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Walkable Neighborhood Workshop Results To Be Unveiled Sunday
Nasher Sculpture Center will host 1:15-3:00pm open house

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DALLAS, TX — On March 29, public officials from four North Texas communities, including Garland Mayor Douglas Athas, Burleson Mayor Ken Shetter, and Fort Worth Councilmember Ann Zadeh, will unveil the results of four community-driven workshop projects aimed at strengthening walkability, redevelopment, and economic vitality in target neighborhoods across the Dallas region, organized by national advocacy group the Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU).

Led by national and local experts in vibrant, walkable urban development, the projects hinge largely around workshops known as “charrettes” — multi-day open-house sessions that combine community perspectives with planning expertise to create shared visions, illustrations, and strategies for future development and stronger neighborhoods. Those plans and illustrations will be on display this Sunday at a “pin-up” reception event exploring the charrettes’ impact.

The reception’s program includes:

- 1:15 p.m. Doors open.
- 1:20 p.m. Welcoming remarks by Doug Farr, CNU Board chair.
- 1:30 p.m. Remarks by Mayor Athas, Mayor Shetter, Councilmember Zadeh, and others.
- 2-3:00 p.m. Open house with plans and illustrations on display and expert design teams present to answer questions.

All of the expert-led charrettes are based around existing community goals. One targets Fort Worth’s Six Points Urban Village, working to turn residents’ vision for a more economically vibrant neighborhood into actionable plans and illustrations. Another, focused on the city of Burleson’s Old Town neighborhood, aims to improve walkability and connect the historic district to city institutions.

A third workshop, in Garland, is designed to help residents shape the City’s plan for redevelopment in the East End neighborhood. A fourth, based not on a workshop but on months of collaboration, aims to establish an enduring partnership between CNU members and the South Dallas-based Frazier Revitalization, Inc to support future revitalization efforts in the Hatcher-Scyene neighborhood. Sunday’s event will showcase the illustrations and outputs from all four initiatives.

The Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU), a national group focused on walkable, sustainable neighborhood development, organized the workshops with its local

partners as part of its annual Congress, scheduled this year for April 29-May 2 in Dallas. Known as Legacy Charrettes, the projects aim to leave a lasting positive mark on their host cities by offering high-level design expertise that will have positive benefits well after the Congress.

National firms Torti Gallas & Partners (Washington, DC), Van Meter Williams Pollack LLP (Denver, CO), and Mithun | Solomon (San Francisco, CA) contributed the expert out-of-town staff to lead the workshops. Local firms Space Between Design Studio, VERDUNITY, ASH+LIME Strategies, Options Real Estate, and Gateway Planning joined them.

Sunday's open reception and 'pin-up' event begins at 1:15 p.m. in Dallas' Nasher Sculpture Center. All are invited to attend and explore the results. Mayors, elected officials, and city staff from Garland, Burleson, Fort Worth, and South Dallas will be available to answer questions.

Full reviews of the Legacy Charrettes will also be held during the 23rd annual CNU Congress, which convenes 1500+ leaders in architecture, design, planning, engineering, and development. Registration for the Congress is open. One-day passes and à la carte workshop registrations are available. For more information, visit cnu23.org.

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