

### Call for Interest:

# COMMUNITY DESIGN WORKSHOP

## Congress for New Urbanism Legacy Projects

## Dates

Letter of Interest Due  
5 pm September 13, 2024

Selected Projects Notified  
October 18, 2024

Participant Kick-Off Call Week  
of October 28, 2024

Local Matching Funds Due  
December 15, 2024

Organizing Calls  
Nov. 2024 - Jan. 2025

Design Workshops  
February 2025

CNU New England @  
Providence  
June 11-14, 2025

## Past Projects

[cnu.org/our-projects/legacy-projects](https://cnu.org/our-projects/legacy-projects)

**Cincinnati, OH:** Vision for a new hub district at the confluence of four rails-to-trails bike paths in Xenia, including market study, zoning analysis, and short- and long-term designs for new parks, housing, and re-developed brownfield sites.

**Louisville, KY:** In 2019, Gresham Smith provided an "incremental playbook" to revitalize and connect seven miles of an urban creek system. Strategies ranged from stormwater management techniques to storytelling spaces to educate residents on the ecological importance of the creek.

The Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU) is a member-based nonprofit organization that champions better design of cities and towns to improve lives and strengthen communities for all. For over thirty years, CNU has been the leading organization in reforming city-building across the country, gathering the broad spectrum of practitioners and advocates who share our mission.

Providence is hosting the 33rd annual gathering of CNU, bringing 1500 community planners, designers, and developers together June 11-14, 2025. Local CNU members serving on the Host Committee invite letters of interest from communities or organizations to participate in a Legacy Project.

Legacy Projects are community design workshops that take place in the region where the gathering is being held, led by national experts in planning, design, and architecture. Legacy Projects may focus on a downtown, neighborhood, commercial district, or corridor. They include community engagement and participation from local stakeholders and residents, and result in a report with a near-term action plan to address topics like transit, safer streets, placemaking, housing affordability, climate resilience, etc.

**Who Should Apply:** Municipalities, community non-profits, neighborhood organizations, or other parties in the region can apply. The lead project entity should be a local government or a group that has support from the local government.

**Expectations:** Selected community partners will participate in organizing calls, take a lead role in local outreach, work closely with CNU to make decisions on the project, form a local steering committee, and cover direct costs and logistics of on-site meetings. Selected partners will also follow through with continued support to implement the plan's recommendations.

**Local Match:** Professional services of a Legacy Project are valued at \$100,000 - \$125,000 in donated time and work. Each selected organization or community is expected to contribute \$7,500 for direct travel expenses of the firms and to demonstrate the capacity to implement the recommendations. Assistance with funding may be available from the Local Host Committee. Any combination of municipal, foundation, corporate, or individual sponsorship can be the source of the funds.

**Selection and Criteria:** Letters of interest will be evaluated by a panel of CNU staff and Local Host Committee members. The panel will consider the nature of the proposed project (applicable solutions to other local issues; serves underrepresented communities; creates opportunities for widespread benefits; suitable for a design workshop format), and the capacity of the lead organization (includes a project champion who is able to organize and advance the project; shows intent to provide logistical assistance). Communities that meet these criteria may be invited to provide further details. Up to three (3) Legacy Projects are anticipated.

## Submit a Letter of Interest

To express interest in hosting a Legacy Project, submit a letter of interest (3-page maximum) to Lauren Mayer by 5 pm on September 13, 2024. Please Include:

- Introduction of lead project entity or organization. Identify a single point of contact.
- Summary of proposed project location, the focus of the challenge to be addressed, and a potential path towards implementation.
- Summary of the lead entity's capacity to support the project.

**Questions?** Contact Lauren Mayer, CNU: [lmayer@cnu.org](mailto:lmayer@cnu.org)