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CONTACT: Lauren Mayer, lmayer@cnu.org or 202.770.2083

CNU's Urban Design Solutions Ready for Action in Biden-Harris National Transportation Decarbonization Plan

Washington, DC -- The Biden-Harris administration released the [U.S. National Blueprint for Transportation Decarbonization](#) for cutting all greenhouse emissions from the transportation sector by 2050. The Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU) has long advocated for strategies that significantly reduce and eliminate these harmful emissions and is gratified to see the federal government taking a wide-ranging, multi-sector approach to addressing the climate crisis.

In this *Blueprint*, the federal government demonstrates a recognition that compact, connected, and complete neighborhoods and districts are far more resilient to climate change. New Urbanists advocate for building cities and towns around people rather than cars, and that walking, biking and public transportation use can greatly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. By supporting complete neighborhoods, legalizing walkable urbanism, and designing for a changing climate, CNU champions the urban design solutions that are essential to this interrelated community building challenge recognized by the federal government.

This landmark strategy developed by the Departments of Energy, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and the Environmental Protection Agency accelerates the nation's affordable, equitable, and clean transportation future. New Urbanist practitioners bring the necessary tools and critical knowledge required to help steer the country towards these goals.

“As this groundbreaking roadmap recognizes, the design of our cities, towns, neighborhoods, and rural communities plays a crucial factor in our collective and individual transportation alternatives, and therefore our nation's ability to meet its goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions,” said Mallory Baches, CNU President. “CNU is eager to join the *Blueprint* call to action, leveraging the expertise of our movement in partnership with our allies across industry sectors and scales of impact, in working toward the climate and equity imperative of fully decarbonizing transportation across the transect of urbanization.”

The priorities outlined in the *Blueprint* underscore the importance of land-use planning that ensures complete and diverse neighborhoods, in reducing carbon-based transportation dependency and supporting equity co-benefits that address historic harms of infrastructure construction. CNU's [Climate and Equity Challenge](#) is engaging a multidisciplinary movement of practitioners, chapters, affiliates and allies to meet the demands that these intersectional crises pose. Through the tools and techniques that the Challenge is elevating, together with the principles in the [Charter of the New Urbanism](#) and the [Canons of Sustainable Architecture and Urbanism](#), CNU is prepared to contribute to the coordinated action that this federal initiative will require.

About CNU

The Congress for the New Urbanism's (CNU) mission is to champion walkable urbanism. We provide resources, education, and technical assistance to create socially just, economically robust, environmentally resilient, and people centered places. We leverage New Urbanism's unique integration of design and social principles to advance three key goals: to diversify neighborhoods, to design for climate change, and to legalize walkable places. Visit cnu.org for more.

