

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Wednesday, May 19:

Interweaving Green Space | PHYSICAL

11:00am ET - 12:15pm ET with Ann Daigle, Tom Low, Douglas Duany, Lawrence Qamar

Well-designed, continuous green spaces connect land, people and habitats in complex patterns that are inherently resilient. Immersive green environments which are designed to carefully transition between Transect Zones protect natural habitats, strengthen water management, enhance community accessibility and livability, and improve social and economic equity. The treatment of natural habitats and “green space” is currently as disjointed and piecemeal as urban land use itself. Connecting green space region-wide in a coherent system generates environmental continuity with multiple additional benefits to cities and neighborhoods. It can provide the impetus for community unity via renewed interest in “civic amenity” which is accessible to all, and afford opportunity for rational, incremental and relatively inexpensive changes that can occur at the local level and even be implemented by residents themselves. Utilizing sophisticated design graphics and illustrations, panelists will present principles of and opportunities for interweaving continuous green spaces, offer design details, and describe their benefits. They will share built and unbuilt proposals and projects to illustrate the approach and argue why interweaving natural systems should be a key goal of comprehensive planning and the “redesign” of land use at the regional, city and neighborhood levels.

Healthy Urban Environments: New Insights from Neuroscience, Psychology, and Mathematics | SOCIAL

11:00am ET - 12:15pm ET with Michael Mehaffy, Justin Hollander, Ann Sussman, Nikos Salingaros, Don Ruggles

The COVID-19 pandemic has made us all acutely aware of the fundamental connection between our environments and our health and well-being. It is not only the harmful spread of pathogens that occurs in urban space, but also the beneficial connections we form to one another, promoting our health and our resilience to pandemics and other threats. Moreover, there is important new research about the impact of particular environmental characteristics on health and well-being, with important implications for designers. These insights, informing the emerging topics of biophilia and evidence-based design, are coming from neuroscience, environmental psychology, mathematics, and other fields. This session will survey the frontiers of these fields as they apply to environmental design, with a professor of mathematics, a researcher in architecture, a researcher in environmental psychology, and a practicing architect and author.

Small Development Counts – Leveraging Hidden Resources | PHYSICAL

11:00am ET - 12:15pm ET with Brian Reilly, Thomas Dougherty, Aaron Lubeck, Neil Heller

Small buildings, big impact. Small-scale development presents an abundance of often overlooked, hidden resources. This session reflects on two geographies: The first is neighborhood infill, illustrated by real estate development experiments pioneered in Texas and being replicated in South Bend, Indiana. Initial results rival conventional outcomes. In just four years, the small developer and his partners have doubled the assessed value of the 20-plus properties they own. At full buildout, they project a positive 2,300% change in municipal revenue. The second is the American Alley. As current zoning updates have us consider new ideas, there are additional unrealized opportunities at the interior of the block. These overlooked spaces have been the scene for experimentation, adaptation, and even seeming chaos for decades. They are, and can increasingly be, sources of vibrancy and value. We will explore how this hidden wildness might be appropriately channeled and not stifled through codes and other means. We will also consider together how the benefits might be counted so these places become as valued by local leaders as they already are by neighborhood residents who like their quirky experience of place and diverse and often innovative residential (and even commercial) spaces.

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Wednesday, May 19:

(continued) The second is the American Alley. Developing pedestrian scaled and spatially formed streets as infill development is extremely difficult if not impossible unless that development happens within the 'urban-block'. As current zoning updates have us consider new ideas, there are additional unrealized opportunities at the interior of the block. The service alley is an artifact of a previous time. Many cities, no longer seeing the costs of maintenance worth the benefit, have simply abandoned them leaving them to become grown over. Others have de-platted them, striking a new property line down the center, giving the land to the adjacent property owners. These overlooked spaces have been the scene for experimentation, adaptation, and even seeming chaos for decades. They are, and can increasingly be, sources of vibrancy and value. Many cities, no longer seeing the costs of maintenance worth the benefit, have simply abandoned them leaving them to become grown over. Others have de-platted them, striking a new property line down the center, giving the land to the adjacent property owners. These overlooked spaces have been the scene for experimentation, adaptation, and even seeming chaos for decades. They are, and can increasingly be, sources of vibrancy and value.

International I: European (Dhiru) | PHYSICAL

11:00am ET - 12:15pm ET with Dhiru Thadani, Gabriele Tagliaventi, Maurice Culot, William Pesson, Carole Jenny

Description forthcoming

Board Listening Session | SOCIAL

12:45pm ET - 1:45pm ET with Susan Henderson and other guests

Join CNU National's Board of Directors for a session focused on listening to your ideas for improvement, changes, and areas of growth for CNU in the coming year. Managed by incoming Board Chair Susan Henderson, this will be an open format session so feel free to drop in and listen or come with questions.

Youth Move: A Right to Design | SOCIAL

12:45pm ET - 1:45pm ET with Kimberly Mota and other guests.

This session will explore and define what youth inclusive spaces look like in cities and neighborhoods. It is based on a research project—as part of the Equitable Public Space Fellowship at the Design Trust for Public Space—titled Youth Move. This project involves gathering research from youth leaders and the production of a zine which provides a visual depiction of what youth inclusive spaces can and should look like. It highlights youth leaders' perspective on the importance of youth inclusion in decision making and best practices in our neighborhoods. Youth Move is made up of a collective of youth, who are co-creating a zine on youth inclusionary design practices. It will focus on filling the design inclusion gap of youth ages 14-19--due to this age group's crucial stage of human development. This session will present the stories of these youth leaders, it will identify key areas of opportunity for city leaders and planners to engage with youth, and it will engage participants in a discussion about this key issue.

GUILD | The Next Generation of Buyer: Innovations in Building Type and Style for Millennials and Gen Z | PHYSICAL

12:45pm ET - 1:45pm ET with Blair Humphreys, Sam Day, Angie Figueroa, Lew Oliver, Rob Parker

Description forthcoming

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Wednesday, May 19:

United Streets of America | PHYSICAL

2:00pm ET - 3:15pm ET with Lisa Nisenson, Tina Govan, Madeleine Spencer, Ryan Smolar

As more cities view their streets as flexible assets, planning and placemaking entrepreneurs are mastering the transition away from design governed by inflexible engineering rules. Transition, however, requires a new set of skills regarding stakeholder engagement, regulatory reformation, infrastructure phasing, and the new practice of programmable streets. As cities reposition budgets for COVID recovery, planners need practical ideas to gain buy-in while reaping immediate equity, safety, and economic development benefits. Participants will come away with tangible ideas related to outreach, tactical installations, setting metrics, use of quick build materials, and lessons from other cities on programming streets, including new technologies.

Suburban Remix: Creating Walkable Density in the Suburbs | PHYSICAL

2:00pm ET - 3:15pm ET with Jason Beske, David Dixon, Nate Hood, Julie Farmham

The extraordinary demographic and technological changes that have swept across North America's cities and suburbs in recent decades are precursors to two decades of more far-reaching change. Some of these changes have already begun reshaping our cities and suburbs—exploding the demand for urban living, while confronting growing economic inequality and the suburbanization of poverty. With the right density as an effective tool, we can unlock these changes and empower cities and suburbs alike to thrive in the midst of uncertainties brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. A critical mass of density can help communities transform public places into common grounds, employ green approaches that make our communities more livable, trigger an era of shared mobility, and tap the growing value of urban environments to fund critical urban infrastructure. Suburbs throughout the Minneapolis region are beginning to embrace the creation of walkable urban places—realizing the social and economic benefits for their communities. This session will look at regional efforts to urbanize suburban corridors, while taking a closer look at the Lyndale Avenue corridor suburban retrofit strategy in Bloomington, MN—an exemplar for how an auto-oriented city is using density to create walkable neighborhoods.

Life Beyond Zoom: Learning from Virtual Engagement | SOCIAL

2:00pm ET - 3:15pm ET with Jennifer Hurley, Victor Dover, Christina Anderson, Ivette Mongalo-Winston

We have all been thrown into the deep end of virtual engagement. We've learned a lot very quickly – some things are working well, but we are still struggling with various aspects of engaging in this new reality. As Covid restrictions begin to ease, what new ways of working will we keep? This session will use very short presentations and a roundtable discussion with panelists and the audience to share tools and approaches, problem-solve around the struggles we face, and imagine into the future what parts of this new way of working we will try to combine with in-person engagement. Key questions we will explore include: --How has going virtual changed how we engage with decision makers, other stakeholders, and the general community? What challenges are we having? What tools (online and offline) have we tried that have worked, and what are we still struggling with? --Who is getting left out of virtual engagement, and how can we be more inclusive? -- How does the purpose of our engagement – standing meeting, plan workshop, policy implementation – affect how we do virtual engagement? --What are the particular challenges for design-focused work in a virtual environment? --What new ways of working do we want to keep in place even as Covid restrictions begin to ease?

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Wednesday, May 19:

Houselessness: Facing an Urban Challenge | SOCIAL

2:00pm ET - 3:15pm ET with Mitali Ganguly, Steve Coyle, Peter de Maria, Michele Watts

Shelter is often thought of as a basic human right. But with an estimated 550,000 people unhoused on any given night in the US, shelter is clearly something that many cannot take for granted. Houselessness is complex and pervasive, and affects our society and cities in too many ways to ignore. As urbanists, we have the training and tools to take this on as the urban challenge of our times. What design solutions exist? Which ones are short-term fixes, and which ones can create long-lasting change? Which policies have led to tangible outcomes? The panel will examine houselessness from a design and policy perspective, and use case studies to spark discussion and learn from those in the field.

The 15 Minute City with Andres Duany | PHYSICAL

3:30pm ET - 4:30pm ET with Paul Crabtree, Andres Duany, Helene Landemore

The 15-minute city is gaining significant traction politically and in planning circles, but what does it mean? Definitions vary, and there is so much slack in the concept—depending on what transportation modes are included—that even conventional suburban sprawl might qualify under some circumstances. The term offers a two-fold opportunity for urbanists. First, the 15-minute city is a simple enough concept that it resonates with a wide range of people. It was used as a cornerstone of Mayor Anne Hidalgo's successful reelection in Paris, France, in 2020, and lately former HUD secretary Shaun Donovan has adopted the concept as a key to his New York City mayoral candidacy. Urbanists have an urgent opportunity to help define the 15-minute city, and what it means to sustainable planning and urban design, before it is discredited as a mere political slogan.

Missing Middle Housing: Diving Deeper into the Advancements, Implementation, and Next Steps | PHYSICAL

3:30pm ET - 4:30pm ET with Daniel Parolek, Wandy Pascoal, and Jennifer Castenson

As the housing crisis grows, and both municipalities and developers look for new and innovative ways to respond to and communicate about the need for a broader range of housing choices, the concept of Missing Middle Housing is being broadly applied as one such tool: The applications have risen to include state Legislation starting with Oregon's HB 2001 passed in Aug of 2019 followed by Nebraska's Missing Middle Act (LB 866) passed in August of 2020; The concept and its application have become a new best practice standard to include in comprehensive planning updates, area plans, and zoning reform efforts in the US, Australia, and in parts of Canada; Developers are using creative Missing Middle approaches in master planning and building/product type design to address rapidly growing costs of land, labor, materials, and entitlement; and efforts in major us cities have created new entities to focusing on addressing housing issues such as Boston's Housing Innovation Lab, and in Los Angeles The Housing Innovation Collaborative (HICo).

Is this hype leading to results? What barriers do builders still see for the delivery of these types? What successes have cities had and what mistakes are they making? How does financial feasibility vary based on markets? What role are design competitions playing in education and communication about these housing choices? Why do both NIMBYs and YIMBYs like this concept? What role have New Urbanists played in this application? How will COVID impact the demand for these housing choices and walkable neighborhoods they reside within?

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Wednesday, May 19:

Streets, parks, and the public realm – how placemaking can drive equity | SOCIAL

3:30pm ET – 4:30pm ET with Brian Larkin, Moses Timlin, Kathryn Shackelford, Christina Jang

This panel explores three novel lenses to equity driven placemaking: employing placemaking as a tool to reclaim collective agency, providing park equity for all residents, and integrating emerging mobility solutions and COVID-era interventions into the post-Covid world.

How to Fund Your Public Art | SOCIAL

3:30pm ET – 4:30pm ET with Amanda Golden, Patti Tobin, Dan Baisden, Marylou Stephens, Eric Wobster

Amanda Golden, a national expert in public art planning, will lead a panel discussion of public art professionals around the country to discuss the pros and cons of how they fund public art. Each panelist will present on how their community funds public art, how that funding mechanism was selected, strengths of the funding model, as well as the recent history of budgets and 3 year projections of funding mechanism yield.

Designing for Justice | PLENARY

5:00pm ET – 6:30pm ET with Deanna Van Buren

Deanna Van Buren, Executive Director and Design Director of the nonprofit design studio Designing Justice + Designing Spaces, will share the initiatives of recent work in her practice as it relates to addressing racial equity and the role of the designer in unbuilding racism in the U.S.

Thursday, May 20

Ten Actions toward being an Antiracist New Urbanist | SOCIAL

11:00am ET – 12:15pm ET with Karen Parolek, Sara Bronin, Marques King, Ifeoma Ebo

Working to dismantle systemic racism in our country is the work of many, not just a few. As New Urbanists whose work affects the lives of so many, what is our role and responsibility in this dismantling? The history and problems of systemic racism are well documented, but vetted solutions can be harder to gather. New Urbanism can be part of the solution when we engage and practice with care and focus. Experts from the Desegregate CT, the BlackSpace Urbanist Collective, and Jefferson East, Inc. will share their platforms for antiracist work in land use and community development. We'll then discuss where the New Urbanism platform works and where it fails in antiracist work. Finally, we'll focus on actionable steps you can take to be anti-racist in your work, whether you're just getting started or you've already been at it for a minute.

Developer-Builder-Designer: TND Principles in the fast-paced housing market | PHYSICAL

12:45pm ET – 2:00pm ET with: Eric Osth, Katie McDermott, Corinne Green, Ashleigh Walton

1.4 million new homes were developed by production homebuilders in 2020. It is estimated that less than 2% were designed by architects. Daybreak, the 5th best selling community in the country maintains the hand of the architect in the design of new neighborhoods. This panel will share how it works and how builders, architects and developers can adopt this model in the creation of new neighborhoods.

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Thursday, May 20:

The Great Real Estate Reset: Rethinking what and how we build | SOCIAL

12:45pm ET - 2:00pm ET with Tracy Loh, Payton Chung, Calvin Gladney

For generations, the presumptive American real estate consumer has been a middle-class white family—a fact that is reflected in the products, pricing, planning, and public policies that form the baseline of industry practice. Demand for communities that are more prosperous, resilient, and equitable is on the rise. For years, anger over persistent racial and economic segregation and disinvestment, demographic shifts, and changes in where and how we work and shop have been shifting both needs and preferences for housing, retail, and office space—not only in terms of what gets built, but also where and how buildings cluster and connect with one another in place. But despite mounting signs and evidence, presented here in five research briefs, the real estate industry—from local developers to Wall Street financiers—has remained structurally unprepared to meet this demand. Instead, the industry has remained deeply entrenched in or beholden to financial, legal, and professional institutional frameworks that pick winners and losers—to the detriment of greater American society. This, in turn, has left too many communities one Hurricane Katrina (climate crisis) or one global pandemic (COVID-19) away from economic disruption and fiscal deterioration, hampering their collective ability to fully recover and making them all the more vulnerable to future calamities. All this provides both an imperative and an opportunity for the real estate industry—supported by policymakers—to reimagine our built environment and reset current policy and practice toward that vision. What is the role of real estate in achieving this reset?

Transforming Freeways to Boulevards: What to Plan Before You Hit the Detonate Button | POLICY

12:45pm ET - 2:00pm ET with Norman Garrick, Amy Stelly, Chris Sensenig, Marc Wouters

The act of demolishing a major highway to create an urban boulevard is extremely powerful. It can increase sustainable transportation while offering opportunities to strengthen communities on either side of the highway divide. Before the detonation, adjacent communities must have plans for economic opportunity, social justice, and placemaking. Norman Garrick, award-winning expert on transportation and juror of CNU's Freeways without a Future Initiative, will provide an overview of the issues and opportunities of freeway transformation. The session then looks in depth at three transformation projects. Though Jane Jacobs stopped Robert Moses' Manhattan Expressway, he succeeded in cutting The Brooklyn Queens Expressway (BQE). With 156,000 daily vehicles, portions need repair and redesign. Marc Wouters will present transformation proposals as well as NYC's first in the nation Congestion Pricing Plan. In New Orleans, Claiborne Expressway was inserted through the primarily African-American neighborhood of Tremé. The Expressway was built over the community's commercial backbone. Now, residents fight to restore Claiborne Avenue and their community. Amy Stelly of the Clairborne Avenue Alliance will present current efforts and concerns over new, elevated highways in Louisiana. Oakland, CA I-980 carries only 53% of the traffic intended. Citizens groups call for replacing I-980 with a boulevard, transit, bike facilities, and land for development. The vision includes a potential multi-level transit infrastructure. Chris Sensenig of ConnectOAKLAND will present current efforts.

GUILD: Urban Design Update I | PHYSICAL

12:45pm ET - 2:00pm ET with Megan O'Hara, Andrew Von Maur, Susan Henderson, Andres Duany

This session will provide a series of 10 minute updates on specific design topics by leading practitioners. It is a great way for people to stay current on the latest and greatest ideas.

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Thursday, May 20:

Zoning for Equitable Development | POLICY

2:15pm ET - 3:30pm ET with Marta Goldsmith, Karen Parolek, Emily Liu, Sara Bronin

Historically, zoning has been an obstacle—in many cases intentionally—to racial equity and economic inclusion. Municipalities across the country are rethinking their zoning, often using form-based codes, to ensure that restorative racial justice and economic inclusion are fundamental principles underlying all future development. This session will examine the racist and exclusionary impacts of past zoning practices and present real-life examples of how codes are being reimagined to embrace these principles. Panelists will include local policymakers and practitioners who are on the leading edge of putting these new approaches to zoning into practice.

How Elected Women Shape Community Design | SOCIAL / POLICY

2:15pm ET - 3:30pm ET with Cate Ryba, Alejandra Sotelo-Solis, Glenda Hood, Lisa Sanchez

101 years ago, women's right to vote in local elections was ratified. However, it took decades until women began running for office in meaningful numbers. Only 22% of mayors across the country are women. However, local governments have the power to make policy that affects residents on a daily basis in ways that, at times, state and federal officials do not: from community planning efforts to infrastructure projects. This panel will discuss the role of diversity in local governing, and its impact on community design. Panelists will share their unique experience of running for office, and their personal impact and perspective on community design policy. Cities thrive on diversity economically, socially and culturally – both the diversity of those who are at the table making decisions and diversity of the communities who make our cities what they are. These three women hold and have held local and state office, and are from three different regions of the US. Glenda Hood broke barriers as the first female mayor of Orlando, and later as Florida Secretary of State. Alejandra Sotelo-Solis is the first Latina mayor of National City, CA. Lisa Sanchez is the first Latina Mayor Pro Tem of Boise, ID. We need more women to run for office and advocates to help them run, so we have more equity in representation. Join us to learn more about how you can get involved in your own local government.

Redesigning Downtown Buffalo, New York's Land Use to Support Mobility Innovation: How Repurposing Parking Lots and Overbuilt Roads Can Help Rebuild our Community | PHYSICAL

2:15pm ET - 3:30pm ET with Lisa Kenny, Justin Booth, Brendan Mehaffy

Buffalo, New York is utilizing a number of land use and mobility innovations to spur economic and community development, reduce drive-along car trips, increase workforce access, and improve human and environmental health. These include: the conversion of a downtown parking lot to a mixed-use development and a mobility hub; a downtown Mobility Innovation Zone, which was designed at a CNU workshop in 2020, to test autonomous shuttles and other emerging technologies; and reorganizing the management and use of city-owned parking structures. As a legacy, "Rust Belt" city, Buffalo faces great challenges, but is leveraging its existing assets to build for the future. The session will cover design and construction, programming, policies and regulations, a short video tour, and will look at how to balance short and long-term actions, and prepare for technological innovations. We will discuss lessons learned and next steps, and want to hear from the audience about their own experiences with similar efforts.

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Thursday, May 20:

Designing 15-Minute Cities with a network of Mobility Hubs | PHYSICAL

2:15pm ET - 3:30pm ET with Harriet Tregoning, Danielle Elkins, Kammy Horne, Karina Ricks, Andrew Howard

Streets are being redesigned by the minute. But who has access and who is prioritized in the process? The 15-minute city proposes all residents thrive with greater access to community amenities and needs within a short walk, bike or transit ride. To achieve a 15-minute city, several actions must be taken. One of these is expanding the transit shed, an idea that is already being explored in cities through a network of Mobility Hubs. Mobility hubs provide a suite of next generation transportation technologies, services, and infrastructure tailored to meet the needs of city residents, workers, and visitors. Their main purpose is to connect urban centers of activity with transport by enhancing transit-oriented development and complementing it with disruptive services by increasing their coverage and improving their access. Low density areas are ripe for increasing accessibility by transit and two cities (Minneapolis and San Antonio) are exploring these options.

Lady Developers: The Power of Cute Design | PHYSICAL

3:45pm ET - 5:00pm ET with Gracen Johnson, Bernice Radle, Allison Quinlan, Jenifer Acosta

Presenting... The Power of Cute by Jenifer Acosta, Allison Thurmond Quinlan and Bernice Radle! Jen, Alli and Bernice have created The Power of Cute, a panel discussion about the ups, downs and inbetweens of incremental development. While Jen, Alli and Bernice come from different backgrounds and have different business models, all three women have had to work hard to bend and break the boundaries of traditional development. The phrase "do well by doing good" captures the spirit of their efforts to do projects that increase community pride, help create and encourage opportunities to build intergenerational wealth and rebuild walkable, mixed use communities... while still paying the bills. Oh, they aim for a high cuteness factor, too! From getting popsicles and goats to win over a community, ripping off a metal facade to expose a historic building or creating an entire construction company just to make renovation numbers work, attendees will be given lots of lessons, wisdom and stories with the hope to inspire others. With CNU aiming to "design for change", this inclusive, incremental development effort is one worth learning about because these small scale projects are often the overlooked catalysts that our communities so desperately need.

How to dismantle freeway expansion culture at its core | POLICY

3:45pm ET - 5:00pm ET with Heyden Black Walker, Oni Blair, Beth Osborne, John-Michael Vincent Cortez

Like many in the current nationwide freeway revolt, a coalition of Texas community groups and nonprofits is trying to change TXDOT and stop the widening madness. But we've moved from not just fighting the most recent freeway proposal to attacking the assumptions, systems, and inequities underpinning the freeway regime. You can too! Most US Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) have systemic inequity built into their charters. You can see the results on the unrepresentative faces of the transportation decision-making entities that control our regions. Growing pressure across Texas metro regions is boiling up into lawsuits and a push for Federal reform of MPOs. Every time a freeway project is touted as necessary to prevent all of us from sitting in traffic for hours, the models are based upon regional growth forecasts, an outdated practice that "colonizes the future." Instead, metro regions should use equitable scenario planning to entertain multiple future scenarios and engage the people of the region in choosing transportation investments and strategies. However, even if we fix the forecasts, travel demand models are usually based on worthless assumptions and DOTs are often willing to print clearly illogical results from these models. We can switch to analytical regimes based upon maximizing safe access for all people by all modes, with realistic assumptions of what is possible, informed by input from equitable processes on what people want. The panel will speak from the perspectives of city government, local nonprofit advocacy, statewide nonprofit advocacy, and nationwide nonprofit advocacy.

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Thursday, May 20:

Redressing Erasure: A Conversation on Elevating Community Through Curiosity and Learning | SOCIAL

3:45pm ET - 5:00pm ET with Allie O'Neill, John Yung, Jeff Raser, Shannon Meadows, Nehemiah Dixon, Sam Parker

What is a place without its history? Whose stories are remembered and whose are forgotten? How does history and memory shape the future of places? This session will focus on a variety of placemaking projects in communities where controversial and sometimes hidden histories have had an impact in shaping current community conversations around development and change. This panel discussion will be an open dialog about place, history, and the role of design in uncovering community stories. The discussion will be co-moderated by two designers, John Yung and Allie O'Neill, with panelists spanning a range of disciplines. Joining in the discussion is Shannon Meadows, Director of Community Development in Springfield, Ohio to discuss efforts the city and community are doing to address challenges and opportunities in the city's southern neighborhoods. Jeff Raser, of CUDA Studio, a Cincinnati based architect with extensive experience in crafting community vision and action around history. Nehemiah Dixon III, Public Artist and Director of Community Engagement at The Phillips Collection, will speak to the critical role that artists and the arts play in telling complex stories and engaging audiences around difficult topics. Samuel Parker Jr, AICP, member of the Aman Trust Board of Directors, will bring experience around homegrown community planning and preservation efforts, looking at how to balance aspiration with action.

NTBA: Can Small Builders Help Ease the Housing Affordability Crisis? | PHYSICAL

3:45pm ET - 5:00pm ET with Macon Toledano, Laurie Volk, Jenifer Acosta, Eric Kronberg, Yonina Gray

America faces a broadening crisis of housing affordability. While prices continue to rise, relative inflation-adjusted incomes for the majority of Americans have essentially been stagnant since the 1970s. Housing production and rehabilitation costs are up in every category and the gap between median income and median house price continues to grow. Our panel and participants will debate whether the experience, skills, and resources of small and medium-size builders could potentially help alleviate this crisis, and perhaps establish strategies for larger builders to follow.

Art Room: The Art of Observing and Analyzing the City - Plein Air Techniques | PHYSICAL

5:30pm ET - 6:45pm ET with James Dougherty, Peter Richards, Arti Harkechar, Stephen Chrisman, Eric Osth

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 head outside virtually for a quick guided session to 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.

Scaling up the New Urbanism: Using State Laws to Improve Local Codes | POLICY

5:30pm ET - 6:45pm ET with Patrick Siegman, Stefan Pelligrini, Lisa Wise

CNU's Charter declares that "metropolitan regions should develop strategies to encourage infill development over peripheral expansion"; that "within neighborhoods, a broad range of housing types and price levels" should be allowed to strengthen "the personal and civic bonds essential to an authentic community"; and that "appropriate building densities and land uses should be within walking distance of transit stops, permitting public transit to become a viable alternative to the automobile". Yet our built results are often too small, too little, and too late. America remains dominated by local laws that exclude low-cost housing types and demand auto-dependent sprawl.

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Thursday, May 20:

(continued) In California, for example, home prices have soared since CNU's founding. Economists widely agree that the root cause is local governments' refusal to allow enough housing and that the state needs at least 4 million new homes. But New Urbanists' local codes have often delivered only a handful of three-story buildings near rail stations. We will debate the proposition that new urbanists' aspirations can only be achieved by statewide zoning reforms. To launch the debate, panelists will briefly review a few reforms enacted in states like California, Massachusetts, and Michigan, including Oregon's abolition of exclusionary single-family zoning. One will make the case for Connecticut's proposed SB1024, which requires towns to allow apartments near transit, among other reforms. Which aspects of CNU's Charter, if any, can realistically only be achieved by passing state laws that require inclusion and fair-share efforts? Which aspects, if any, can or should be achieved by local laws?

Pandemic Toolkits at work | PHYSICAL

5:30pm ET - 6:45pm ET with Kerry Kayes, Hazel Borys, Jason Syvixay, Joe Nickol

Disruption to "business as usual" has become a more frequent and intense reality. Most disruptions come and go. After hurricanes, earthquakes and tornadoes we build back with new codes and standards. After terrorist or cyber attacks we build thicker and stronger defenses. After economic collapses we change what or how much we build. Each time disaster strikes we recover, rebuild and repeat. A PANDEMIC IS DIFFERENT. Rather than an acute shock, pandemics slowly churn for months or even years and their elongated uncertainty creates new patterns for living, learning, working and moving about. In the process they elevate trends and technologies while exposing vulnerabilities and inequities. Temporary shifts become sustained and we start making permanent changes to our built environment to reflect our new habits. But what if it is illegal to adapt our living patterns to new needs? The pandemic has brought into clearer focus is that the development policies and land use that govern much of earth inhibit our ability to respond and adapt to sustained disruptions. This session brings together complementary approaches to addressing these intertwined problems. The Pandemic Toolkit concisely spells out 22 actions that communities can take to update their operating systems to better and more inclusively adapt to this type of crisis. The Adaptive Place Toolkit (APT) allows regions, cities and towns to audit where and how these operating system upgrades should be deployed, how to triage or respond during an active pandemic, and how to incorporate adaptability into everything that we build. This last component brings the discussion full circle, tying together the policy and zoning elements of the Pandemic Toolkit with the market-responsive tactics and operational guidance of the APT.

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Friday, May 21:

Community Land Trusts: A Model of Affordable Housing and Reducing Displacement | POLICY

11:00am ET - 12:15pm ET with Marc Wouters, Amanda Rhein, Beth Sorce, Rachel Cary, Monxo Lopez

Over 200 Community Land Trusts in the US have become an important tool to create Affordable Housing and support local Small Businesses. In cities that have experienced large population influx, housing prices have risen dramatically. Existing low-income residents, the stewards of city neighborhoods and that are often minority communities, can be displaced by higher-priced development. Cities can lose part of their local culture, workforce, and experience social fragmentation. The Community Land Trust (CLT) secures affordable real estate by obtaining community-owned land that is protected from speculative development. Nonprofit CLT's provide neighborhood-focused solutions including, affordable homeownership, long-term methods for residents to remain, and affordable commercial space. In this session, the leaders of Community Land Trusts from several parts of the US will provide an overview of benefits and technical operations. The Atlanta Land Trust (ALT) delivers permanently affordable housing and inclusive communities on the front end urban redevelopment projects like the Atlanta BeltLine. ALT has goals to build approximately 1000 homes. The Cooper Square Committee trust was founded when it stopped Robert Moses from demolishing a neighborhood in the East Village of New York. The Westside Future Fund is retaining communities in the Westside of Atlanta. Grounded Solutions Network is a national resource for CLT's based in Oakland. Urban planner Marc Wouters, who has worked on public and affordable housing, will moderate the session.

Open Cities: Data-driven approaches for citizen-based participatory planning and design | SOCIAL

11:00am ET - 12:15pm ET with Christian Kray, Shivm Gupta, Samuel Navas Medrano, Karin Pfeffer, Simge Ozdal Oktay

Cities are opening to new possibilities every day with the influence of increasing flows of people, information, materials, and most importantly, open data. Therefore, they continuously seek new and efficient ways to manage changes, provide livable environments and build resilient communities at different scales. Various innovative tools and methods have been developed to serve these purposes. These tools and methods facilitate monitoring, analysis, and management of urban development processes. Still, a key challenge persists in bringing diverse stakeholders together in a collaborative process within an efficient, transparent, participatory, and collaborative approach. Open cities can support this approach through data-driven, analytical tools and methods that enhance citizen-based participatory planning and design. They are defined by cities that strive for openness on multiple levels, including transparency, participation, and collaboration. Open data support each level by enabling large scale, real-time collaboration independent from time and location; and strengthening informed citizens who open up for participation. This session will highlight examples of tools and methods for collaborative decision making, participatory planning, and collective solutions in urban planning and design. It will explore new opportunities and bottlenecks of building livable environments through "open cities."

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Friday, May 21:

The Rise of Living Alone | SOCIAL

11:00am ET - 12:15pm ET with Eric Kronberg, Allison Quinlan, Joel Dixon, Eli Spevak

Sixty-three percent of US households consist of one or two people, a growing demographic that is historically unprecedented, while the median size of a new construction home in 2019 was 2,322 SF. The steepest increases in solitary living come from nations, and populations, with the highest education and incomes. This suggests that meeting the housing needs of this growing market demand with apartments alone is insufficient. Many small householders desire the financial benefits and stability of a home purchase with a long-term mortgage, leading many of them to purchase homes completely inappropriate for their needs and household size. How can we provide adequate housing to this large market segment by designing homes and communities at a variety of price points specifically for them? This is an architectural challenge, but also a community challenge, as we strive to develop housing that balances the needs for both privacy and social connection for solitary households. Join us as we provide demographic specifics, interior arrangements, architectural lessons, and site design elements through a series of project case studies that show what works, and what hasn't, for providing desirable, livable homes for small households. This session will include in-depth data about this growing demographic and provide hard-won knowledge about the details that matter in providing single family homes that fit single person households.

Building Types for the ~~Post-Pandemic~~, ~~Post-Parking~~, Post-Apocalyptic? Neighborhood | PHYSICAL

11:00am ET - 12:15pm ET with Todd Zimmerman, Brian O'Looney, Shannon McDonald, Marianne Cusato, Marques King

Will some building types require fundamental rethinking, inside or out, over the post-pandemic near-term and further into the future? What types may be due for a reconsideration? A panel will discuss and debate five residential or mixed-use building types as proposed by prominent New Urbanists to be due for revision in response to COVID-19 and longer-term societal and economic trends, particularly those accelerated by the pandemic. The discussion may consider household demographics, work patterns, security and surveillance, transportation, autonomous vehicles, and privatized mobility. Attendees will interact via live polling.

Design Techniques for Incremental Development Projects; How to Avoid Common Massing & Proportion Mistakes | PHYSICAL

5:00pm ET - 6:00pm ET with Gian Lloyd, Allison Thurmond, Ashleigh Walton

A successful building starts with proportion. This session focuses on practical techniques to evaluate existing buildings and building proposals to identify and correct common proportion mistakes, and how to take a building to the next level. Do you want to tackle your first incremental development project? Maybe you sit on a local design review board, or you're just tired of not knowing why you "just don't like" that new or renovated building in town? If so, this session is for you!

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Friday, May 21:

International III: Latin America | PHYSICAL

12:45pm ET - 1:45pm ET with Brian O'Looney, David Rodriguez, Eduardo Castillo-Cortes

This presentation will survey of New Urbanist work completed over the past ten years in Latin American countries including Guatemala, Costa Rica, Panama, and elsewhere south of the Rio Grande. Participants will share perspectives from their experience, including lessons learned from implementation of work in this region. They will compare past experiences working on projects in North America to their work in Latin America and will discuss the challenges and opportunities for success with pedestrian oriented efforts. They will take care to compare and contrast particular cultural differences to the sensibilities of a primarily North American audience and will reveal customs and cultural considerations that help or hinder efforts to achieve successful outcomes. Responses to climate will be highlighted.

Climate Change 101: Preparing for Mass Relocation | PHYSICAL

12:45pm ET - 1:45pm ET with Tara Gupta, Taylor Bearden, Emanuel Admassu, Claudia Ford

In this deep dive, we will explore how climate change will change which places around the world are habitable for humans. As a result, huge movements of people will take place, and have already begun to take place with populations pushed out from desertification and sea level rise. Existing cities and towns will have to rapidly adjust for the new populations. Which place will be affected, and how do we prepare for this change? Let's explore!

(Commercial) Corridor Revitalization without Displacement | PHYSICAL/SOCIAL

12:45pm ET - 1:45pm ET with Marianne Struck, Ilana Preuss, Bobby Boone

How can corridor redevelopment become a larger visioning tool that helps revitalize an entire district without displacing its businesses and residents? What strategies can we use before development occurs to address social equity and a holistic economic development strategy while preserving existing assets and discouraging displacement? This session will explore success stories and new ideas, starting with short presentations where we will look at pre-development planning and pro forma stage of a revitalization project and share specific tools, actions and methods that can make a difference to retain locally owned businesses and housing affordable to existing residents.

The discussion will focus on both the design and policy perspective, as well as the market and economic development options to understand all implications and implementation challenges.

Then, we will shift to a scenario-based conversation where interactive tools will allow the audience to engage and share their ideas on strategies to address this challenge.

The Post-Pandemic City with Andres Duany | PHYSICAL

12:45pm ET - 1:45pm ET with Andres Duany

Andrés Duany, co-founder of DPZ CoDesign and CNU, discusses which current trends may work in favor of New Urbanist principles and which may be working in competition. Moderated by Lou Marquet, principal of Leyland Alliance, this webinar shows DPZ designs from the current COVID era, and highlight the ways in which they have changed or remained true to "business as usual."

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Friday, May 21:

Art Room: How to Design the Postcard View – Pictorial Composition Boot Camp | PHYSICAL

2:00pm ET – 3:15pm ET with James Dougherty, David Csont, Galina Tachieva, Eduardo Castillo

People see their world in perspective – not plan view. When sitting down to design great new environments for people, consideration of the three-dimensional composition of the urban realm is critical. Join us for a fast-paced, hands-on boot camp utilizing drawing and painting techniques to explore key compositional principles for designing compelling, beautiful urban places.

STEP Buildings, the embodiment of incremental development | SOCIAL

2:00pm ET – 3:15pm ET with Bernice Radle, Eric Kronberg, Gracen Johnson

STEP Buildings are the embodiment of incremental development. They are time-honored steps that regular people take to generate income from a building, from house hacks to commercial incubation. Learn about all 50 STEP Buildings in this session with the Incremental Development Alliance. S = Small-scale - Small enough for local people to develop and own. STEP Buildings create neighborhoods that feel loved and handmade. They max out at three stories avoiding the need for an elevator. Smallness makes these buildings more affordable to build and lease. T = Time-enhanced - STEP Buildings show us how buildings can learn. They depict the many life-stages of a home or business, and how structures or floor plans evolve to changing those needs. Small developers create real, lasting value by cultivating their neighborhood with STEPs. E = Entrepreneurial - These are working buildings that earn an income. They don't rely on speculative gains. Cash flow is what makes them so resilient over time - they can pay for their own maintenance and adaptation. Entrepreneurial people develop these buildings by finding creative ways to fill gaps in their market and neighborhood. P = Purposeful - STEP Buildings are an answer to "What does this neighborhood need?" They have a job to do and are brought to life by people who care about the building itself and the place it serves.

Commercial Affordability | SOCIAL

2:00pm ET – 3:15pm ET with Garlynn Woodson, Ilana Preuss, Kevin Cavanaugh, Skyra Rideaux

Affordable commercial spaces are home to the vast majority of local businesses – from manufacturing to retail to dining. These are the places that give character to a neighborhood, providing local jobs, local flavor, and a distinctive sense of place. Affordable commercial space is also very hard to come by – whether you're in a hot market with a lot of new investment or a cooler one, with vacant spaces that are inaccessible or off the market entirely. This conversation brings together the perspectives of a small developer turned reluctant gentrifier and a small manufacturing pioneer to discuss the obvious 'why' and the more cryptic 'how' of providing affordable commercial space in our cities and towns.

Who should own the last mile of urban transportation? | POLICY

2:00pm ET – 3:15pm ET with Dan Kaplan, Ignacio Tzoumas, Lisa Nisenon

A deep-dive into how communities can account for the last mile of travel for all neighborhoods, even and especially those located far away from public transportation hubs. Specifically, how can public and private entities work together to "own" the last mile and make it accessible to all, not just those with access to cars.

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Friday, May 21:

GUILD: Urban Design Update II | PHYSICAL

3:30pm ET - 4:45pm ET with Howard Blackson, John Anderson, Jennifer Hurley, Bob Gibbs, Mike Lydon, Eliza Harris

This session will provide a series of 10 minute updates on specific design topics by leading practitioners. It is a great way for people to stay current on the latest and greatest ideas.

Historic Preservation as a Legal Tool to Promote Diverse Communities | POLICY / SOCIAL

3:30pm ET - 4:45pm ET with William Cook, Monica Rhodes, Ken Bernstein, Di Gao, Brent Leggs

This panel will explore the role of historic preservation law, its influence on design, and how to use it as a legal tool to protect and enhance diversity in communities. Although inappropriately narrow application of preservation law excluded many aspects of history in the past, current practice seeks to leverage historic preservation as a way to enhance livability, promote public health, encourage sustainability, and promote diversity, among other goals. National experts will explore a wide range of topics including cultural heritage districts, real estate development, and using landmark designation at the federal, state, and local levels to recognize and celebrate the full history of underrepresented communities as evidenced by their public and private buildings—and how to design new ones for these communities that are worthy of preservation in the future.

From Pop-Up to Permanent: Tactical Implementation Beyond COVID-19 | POLICY

3:30pm ET - 4:45pm ET with Mike Lydon, Zeke Mermell, Siddharth Shah

The first decade of Tactical Urbanism as a cataloged movement has come and gone. The second decade should continue with cities across the US and worldwide implementing pop-up demonstration projects with low-cost, readily available materials. The impacts of Covid-19 – from changing travel patterns to the need for outdoor dining space – have spurred cities to embrace temporary pop-ups. As we navigate out of the immediate crisis, not every pop-up can or should be made permanent. As cities grapple with constrained funding & resources, this session will examine how to convert pop-ups to permanent projects using an equity-centered approach. Join the discussion with Sam Schwartz, a transportation planning/engineering firm based in New York, as we share our perspective via a decision-making framework for selecting how pop-ups can become permanent. We will convey how we established a distinction between pop-ups that should or should not be made permanent. We will discuss how to integrate community involvement into decision-making, including historically-marginalized populations. We will also convey key steps & potential barriers in converting pop-ups to permanent projects. After our presentation and worksheet “share,” we will lead a 360-degree discussion of going from pop-up to permanent. Attendees will learn about current practices around pop-ups from national & global perspectives, including how a few cities responded to Covid-19 with Tactical Urbanism & other types of projects.

Illustrating the Built Environment: The Latest Tools and Techniques | PHYSICAL

3:30pm ET - 4:45pm ET with Jeffrey Schwaiger, Mike Thompson, JJ Zanetta

Description forthcoming.

Climate Change and a Critique of European Eco Cities | PHYSICAL

5:00pm ET - 6:00pm ET with Michael Dennis, Doug Farr, Dan Solomon, John Ellis

Description forthcoming.

CNU 29. Design *for* Change

Congress Program Friday, May 21:

Art Room: Travel Sketching & Painting – Practice with the Pros! | PHYSICAL

5:00pm ET – 6:00pm ET with James Dougherty, Arti Harkechar, David Csont, JJ Zanetta

The best way to learn is by doing! Come join us for this guided virtual travel sketching & painting practice session. We'll virtually visit a series of beautiful walkable places, and New Urbanist illustrators will explain their approach for capturing the essence of the scene. Be sure to have your sketch pad, brushes and other graphic tools of choice ready, so you can follow along. Practice makes perfect!

Charter Awards Ceremony

6:30pm ET – 8:00pm ET with Geoff Dyer and other guests

The CNU Charter Awards recognize exemplary work in architectural, landscape, urban, and regional design, as defined by the Charter of the New Urbanism. Join us to honor the award recipients whose accomplishments have enlivened communities, created stronger public places, and address a range of issues from transportation to climate resilience.