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Detroit hosts 24th annual Congress for the New Urbanism **Architects, designers, planners, advocates gather for four-day CNU conference**

CONTACT: Sam Warlick, sam@CNU.org, (615) 812-7013

DETROIT, MI — On Wednesday, June 8, over 1,500 architects, urban planners, designers, developers, engineers, and advocates will convene in downtown Detroit, MI to begin the 24th annual Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU 24).

Hosted by the national nonprofit Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU), the Congress is the premiere international event on designing and building walkable communities, mixed-use development, and sustainable, equitable cities. The event will center on the Gem Theater and Michigan Opera House, with events throughout the week in dozens of venues and public spaces across greater Detroit.

Headlining speakers include Detroit natives and residents like Janette Sadik-Khan, Maurice Cox, Anika Goss-Foster, and Carol Coletta, along with international urban design experts like Mitchell Silver, Jeff Speck, Manuel Pastor, and former Charleston Mayor Joe Riley. Over 100 expert speakers, panelists, and workshop facilitators will participate, leading sessions that range from “Innovative Affordable Housing” to “Practical Guidance on Highway Removals”.

Many key events are also open to the public. Opportunities to attend free include a Wednesday evening session featuring Riley and Coletta, a New Urbanist film festival on Thursday evening, and a Friday pop-up Detroit marketplace organized by the Build Bazaar. Additionally, a series of in-the-field urban design workshops, part of a program called City as Platform, will bring expert speakers to Detroit neighborhoods facing major planning challenges on Saturday.

This annual event is the flagship program of CNU, a national group devoted to building walkable, sustainable neighborhoods. With over 2400 members working in communities across North America—from urban centers to historic small towns—CNU works to connect and empower the professionals, leaders, advocates, and citizens creating places people love.

Registration for the Congress is available online and on-site as both one- and four-day passes. Professional development credits for architects and planners are also available. Information on free events, along with online registration and a full agenda, is available at CNU24.org.

Through 23 years of advocacy, the [Congress for the New Urbanism](#) has changed the national conversation from a debate over sprawl to a discussion on how to reinvest in our cities and towns. As Americans both young and old demand walkable lifestyles, the market for unique and green places is growing in every region. Through our projects, innovative tools, events, membership and programs, we empower people to deliver those places. CNU is a 501(c)3 with offices in Chicago, IL and Washington, DC.

Public Events:

Wednesday, June 8

Toward a More Walkable Detroit (Jeff Speck) — 4:00 p.m.
Gem Theater, 333 Madison St.

Opening Plenary (Mayor Joe Riley, Carol Coletta) — 6:00 p.m.
The Fillmore, 2115 Woodward Avenue

Thursday, June 9

City Lobby Urban Exchange — 6:00 p.m.
Detroit Urban Consulate, 4470 Second Avenue

The Future of Small Cities and Towns (James Howard Kunstler) — 6:45 p.m.
St. Clair College for the Arts, 201 Riverside Drive, Windsor, ON, Canada

New Urban Film Festival — 7:00 p.m.
Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway

“Code Hacking Confidential” — 8:30 p.m.
Detroit Beer Company, 1529 Broadway

Friday, June 10

Detroit Build Bazaar — 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway

Pecha Kucha Detroit — 7:00 p.m.
Detroit Beer Company, 1529 Broadway

Deep Dive Detroit: Dinner & Dialogue — 8:00 p.m.
Detroit Urban Consulate, 4470 Second Avenue

CNU & Strong Towns Debate Night — 9:00 p.m.
Detroit Beer Company, 1529 Broadway

Saturday, June 11

Riverside Drive Road Diet — 8:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Riverside Drive, Windsor, ON, Canada

CNU 24 Closing Party — 5:00 p.m.
Campus Martius Park, 800 Woodward Avenue