for conversion. This presentation will include the planning-level, interdisciplinary methodology behind this analysis, which leverages publicly available GIS datasets, Google Earth 3D imagery, and high-level architectural test-fitting to highlight buildings that are the most straightforward for conversion from a floorplan perspective, filtering out those that are otherwise less viable or cost prohibitive. The presentation will also review the policy implications of this analysis to date, including the implementation of Boston’s tax abatement policy and state-wide initiatives to promote conversion.

By the Community, For the Community (CNU33058) Innovative Urban Centers Through Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Promoting Office-to-Residential / New Urbanist Tools for Innovation Districts

6/13/2025, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM

Track: NU Starter Course Series, Urban Design

Speakers: Dan Bartman, Jessica Malcolm, Jocelyn Chiou, JT Keller, Kristin Phelan, Russell Preston

Speakers will discuss 2 groups of Project Showcases that demonstrate the value of interdisciplinary collaboration and tech innovation:

Promoting Office-to-Residential Conversion in Boston and Beyond: Policy, Methodology, and Impact

BPDA Downtown Office Conversion Study (Boston, MA)

- MassHousing Commercial Conversion Study (11 Municipalities in MA)
- New Urbanist Tools for Innovation Districts
- Dojo @ Somernova (Somerville, MA)

Scroll to bottom and click for full descriptions of all projects featured in this Showcase session.

CEUs: AIA: 1 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 PDH / CNU-A: 1 LH

Art Room: Classic American Urban Building Design (CNU33073-5)

6/13/2025, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM

Track: Other

Speakers: James Dougherty, Mark Nickita, Steve Mouzon

Are you interested in learning design, sketching, illustration, photography and other techniques directly from some of the New Urbanism's leading practitioners? Here's your chance! The CNU Art Room features up-close and hands-on workshops to help you hone your skills. Participants of all skill levels are welcome – no prior illustration or design experience is needed.

Have you wondered how in historic American cities, building after building was designed to such a consistently high degree of excellence and harmony – from the large urban forms, down to the small details? Building facades with highly individual personalities sit side-by-side and cooperate visually to create wonderfully harmonious urban spaces. Would you like to know how to employ these design techniques today? Together, let's examine great architectural examples from Providence. Prepare to roll up your sleeves!

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

CNU Board Listening Session

6/13/2025, 9:00 AM–10:00 AM

Track: Other

Join CNU's Board of Directors in an open session to talk about the future of the movement.

Regionalism at the Ballot Box: Learning from Successful Referenda Across the US (CNU33013)

6/13/2025, 9:00 AM–10:00 AM

Track: Public Engagement

Speakers: Chris Dempsey, Erin Hafkenschiel, Laurie Jadwin

In the excitement and consternation of the national election in November, it was easy to miss some good news at the ballot box, where regional initiatives to improve transit and urbanism won big. This success includes wins in a pair of America's fastest-growing cities, Columbus and Nashville. Citizens in these regions voted by healthy margins to tax themselves to invest in transportation improvements that have the potential to make two of the most auto-dominant urban areas in the United States much easier to navigate without a car. These votes will allocate billions of dollars to sidewalks, bus lanes, bus-rapid-transit stations, and more. Attend this panel to learn more about the strategies used to win these referenda and what success will mean for these regions. Moderated by Chris Dempsey, Partner at Speck Dempsey and former Assistant Secretary of Transportation for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Read more about successful ballot initiatives in Columbus and Nashville here:

<https://www.cnu.org/publicsquare/2024/12/11/voters-choose-transit-two-sprawling-cities>

CEUs: AIA: 1 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 PDH / CNU-A: 1 LH

New Urbanist Tools for Innovation Districts

6/13/2025, 9:35 AM–10:00 AM

Track: NU Starter Course Series, Urban Design

Speakers: Dan Bartman, Kristin Phelan, Russell Preston

This is the second set of Project Showcases in the session By the Community, for the Community: Innovative Centers Through Interdisciplinary Collaboration. Must attend this session in conjunction with Promoting Office-to-Residential for CE credit.

Innovation-oriented climate tech is a growing industry. Learn from the experience of Green Town labs. The growing climate tech industry comprises startups, incubation hubs, and pilot project testing. It involves passionate people committed to driving real change in the world. Unique urbanism, including non-traditional workspaces that allow collaboration and innovation, must support this industry while enhancing the existing community. This session will share key insights on how other cities can embed dense job centers within existing neighborhoods in meaningful and positive ways. The community has co-created a plan to establish a global climate tech center. This plan includes running a pilot community center: The Dojo @ Somernova which has become a place where community, culture and industry intersect. A youth-driven multi-generational community space pilot connecting people of all ages, backgrounds through immersive learning, cultural experiences and fun. The Dojo is an

evolving prototype for partners and non-profits to collaborate and test programs that will determine how to best design and scale a model for the permanently youth-driven community center planned as part of Somernova's campus expansion. This community-driven approach won the CNU New England Urbanism Award in 2023. This equitable approach to development will also allow the businesses at Somernova, focused on fusion energy, zero-carbon concrete, and resilient battery technology, among other climate-focused innovations, to scale more quickly. A large-scale redevelopment plan for Somernova has emerged that will keep this community of innovators in Somerville. Find out more at somernova.community

Building Housing for the Innovation Economy (CNU33047)

6/13/2025, 10:15 AM-11:30 AM

Track: Development

Speakers: Damien Chaviano, Karina Oliver-Milchman, Russell Preston

In the face of rapid economic growth and shifting regional dynamics, this session explores how New Urbanism can drive the development of resilient, thriving communities across New England. By focusing on walkable, job-adjacent housing, we will demonstrate how intentional urban design connects housing with economic opportunity and fosters sustainable, equitable development. Using Boston as a case study, this session will examine how integrating housing with employment hubs has driven revitalization and economic opportunity. The session will explore small-scale, missing middle implementation, large-scale neighborhood development, and the overall policy framework evolving to deliver more housing. Steven Samuels, founder of Samuels & Associates, has been pivotal in redeveloping Boston's Fenway neighborhood. Through projects like the Fenway Triangle Trilogy and the revitalization of the Landmark Center into 401 Park, Samuels has demonstrated the transformative power of mixed-use developments integrating housing, retail, and public spaces to create vibrant, economically resilient communities. Sheila Dillon, Chief of Housing and Director of the Mayor's Office of Housing has been instrumental in implementing policies to address housing affordability and promote equitable access to housing in Boston. Her work ensures diverse housing options are available to meet the needs of Boston's workforce and foster sustainable urban growth. Attendees will gain strategies for creating mixed-use, transit-oriented communities, addressing regional disparities, and promoting connected, resilient regions.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM | 1SR / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Designing Affordable Housing Across the Rural to Urban Transect (CNU33030)

6/13/2025, 10:15 AM-11:15 AM

Track: Development, NU Starter Course Series

Speakers: Jeremy Lake, Paul Attemann

As the affordable housing crisis intensifies, communities nationwide struggle to create solutions that honor local context and foster connections, while also addressing underlying constraints that often suggest the need to incorporate denser alternatives. With over 140 affordable communities designed across the rural-to-urban transect, Union Studio Architecture & Community Design, recipient of the 2023 ICAA Gindroz Award for Excellence in Affordable Housing, has proven that affordable housing can both respect local

context and achieve increased density. Drawing from these diverse projects, this session reveals how thoughtful design choices- from building typology to community amenity placement- create affordable neighborhoods that integrate seamlessly with their surrounding communities. Though these neighborhoods share fundamental design principles, each demonstrates how fine-tuned adjustments can respond to unique local contexts. Principals Paul Attemann and Jeremy Lake will share insights from their leadership of Union's affordable housing and community design practice, offering practical strategies drawn from their extensive experience.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Five Easy Pieces (of Zoning Reform) (CNU33023)

6/13/2025, 10:15 AM–11:45 AM

Track: Development, NU Starter Course Series

Speakers: Ivy Vann, R. John Anderson, Thomas Battcock-Emerson

Five zoning changes for hamlets, villages and small towns to increase both local revenue and housing availability. We'll examine code repairs that you should be advocating for to create a more hospitable environment for small developers while making towns more economically resilient. Through practical examples, we'll demonstrate how these five incremental changes can improve housing and economic outcomes. These modifications enable seamless housing additions within existing neighborhoods, creating opportunities for small, local developers to invest in their communities. Many jurisdictions lack municipal water and sewer infrastructure, leading to beliefs that additional housing isn't possible. We'll explore strategies for incremental housing additions despite this constraint. The session will cover effective ways to build support for these changes in places where zoning reform is challenging, including examining the financial implications for both developers and jurisdictions.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Triple-Deckers & The Triple Bottom Line (CNU33014)

6/13/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: Housing

Speakers: Benjamin Sachs, Colin Booth, Sam Naylor

The triple-decker, a type developed over a century ago, is a foundational residential typology in New England cities, but to build one today comes with many cost, design, and regulatory challenges. High costs of construction, paired with regulatory hurdles make just building three units a long and arduous effort for the minimal payoff in density. Yet, the fact remains that most parcels in Greater Boston (76%) are attuned to the -decker size and are too small for larger podium developments to pencil-out, making the need to find pathways for triple-decker-like structures ever more immediate in our housing crisis. This meeting will unpack the history of the triple-decker, and explore stories from five design professions on recent efforts to build them: a modular triple-decker in Somerville, a three-unit market rate development in Boston, two six-unit affordable developments in Dorchester, an eight-unit development in Boston, the Boston Mayors Office of Housing Starter Home Initiatives, and the BSA's Future Decker project.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Intentional and Creative Solutions to the Housing Crisis Coming from the Perspective of the Incremental Developer (CNU33008)

6/13/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: Housing

Speakers: Bernice Radle, Monte Anderson

How can developers create affordable housing without relying on massive subsidies or big developers? This session showcases how incremental builders are leveraging intentional design, creative financing, and long-term thinking to generate housing affordability. From roommate houses and social halls to adding affordable housing to less-desirable shopping centers, these projects break down space—and barriers—to build ecosystems of housing and entrepreneurship. Featuring projects like Mohawk Place, Eugene Debs V. Hall, and barbershop-owner housing, speakers Bernice Radle and Anderson share how partnering with nonprofits, cities, and angel investors—like Habitat for Humanity of Dallas—proves that it takes intention and a village to create small-scale, lasting change.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Art Room: Urban Design Illustration – Principles and Workflows (CNU33073–5)

6/13/2025, 10:15 AM–11:45 AM

Track: Other

Speakers: Arti Harchekar, Ashleigh Walton, Chris Ritter, David Csont

Are you interested in learning design, sketching, illustration, photography and other techniques directly from some of the New Urbanism's leading practitioners? Here's your chance! The CNU Art Room features up-close and hands-on workshops to help you hone your skills. Participants of all skill levels are welcome – no prior illustration or design experience is needed.

The New Urbanism has dramatically transformed the way illustrations are used to advance the dialogue of community planning and place making. In this session, learn key principles and workflows to produce compelling urban design illustrations from some of the movement's leading practitioners.

CEUs: AIA: 1.25 LU / AICP: 1.25 CM / ASLA: 1.25 PDH / CNU-A: 1.25 LH

So, you want to host a Congress?

6/13/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: Other

Ever wanted to bring the annual Congress to your city? Join CNU's President, Mallory Baches, to hear what it takes and put your hat in the ring to host future years of the biggest gathering of New Urbanists.

The Get Sh!t Done Plan Your City Leadership Needs (CNU33021)

6/13/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: Policy

Speakers: Christina Anderson, Rebekah Kik

Cities spend hundreds of thousands of hours and dollars creating plans that communities expect to be implemented. Whether it is lack of resources or will power – Why aren't plans implemented? In Kalamazoo we've found that often it is a leadership gap. That we have to support our department directors through organizational planning. Through the implementation of our strategic vision and master plans, we've observed that the stronger the city organizational leader, the more success the city has had in achieving successful plans. In 2025, the City of Kalamazoo will adopt an updated Strategic Vision and a new document – the Governance Strategy Document (GSD). Also known as the Get Shit Done document – the GSD is an internal master plan for organizational strategies and measures for the City Manager's Office. City departments cannot achieve a master plan, parks and recreation plan, CIP, or other improvements without continued support from their leadership. This document holds leadership accountable to the community and to the city organization to achieve the plans in place.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

A New Urbanist and necessary perspective on Density (CNU33033)

6/13/2025, 10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Track: Urban Design

Speakers: David Dixon, Laurie Volk, Marina Khoury

Creating threshold “community-building densities” at the site, block, neighborhood scale is essential to achieving core New Urbanist values for quality of life, character, connectivity, economic opportunity, equity, and sustainability at the regional scale. This panel focuses on aligning core planning and design decisions to unlock density as a powerful tool for achieving New Urbanist values across the transect: *Densities required to support essential New Urbanist community-building values at a project scale: e.g. promoting genuine walkability by supporting sufficient retail to bring a block of “Main Street” to life? Delivering genuine transit readiness? Transforming public housing into genuine mixed-income communities? And achieving similar goals? *Design principles necessary to develop a New Urbanist design vocabulary that transforms community-building densities into buildings and public realm that bridges potential gaps between community-building values and placemaking? *Community engagement best practices to build a working understanding of density’s role in building more livable, economically competitive, and sustainable places and regions so that community-building densities can be perceived not as a threat but a valuable tool for achieving fundamental community goals.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Art Room: Live Urban Watercolor Techniques Demonstration

6/13/2025, 12:00 PM–2:00 PM

Track: Other

Speakers: David Csont

Join us as we head outside with master illustrator David Csont, for a live demonstration of his fantastic urban watercolor illustration techniques!

Roundtable Conversation: Global Design and the Principles of New Urbanism

6/13/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Collaboration

Speakers: Andre Brumfield, Cassie Branum, Dan Kinkead, Daniel Solomon, David Dixon, David Green, Mallory Baches, Tom Sieniewicz

A cottage court by any other name would be just as sweet (CNU33045)

6/13/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Housing

Speakers: Alli Thurmond Quinlan, Jennifer Truman, Payton Chung

Hear from developers & architects who have created cottage courts in spite of, rather than because of, their jurisdictions' well-meaning but infeasible cottage court codes. Hear suggestions for improving these codes that will actually result in more adorable housing options. **CEUs:** 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Duplexes, Rowhouses, Townhouses, (Single-family attached), oh my! Legalizing attached fee simple homeownership (CNU33004)

6/13/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Housing

Speakers: Dave Caldwell, Dylan Conley, Gina Helm, James Cambio

This session will feature experts in policy, law, financing, & insurance to describe the benefits of and permitting issues faced by single-family attached housing. Historically referred to as rowhouses or townhouses, these housing types were an integral part of urban development prior to the advent of zoning. Economies of scale and corporatization has provided for decades of advancement in multifamily housing construction, while the construction of attached-single family homes has languished. This session will review recent single-family attached development projects and recent policy reform efforts with policy recommendations to spur single-family attached housing construction nationwide.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Balancing Mission and Market: Strategic Build-out of the I-195 District in Providence (CNU33027)

6/13/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: NU Starter Course Series, Providence/New England Region

Speakers: Caroline Skuncik, Kevin Chong, Tim Love, Zoë Mueller

When I-195 was relocated out of Providence's urban core, 27 acres of centrally located land was made available for redevelopment, creating a once-in-a-generation opportunity to restore and re-imagine the fabric of the city's downtown. When the highway was first built it severed the downtown core from the commercial and industrial fabric of the Jewelry District neighborhood and contributed to gradual erosion of the district. The I-195 Redevelopment District was created to do the work of re-establishing the urban fabric and attracting the kind of development that would not only spur economic development and job creation, but also shape the long-term design and identity of the district as an inclusive and vibrant urban gathering place for all of Providence. The vision was to reknit together neighborhoods separated by the elevated highway and create an innovation district, but the market dynamics initially did not support the desired uses. This session will walk participants through the strategies the District has used to balance its mission with the realities of the Providence real estate market.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Placemaking: A Solution to Transportation Safety and Quality of Life (CNU33088)

6/13/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: NU Starter Course Series, Transportation

Speakers: Billy Hattaway

Cities across the country are bearing the burdens of badly conceived suburban sprawl development patterns and suburban highways that have physically divided communities and brought a host of negative social, economic, and health impacts down upon their residents.

This introductory session explores the intersection of New Urbanist principles of land development, street design and regional transportation planning, highlighting how coherent, connected systems are essential to equitable and sustainable compact urban development. Drawing from the Charter of the New Urbanism, the session will examine how walkability, mixed-use development, and compact growth must be supported by transportation networks that prioritize safety, access for all ages, accessibility, multimodal options, and regional connectedness.

CEUs: AIA: 1 HSW / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 HSW / CNU-A: 1 LH

Feminist Cities, Part 1 (CNU33070)

6/13/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Other

Speakers: Katrina Johnston-Zimmerman

Despite living in cities for nearly 10,000 years, we have only now begun to untangle the gender inequity in our cities that has persisted throughout history. In the first of two parts, this roundtable will present the foundations of the city through a gender equity lens – both past and present. Participants will gain valuable information and connections with their fellow designers and urbanists around the challenges faced by professionals working towards both a social and environmentally sustainable urban future. While this session works as a standalone, it is also recommended to join the working group in Feminist Cities Part 2 where we will collaborate on solutions to this important, but solvable, problem.

CEUs: AIA: 1 HSW / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1 HSW / CNU-A: 1 LH

Newest New Urbanists (CNU33001)

6/13/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Other

Speakers: Cara O'Brien, Corion DeLaine, Elmira Moskvina, Gary Scott, Kessie Estil, Noah Harper, Spencer Miller-Johnson

What does the field of Urbanism look like for young professionals today? How do professionals in this field discover their passion and mission? Join us for short presentations featuring emerging New Urbanist leaders from diverse backgrounds and learn about their career paths, pivotal decisions, and inspiring takeaways. Hear from emerging experts in a range of disciplines, including architecture, real estate, urban planning, urban design, and transportation planning professionals across the US who are early on in their careers and at the forefront of the New Urbanist movement. Panelists will take us through their career journeys and the moments that have inspired their outlook on the industry. They will offer advice on topics from how to find ideal mentors to what professional development opportunities can kick start your career. This panel is meant to offer both advice to other young professionals and insight into trends in the professional life of the Urbanist community. This session is presented by ENU (Emerging New Urbanists), a nonprofit community focused on fostering the next generation of New Urbanist professionals.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Shaping the Future: Miami 21 and the Evolution of Form-Based Codes (CNU33046)

6/13/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Policy

Speakers: David Snow, Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, Juan Mullerat, Melissa Tapanes Llahues, Sevanne Steiner

Adopted in 2010, Miami 21 was the first Form- Based Code to be applied to a large existing city in the United States. It is a groundbreaking example of a form-based code that aimed to guide urban growth in a manner that prioritizes walkability, mixed-use development, and the creation of vibrant neighborhoods. The new code established a holistic, logical, comprehensive, and practical framework for the City guided by the tenets of New Urbanism, setting walkable urbanism as the default pattern citywide and improving cohesion,

connectivity, appearance, and the pedestrian experience. This panel will explore Miami 21's impact on the City's built environment, its successes and challenges, and lessons it offers for other cities seeking to implement or refine form-based codes highlighting challenges encountered during implementation, including resistance from stakeholders, enforcement complexities, and the evolving needs of a dynamic city. It will examine how Miami 21 has influenced urban design, transportation, housing, and public spaces over the past 15 years. Additionally, it will explore the adaptability of Miami 21 to address pressing issues such as climate resilience, affordable housing, and equity.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

2025 Legacy Projects Presentation (CNU33084)

6/13/2025, 1:15 PM–2:15 PM

Track: Public Engagement

Speakers: David Green, Matt Lambert, Mike Lydon

Each year, in conjunction with its annual Congress, CNU invites municipalities and neighborhood organizations within the Congress host region to apply for pro-bono technical assistance from leading urban design firms. Through public engagement and collaboration, CNU's Legacy Projects strive to demonstrate the power of great urban design beyond the boundaries of each selected community, and targeted communities experience both short-term progress and long-lasting momentum.

This year's legacy projects included a reenvisioning of the surface lots at the Hospital District in the city of Providence to repair social and environmental harm and unlock new economic and housing opportunities; a revitalization of a traditional historic commercial corridor and nearby development sites within a neighborhood with a uniquely multicultural and immigrant population in New Bedford, MA; and the creation of connectivity within the Village of Hope, a walkable village with easy access to points of historic interest and nearby public open spaces. The project teams for the projects were:

Connecting with Hope: A Plan to Revitalize Hope Village

- Firm Speakers: Ryan Yurcaba (Historical Concepts)
- Community Speakers: Rob Bower and Di (Village of Hope Steering Committee)

Love the Ave

- Firm Speakers: David Green and Amelia Casey (Arup) and Mike Lydon (Street Plans)
- Community Speakers: Mike McCarthy (City of New Bedford) and Adelsa Mendes (Mass TDI Fellow)

Providence Hospital District

- Speakers: Matt Lambert (DPZ)
- Community Speakers: Joe Mulligan (City of Providence)

CEUs: 1 HSW / 1 CM / 1 HSW / 1 LH

CNU Chapter Engagement Meeting (CNU33097)

6/13/2025, 2:30 PM–3:45 PM

Track: Collaboration

Speakers: Brent Buice

Join CNU's new Director of Engagement for a casual meet-and-greet of CNU Chapter leaders and members. After introductions, we will discuss Chapter challenges and opportunities, and brainstorm how CNU be of assistance

Accessory Commercial Units: The Next Big (Little) Idea in Building Complete Communities (CNU33032)

6/13/2025, 2:30 PM–3:45 PM

Track: Development

Speakers: Dylan DelliSanti, Hank Kelley, Neil Heller

There was a time, not too long ago, when residential neighborhoods had local grocers and small shops. Modern zoning codes have made those illegal. Building off the popularity of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) as a way to provide affordable housing and introduce gentle density into formerly single-family neighborhoods, Accessory Commercial Units (ACUs) follow a similar model and create an avenue for providing affordable commercial space in neighborhoods. ACUs create a path toward walkable, complete communities and enable entrepreneurs to start businesses more easily. This session will cover the history of ACUs, the role they play in revitalizing the social and economic fabric of our communities, the regulatory changes needed to introduce them, and how to overcome legislative challenges in implementation.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Growing the Movement: the Next 10 Years of Incremental Development (CNU33051)

6/13/2025, 2:30 PM–3:45 PM

Track: Development

Speakers: Alli Thurmond Quinlan, Ryan Terry

As the Incremental Development movement enters its second decade, we should take stock of where we have been and where we see ourselves going over the next 10 years. We've seen many successes a great number of our members have gone from enthusiastic novices to seasoned developers, despite the challenges of COVID and an economic downturn. As we look towards the next decade, we invite incremental developers from across the movement to a lively discussion of how we can best professionalize the movement to be a positive force in the wider development world.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Paradise (Nearly) Lost: Overcoming Challenges Building Affordable Housing on New England's Islands (CNU33025)

6/13/2025, 2:30 PM–3:15 PM

Track: Housing

Speakers: Christian Belden, Jason King

New England is a region of shoreline communities and vacation islands for the upper class that depends on a service-sector underclass that struggles to afford housing. Many coastal towns are failing as police, firefighters, teachers, utility maintenance staff, and hospitality and restaurant workers abandon them. Other communities continue to thrive as they learn to shoulder their responsibility to allow for and provide affordable housing. This session is led by two urban planners and a non-profit affordable housing provider who work to add year-around affordable housing to Aquidneck Island, Block Island, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket. The strategies they have employed successfully in the highest-income, most land-scarce places can be employed elsewhere. Advocates of housing equity everywhere are fought by highly influential people concerned with traffic, water quality, property taxes, and the loss of rural landscapes. The fight is especially passionate and complex on New England's shore. "Affordable housing should be distributed throughout the region to match job opportunities," asserts the Charter of the New Urbanism. Success is possible and this session will explore case studies. Jason King is the author of the "The Equity Planner" (Routledge 2023) and the book describes a toolkit of over 50 techniques for building affordable housing including zoning and planning approaches, financing and funding mechanisms, small business support programs, and tenant support programs. He is also co-author of the extremely controversial Low- and Moderate-Income Housing Act of 1991 and Comprehensive Housing Production and Rehabilitation Act of 2004. These were passed in Rhode Island to build affordable homes using state overrides of local zoning. These law require that 10 percent of each municipality's year-round housing be affordable for at least 30 years. After ten years of implementation, thousands of affordable units have been built. We will discuss: Does your state have an override of local zoning? How would one be put in place?

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM | 1 EQ / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Single-Stair Reform: Lessons From the I-95 Corridor (CNU33056)

6/13/2025, 2:30 PM–3:45 PM

Track: Housing

Speakers: Carlos Sainz Caccia, Dhiru Thadani, Julian Frost, Sam Naylor

Buildings designed around a single central stairwell are fundamental to cities in Europe and across the world. In most of the US, however, such buildings are capped at three stories, stifling the feasibility of small-lot infill and limiting flexibility in apartment layouts. Recently, the movement to legalize mid-rise single-stair buildings in the US has gone from a fringe topic to relatively standard fare in housing policy circles. Single-stair reform bills have been introduced in seventeen American jurisdictions, with more on the horizon. This session builds on both a groundbreaking research report in Boston and a new architectural design competition in Baltimore City organized by CNU Mid-Atlantic. The primary author of the Boston report, who is also working on current code change requests and legislation will deliver remarks about the research and implications. Following this, the organizers of the Baltimore Single-Stair Design Competition will explain its formation and unveil winning entries. After the presentations a panel discussion among all speakers and invited experts will cover the implications for East Coast cities and talk about the status of current reform efforts. The session is prescient because both Maryland and Massachusetts have pending legislation focused on unlocking single-stair mid-rise buildings, and the design competition in particular

will highlight how single-stair reform will be key to vacant infill lot development in urban cores across both contexts and beyond.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

From Start-up to Succession: Lessons From The Entrepreneurs of The New Urbanism (CNU33035)

6/13/2025, 2:30 PM–3:45 PM

Track: Other

Speakers: Chuck Marohn, Joseph Minicozzi, Lisa Wise, Marina Khoury, Mike Lydon

From form-based codes to Strong Towns, Tactical Urbanism to Incremental Development, the New Urbanism movement is defined by ideas and innovations that change the practice of city building. Many of New Urbanism's signature ideas have been promulgated from or inspired the founding of small firms and non-profit organizations who "punch above their weights" to further advance the movement's impact. But how do new ideas find footing in the marketplace? How do designers and planners translate budding opportunities into sustainable business practices? What lessons – the good, bad, and ugly – are transferable across disciplines and organizational types for the next generation of entrepreneurial urbanists? This meeting will highlight, warts and all, how a number of small organizations have found answers to the above questions and many more.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Bottom-Up and Top-Down: Embracing Third-Party Actors for Transformational Change (CNU33029)

6/13/2025, 2:30 PM–3:45 PM

Track: Public Engagement

Speakers: Barkha Patel, Jon Jon Wesolowski

Cities face mounting challenges, from traffic safety to equitable mobility, but solutions often lie in unexpected partnerships. This session explores the interplay between "third-party actors" advocates, organizers, and citizen groups along with city officials in driving meaningful urban change. Jon Jon Wesolowski, known as the Happy Urbanist, will share how grassroots advocacy was pivotal in transforming Chattanooga's Frazier Avenue. After a tragic crash, Jon Jon mobilized a community initially seen as adversarial to city leadership. Through persistence and collaboration, this group's advocacy led to a transformative road diet, designed with guidance from renowned urbanists Speck Dempsey. Barkha Patel, Jersey City's Director of Infrastructure, will discuss how third-party actors shaped the city's transportation discourse. Grassroots movements laid the foundation for Jersey City's safety initiatives, including Vision Zero. Barkha will explain how her team scaled programs like protected bike lanes and microtransit solutions, achieving zero traffic fatalities in 2022. This session highlights how top-down and bottom-up efforts can align, showing the power of partnerships between government, agencies, and communities to create impactful results.

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Social Media Creators and the New Urbanist Message (CNU33044)

6/13/2025, 2:30 PM–3:45 PM

Track: Public Engagement

Speakers: Andrew Clum, Ethnie Xu, Noah Roth

Social media is both a megaphone and a listening device. We are now in the age in which individuals can become institutions, bringing together the charisma of personality and the power of a global audience. Though many New Urbanists recognize social media's power, few utilize it to its fullest potential, and even fewer truly understand it. New Urbanism, since before the signing of the Charter in 1996, has disseminated its message through digital media. This media exists across a spectrum of formality, from peer-reviewed papers all the way to movie features. The evolution of media in the last decade has resulted in the most powerful form of two-way communication yet to affect the CNU. In this session, our panelists (who have accumulated over 10 million views across their various platforms) will tell their stories. Attendees will learn the importance of consistency, audience engagement, and to ignore the wild goose chase of the perfect viral video. This session is presented by ENU (Emerging New Urbanists), a nonprofit community focused on fostering the next generation of New Urbanist professionals

CEUs: 1.25 LU / 1.25 CM / 1.25 PDH / 1.25 LH

Main Stage- Polycrisis: Meta Solutions in the Design of Communities and Economies (CNU33078)

6/13/2025, 4:00 PM–5:30 PM

Track: Main Stage

Speakers: Ashleigh Walton, Diana Lind, Jonathan Rose

At a time of unprecedented housing instability and inequality, the role of urban design in shaping access to opportunity has never been more critical. For New Urbanists, this national moment demands not just better neighborhoods—but systemic, regional, and coordinated solutions that address the root causes of exclusion and displacement.

In this Keynote lecture, Jonathan Rose —whose career has been defined by the practical application of design to expand opportunity— will offer an expert perspective on how we might reframe the affordability crisis as a holistic design and policy challenge of sustainability. From the reallocation of public, private, and philanthropic resources, to the hard questions around mandates, funding, and accountability, Jonathan will help attendees envision a path toward truly inclusive, community-supportive urbanism.

This Keynote will set the tone for a gathering deeply focused on solutions—grounded in practice, elevated by principle, and driven by a belief in the transformative power of building community.

CEUs: AIA: 1.25 LU / AICP: 1 CM / ASLA: 1.25 PDH / CNU-A: 1.25 LH

Main Stage- Frameworks for Building Community: Combating Isolation and Exclusion Through Reformed Regulations (CNU33079)

6/14/2025, 9:00 AM–10:30 AM

Track: Main Stage

Speakers: Anthony Flint, Erin Barnes, Frank Starkey, Mindy Fullilove

The built environment has an extraordinary impact on our sense of belonging, inclusion, and overall well-being. Nowhere is this more evident than along our main streets and in walkable urban places—where public life flourishes and social bonds are built. Yet in too many communities, outdated regulations and disjointed urban form contribute to isolation, exclusion, and declining public health.

This Main Stage session explores the transformative power of urban design to foster social connection and community resilience. Through two key compelling presentations, followed by a dynamic conversation, we will examine how physical urbanism can promote—or inhibit—health, equity, and cohesion.

CEUs: AIA: 1.25 LU / AICP: 1.25 CM / ASLA: 1.25 PDH / CNU-A: 1.25 LH

Sacred Spaces as Social Enterprise: Guiding development for faith-communities, neighborhoods, and cities. (CNU33057)

6/14/2025, 10:45 AM–11:45 AM

Track: Development

Speakers: Chris Elisara

The decline of religious attendance in the U.S. has left hundreds of empty & underutilized spaces. Many are being redeveloped into affordable housing – but that solution often requires the demolition of the original sacred space & the disruption of fabric of the community. In addition to their inherent architectural value, these buildings often have two things in common – large open spaces for meetings & some sort of kitchen. These spaces can be easily converted into kitchen incubators, yoga studios, day care centers & many other uses giving the congregation added income & time to consider the long-term future of the property. This session will equip participants with the skills needed to assess the various options available to for faith communities including adaptive reuse, economic development programs & community support programs. The session will also share a draft framework for the Charter for Faith-Based Placemaking to be developed by CNU Christian Caucus, Faith for Cities, & other collaborating organizations. **CEUs:** 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Continuing the Lively Experiment: Exploring Regionalism for Rhode Island (CNU33042)

6/14/2025, 10:45 AM–11:45 AM

Track: Providence/New England Region

Speakers: Annette Bourne, Meredith Brady, Peter Friedrichs

Drawing from extensive analysis of residential zoning across RI's 39 municipalities as contiguous regions, this meeting will explore the challenges and opportunities to seeking to build a system for regional land use planning across the state. Political jurisdictions do not necessarily represent those geographic distinctions that lend themselves to land use planning that benefits both the environment and residents. Using the New Urbanist concept of the transect, this meeting posits regional planning within the seven regions defined by the US Census Bureau's Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs), which represent populations between 100,000 and 200,000. Each of the state's seven regions offers a balance of opportunities to

enhance housing production and livability, including water and sewer infrastructure, transit corridors, open space, proximity to jobs, as well as walkable neighborhoods and villages. Recent state legislation has sought to revise local zoning and regulations to encourage denser residential development and shorten processes; however, doing so across 39 municipalities does not make the most efficient use of the built and natural assets in the country's smallest state. Acknowledging the substantial challenges to such a proposal, this meeting seeks to set the baseline parameters to begin the investigation of how a regional Rhode Island might work. The proposition is that we are not done being that lively experiment.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM | 1 LAW / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Playing the Game: 501c4s and PACs for New Urbanist Advocacy (CNU33039)

6/14/2025, 10:45 AM-11:45 AM

Track: Public Engagement

Speakers: Adriana Batista, Eric McClure, Liza Burkin

Is there anything worse than a beautifully designed affordable housing project getting voted down by a City Council? Or a Mayor removing bike lanes and traffic calming infrastructure? All too often, projects and policies planned to improve our communities are thwarted by state and local politicians. New urbanist advocacy organizations come in all shapes and sizes, but many of them share one commonality: they are 501(c)(3) organizations that have limits on the amount of political advocacy they can do. Learn about the reasoning for establishing a 501(c)(4) or a Political Action Committee (PAC), and actions and organizing efforts that these designations free up changemakers to undertake. The Providence Streets Coalition: an alliance of 42 community organizations, local businesses, schools, neighborhood associations, and thousands of engaged individuals advocating people-friendly streets in Providence. Since our founding in 2019, we have been fiscally sponsored by 501(c)(3) partner organizations. In just 5 years we have ushered in a wave of projects that have had a measurable impact on the built environment. But our impact has been dampened by the need to stay apolitical. The need for robust, grassroots organizing around the state level issue of operational funding for public transit led us to establish a 501(c)(4) in November 2024, allowing us to invest more resources in our campaigns and endorse candidates for office who believe in our goals. In this session, we will discuss the reasons, process, and practical advantages of establishing a 501(c)(4) or a PAC.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Claiborne Reborn: the realization of a dream (CNU33062)

6/14/2025, 10:45 AM-11:45 AM

Track: Transportation

Speakers: Amy Stelly, Joseph Minicozzi, Norman Marshall

This Project Showcase includes discussion of the quest to remove the Claiborne Expressway in New Orleans, a longstanding journey for CNU. Finally, there is light at the end of the tunnel. The EPA has tasked the Claiborne Avenue Alliance Design Studio with making a recommendation for Claiborne's future based on the findings of LSU School of Public Health, the project's lead investigator. Their findings will reflect the depth of the community's

exposure to toxic air, noise pollution and lead, highlighting the unhealthy environments for those who must live, work and play near urban highways. The Alliance is working on an alternative to the state and local governments' plan to remove the highway's ramps while keeping the deck intact. This collaborative effort has brought together experts in a range of disciplines to quantify what the communities surrounding the expressway have lost because of the highway's construction and what they stand to gain with its removal. This data, along with the science, will serve to inform the Alliance's recommendation to the federal government about the future of New Orleans.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Hack the Code: Finding Common Ground in Zoning Reform Strategies (CNU33020)

6/14/2025, 12:00 PM-1:15 PM

Track: NU Starter Course Series, Policy

Speakers: Hazel Borys, Jenn Hurley, Matt Lambert, Susan Henderson

Zoning reform is often seen as a choice between two extremes: maintaining conventional codes with incremental improvements or adopting form-based codes for a complete overhaul. But what if there's more overlap than we think? This meeting invites practitioners, municipal planners, and advocates to discuss where form-based code best practices and incremental improvements to conventional codes align, and where they don't. Using real-world examples and critiques from clients who've implemented zoning reforms, we'll tackle questions like: When does it make sense to overhaul the whole system? How can walkability, mixed-use development, and contextual design principles be integrated into conventional codes? And when does incrementalism risk falling short of transformative change? Participants will collaborate to identify actionable strategies, share lessons learned, and debate the effectiveness of these approaches. By fostering an open, honest dialogue, this session aims to create a shared understanding of how zoning reform can address community needs while respecting local constraints. Attendees will leave with a clearer vision of how to advocate for zoning changes that prioritize equity, resilience, and sustainability in their own communities.

CEUs: 1.25 HSW / 1.25 CM / 1.25 HSW / 1.25 LH

Exploring the Nexus Between Urban Planning and Boredom (CNU33050)

6/14/2025, 12:00 PM-1:00 PM

Track: NU Starter Course Series, Urban Design

Speakers: Daniel Frolich, Hannah Kosoff

Drawing on interdisciplinary research from psychology and urban planning, as presented in the Transportation Research Record publication "Exploring the Nexus Between Urban Planning and Boredom," This session explores into the often-overlooked connection between urban planning and design with the pervasive experience of boredom, highlighting its impact on mental health, social engagement, and community vitality. While boredom is frequently dismissed as a personal issue, this session demonstrates how it is, in part, an outcome of poorly designed environments characterized by monotonous land use, car-dependent infrastructure, limited public spaces, and uninspired architecture. By linking boredom caused

by urban planning to larger societal frameworks, highlighting how disengaging environments contribute to social isolation, mental distress, and increased risk-taking behaviors. Additionally, the session will explore how shifting perceptions of stimulation over time have influenced urban design, raising questions about whether efforts to address past challenges have unintentionally led to new issues in the built environment. The session introduces a framework for identifying and addressing the design elements that contribute to boredom. The discussion will emphasize how diverse land use, active transportation options, cultural and recreational facilities and well designed architecture can transform spaces into engaging, socially connected, and mentally stimulating places. This session offers tools for urban planners and designers to evaluate and improve projects with a focus on reducing boredom, improving psychological well-being, and enhancing overall quality of life. By addressing boredom through thoughtful design, planners can build communities that foster vitality, connection, and satisfaction for all.

CEUs: 1 HSW / 1 CM / 1 HSW / 1 LH

Report on A New Database of Research on New Urbanism (CNU33017)

6/14/2025, 12:00 PM-1:00 PM

Track: Other

Speakers: Angelica Ketcham, David Brain, Mallory Baches, Michael Mehaffy

A team at the University of Notre Dame is currently compiling research literature on New Urbanism and related topics of walkable mixed-use, multi-modal transportation, public space, and supportive buildings. In this session, they will report on findings, current status, and next steps, seeking feedback from attendees. Mallory Baches will moderate the session and explore the relation to the CNU's strategic plan and focus on research. The team is led by Dean Stefanos Polyzoides (a co-founder of the Congress for the New Urbanism) and Marianne Cusato, Professor of Practice and Director of the Housing & Community Regeneration Initiative. The research leader is Michael Mehaffy, Ph.D., a Fellow of the CNU and an educator, practitioner and Senior Researcher at Notre Dame. Also on the team is David Brain, Ph.D., former Professor of Sociology at New College of Florida and currently Senior Researcher at Notre Dame, and Jim Brainard, former Mayor of Carmel, Indiana, and Board Member of the Lennard Institute/IMCL and Seaside Institute.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Don't Break the City: Iterative Planning with Fiscal Analysis (CNU33019)

6/14/2025, 12:00 PM-1:00 PM

Track: Policy

Speakers: Glenn Kellogg

Planners are often tasked with managing extraordinary crises and balancing ambitious goals against the harsh realities of municipal budgets. This session demonstrates how integrating Fiscal Impact Analysis focused specifically on the city's costs and revenues empowers urban planners to address these challenges head-on. Where Proforma Analysis evaluates project-specific feasibility from a developer's perspective, Fiscal Impact evaluates the broader impacts of land use and policy decisions on a city's budget and finances, ensuring policies support long-term sustainability. Highlighting the case study of Somerville, MA, where the

mayor's directive to planning staff was "Don't break the city," the session explores how policies can be systematically checked for fiscal responsibility. Attendees will learn how iterative fiscal analysis helps municipalities align policy goals with economic sustainability.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Innovative Housing Strategies for Rural and Small-Town Transformation (CNU33061)

6/14/2025, 12:00 PM-1:00 PM

Track: Policy

Speakers: Abby Gillfillan, Erik Woyciesjes, Matt Lewis

Speakers will present 2 sets of Project Showcases demonstrating innovating housing strategies for rural and small-town transformation Taylor-Made Toolkit (TX): Join the journey of a small Central Texas town frozen in time until mass explosion arrived. Taylor, Texas sat in the cotton fields, watching Austin and the surrounding region explode around it. Their quaint small block grid community remained static since the 1950s. Understanding the volume sprawl builders and big box category killers were foaming at the mouth at the announcement of the largest economic development deal in the State of Texas history just landed in the community. The community took a comprehensive approach to mandating New Urbanism unlike any community in the U.S. Learn about the systematic approach the community took to continue its small block grid wrapped in rural lands. The results delivered the most advanced and adaptable new Urbanist standards on the books. The goals were grounded in fiscal resilience, housing diversity, and innovative infrastructure. No people with a little bit of money to buy a little bit of land build a little bit of house and shop and generate real wealth. Taylor has coded in the American dream from concept to curb-line. SCROCG Regional Housing Plan (CT); MBTA Communities Regional Parcel Scoring (MA); Brookline Comprehensive Plan (MA): Addressing housing policy at the regional level is complex and multi-faceted. Many of the challenges to development are inherently multidimensional and are affected by environmental factors, financial and economic, and regulatory among others. RKG will present a series of methods that when employed collectively, create a comprehensive evaluation of development potential factoring in these dimensions and more at county, regional and state level scales with the granularity of the parcel and building level. Through a series of examples at the local, county and regional scales, RKG will demonstrate how GIS and machine learning methods can be employed to evaluate housing opportunity with respect to built form, environmental conditions, zoning, economic and demographic characteristics.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Lessons from Latin America: Sustainable Urbanism Rooted in Tradition (CNU33005)

6/14/2025, 12:00 PM-1:00 PM

Track: Urban Design

Speakers: Abraham Zorrilla, Fernando Pages Ruiz, Marcelo Remond

This session examines how urbanism in Latin America, where boundaries between regional and local planning are fluid, offers valuable lessons for addressing housing, climate, and

connectivity challenges in the United States. Latin American cities show how urban cores, suburban neighborhoods, and rural areas can integrate to create dense, walkable communities that balance housing access with cultural and environmental preservation. Speakers will present case studies on how interconnected systems such as plazas, markets, and transportation networks sustain local vibrancy and regional resilience. These approaches reduce auto-dependence, foster migration-responsive growth, and create shared prosperity. The session connects these insights to New England's needs, showing how regional approaches inspired by Latin America can address climate risks, housing shortages, and fragmented planning. Examples will highlight how cooperation across municipalities can reconnect people with places and make urban systems more efficient and equitable. Participants will leave with a clearer understanding of how Latin American models can guide the U.S. toward a sustainable, inclusive urban future. **CEUs:** 1 HSW / 1 CM / 1 HSW / 1 LH

Feminist Cities, Part 2 (CNU33071)

6/14/2025, 1:30 PM-2:45 PM

Track: Other

Speakers: Katrina Johnston-Zimmerman

While our cities have been primarily built and managed through a patriarchal lens, now more than ever we have the potential to flip the script and create more inclusive urban habitats for all. This working session will bring urban professionals together from a variety of backgrounds to co-create an applicable toolkit towards the feminist city of the future. We will build on the knowledge of the first session, but this will be conducted as a standalone collaborative exercise accessible to everyone. Participants will come away inspired to create change in their own communities and build not only useful tools they can apply to their cities, but also lasting connections across various fields, backgrounds, and locations that they can rely on in their personal and professional lives.

CEUs: 1.25 HSW / 1.25 CM / 1.25 HSW / 1.25 LH

Latino Dreams, Urban Realities: Redefining Homeownership in the U.S. (CNU33009)

6/14/2025, 1:45 PM-2:45 PM

Track: Development

Speakers: Abraham Zorrilla, Bryan Greene, Dyllan Nguyen, Fernando Pages Ruiz, Neily Soto

This session explores the intersection of US Latino cultural values, the aspirations of new immigrant populations, and New Urbanism principles, focusing on their regional and local impacts. For many Latinos, the "American Dream" of homeownership often aligns with suburban living, land ownership as a legacy (patrimonio), and car-centric lifestyles values that can conflict with New Urbanism's focus on walkable communities, transit-oriented development, and urban density. Paradoxically, many Latin American immigrants come from regions with rich urban traditions, including vibrant city centers and mixed-use neighborhoods, yet aspire to suburban ideals upon settling in the US. These housing aspirations influence urban growth patterns at local and regional scales, particularly in metropolitan areas with significant Latino populations. At the same time, Latin American cities adopting US suburban sprawl are losing successful urban planning traditions. This session will examine how Latino homeownership aspirations shape the built environment and explore

strategies for regional planners, real estate professionals, and developers to align these aspirations with sustainable, community-centered growth.

CEUs: 1 HSW / 1 CM / 1 HSW / 1 LH

Small Lots - Small Houses - Big Rewards (CNU33037)

6/14/2025, 1:45 PM-2:45 PM

Track: Housing

Speakers: Don Powers, Peter Friedrichs, Steve Irvine

Many New England cities and towns are built upon historic development patterns that have provided wonderful living environments, yet these places cannot be duplicated today. Affordable housing, economic development and walkability are universally desired community attributes, and yet zoning often works at cross purposes in supporting these features of city and town life. This session highlights Newport's small scale houses in the context of a recently-completed buildout analysis of Newport, RI's housing. Newport, RI (home to the Newport cottage - a late 19th century small-scale residence) identified an answer to the affordable housing crisis; the small urban lot. This answer is written in the historic residential development patterns of the city-by-the-sea. Join project representatives on a virtual tour of these houses and discuss their applicability in other contexts. The session will also consider how public officials in Newport elected to incorporate the typology into their efforts to address skyrocketing housing costs.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM | 1 Law/ 1 PDH / 1 LH

Planning With Purpose: Building Equitable Policies That Communities Can Deliver (CNU33016)

6/14/2025, 1:45 PM-2:45 PM

Track: NU Starter Course Series, Policy

Speakers: Jenn Hurley, Marques King, Susan Henderson

How can planners and policymakers craft equitable policies that reflect community needs while remaining achievable? This session explores the critical balance between ambition and feasibility in underserved communities, where systemic disinvestment often challenges capacity. Drawing on real-world lessons from Fairfield and Bessemer, Alabama- two predominantly Black communities with rich histories and significant socioeconomic challenges- we'll dive into strategies for inclusive engagement, assessing community capacity, and designing policies that empower local stakeholders. Attendees will learn practical approaches for "planning with, not for," ensuring that initiatives are not only visionary but also grounded in the community's ability to implement and sustain them. Presenters will share insights on collaborating with diverse teams, avoiding overpromising, and creating plans that build trust and foster measurable progress. This session is ideal for planners, policymakers, and community advocates seeking to develop policies that honor local voices, prioritize equity, and lead to actionable, transformative change. Join us for an engaging and reflective discussion on planning with purpose.

CEUs: 1 HSW / 1 CM | 1 EQ / 1 HSW / 1 LH

The State of Rhode Island's Urban Services Boundary and Land Use 2025 (CNU33065)

6/14/2025, 1:45 PM-2:45 PM

Track: Policy

Speakers: Meredith Brady, Paul Gonsalves

The last time that the city of Providence hosted the Congress for a New Urbanism's annual conference in 2006, the state had just adopted Land Use 2025: Rhode Island's State Land Use Policies and Plan. Land Use 2025 is the overarching Plan which includes our state's policies, objectives, and strategies for land use, conservation, and development over a twenty-year planning horizon. Established within Land Use 2025 is the concept of an Urban Services Boundary. This Urban Services Boundary provides the visual and regulatory backdrop highlighting the planning distinction between Rhode Island's historic urban centers and neighborhoods and their rural natural surrounding areas. This Urban Services Boundary delimits certain density requirements and density ranges that are appropriate for future development in areas where urban services are available (public water and sewer) and historic patterns of density lend themselves to urban form and design.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

METROPOLIS DIVIDED : A Dialogue in Densifying Border Towns and Their Regions (CNU33007)

6/14/2025, 1:45 PM-2:45 PM

Track: Providence/New England Region

Speakers: Christopher D'Amico, David Dixon, Mario Pena

This group of project showcases compares and highlights the work of David Dixon of Stantec's Urban Places and Mario Pena of Able City moderated by Christopher D'Amico of Overhead Studio. As a moderated review of projects from both firms, Metropolis Divided examines the intricacies of multicultural design and planning in communities which, while officially located on one side of a border, are essentially binational. The program will include 5 projects at both borders. (1) At the Canadian border, Stantec and Overhead Studio will present the New Growth Center planning for Town of St. Albans in Vermont. (2) At the Mexican border, Able City will present their Laredo Comprehensive Plan and (3) Eagle Pass Downtown Plan followed by Stantec's (4) El Paso Downtown + Uptown Plan, as well as their current planning work for transforming a depressed expressway that has traditionally divided affluent (White) and lower-income (Mexican American) El Paso into a (5) Multicultural Deck Plaza that represents a forum for the full spectrum of El Paso's living culture.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Removing Land Use from the Urban Planning and Development Process (CNU33090)

6/14/2025, 1:45 PM-2:45 PM

Track: Urban Design

Speakers: David Green

Land-Use Planning is a misguided method for planning future urban development. Planning for urban development is complex, and it will always be so. While complex, it isn't fundamentally complicated. It is made complicated by us and by the 'best practices' we follow in the process of using land-use as the basis for planning for future development. This session will describe a process to simplify, and provide clarity, direction, and durability in evaluating and implementing future development without the designation of future land uses. To do this, we will demonstrate that the ultimate purpose of any urban development project is to manage the various criteria that impact the project and guide us to desired outcomes. Our process to be discussed is as follows: 1. Manage baseline data through a categorical system that allows for assessment. 2. Set performance targets for the project through analysis. 3. Propose various scenarios that approach performance targets. 4. Evaluate scenario outcomes across performance targets. 5. Reset performance targets as needed. 6. Refine proposals based on scenario evaluation and updated performance targets and measurable outcomes. This may seem overly simplistic, but it provides a way to understand multiple aspects of the project that will impact its success, and it allows us to make modifications to plans as the project unfolds; to facilitate the highest possible performance. Note that there is no inherent limit to the project evaluation criteria. The specific extents of the evaluation will be set for this project, and they are structured to be adaptable and expandable.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM / 1 PDH / 1 LH

Closing CNU33 Panel – The New Urbanist Region: Lessons from New England, Impact in Northwest Arkansas (CNU33095)

6/14/2025, 3:00 PM-4:15 PM

Track: Other

Speakers: Alli Thurmond Quinlan, Buff Chace, Don Powers, Jenn Hurley, Mallory Baches, Rob Parker, Russell Preston, Todd Zimmerman

This session will bridge the themes at the scale of the metropolitan region, connecting the regional issues that we are tackling in New England here in 2025, with the regional issues that we'll be exploring in Northwest Arkansas in 2026. This new way of approaching the closing session of Congress is an opportunity to show the breadth, depth, and consistency of the value of New Urbanist principles no matter the context: from increased coordination across a long-standing historical region, or shifting the development model across a fast-growing auto dependent region.

CEUs: 1 LU / 1 CM | 1 SR / 1 PDH / 1 LH

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