

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Redwood City, California, January 5, 2013, 10:00 AM PST

TO: CNU Members in California

FROM: Steve Lawton, Outgoing Chairman, Northern California Chapter

SUBJECT: Expansion to a California Chapter

Today the Board of Directors of the [Congress for the New Urbanism in Northern California](#) ratified its previous adoption of new bylaws that, among other changes, expands the territory covered by the Chapter to include all counties in California.

The Northern California Chapter's territory comprised 48 of California's 58 counties. CNU members south of the Tehachapis may now, subject to CNU approval, belong to the chapter identified as "Congress for the New Urbanism California Chapter".

The Board also acted to accept nominations and seat on the Board five additional Directors from Southern California:

- Paul Bettenhausen
- Howard Blackson
- Art Cueto
- Paul Martin
- Matt Shannon

The expanded Board then elected new or continuing officers:

- As Chair: Nori Jabba
- As Vice-Chair: Howard Blackson
- As Secretary: Art Cueto, with Michael Michaud as Interim Secretary
- As Treasurer: Steve Coyle

Expansion to a California Chapter marks a milestone in the movement towards a New Urbanism in California. Since 2003, CNU members of the Northern California Chapter have laid the foundation for thoughtful reform of land use and urban design in the cities and towns of the world's eighth-largest economy:

- In 2003, by submitting a White Paper to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, which resulted in statewide guidance authorizing Form Based Codes for use by all agencies with land-use authority.
- In 2008, by providing input to the Land Use Scoping Plan for Assembly Bill 32, the landmark climate-change law.

- In 2009, by organizing a mobile Salon aboard a private railcar on the Amtrak California Zephyr to Denver for CNU 17.
- In 2009, by organizing a talk by Andres Duany for the Governor's Strategic Growth Council.
- Beginning 2011, by sponsoring a regular Speakers' Series in cooperation with the Northern California Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.
- In 2012-13, by organizing a charrette for the benefit of a small town in the Central Valley.
- By lectures and workshops for planning practitioners and elected officials at annual conferences and other venues.
- By lectures and workshops for citizens, such as the Valley Futures Forum, addressing issues of urbanism in the Central Valley.
- By implementing numerous Form-Based Codes and other local plans which demonstrate NU principles through successful, built implementation at several scales in the towns and cities of California.

Tom Dolan, Phil Erickson, Steve Lawton and Dan Parolek founded the Northern California Chapter in 2006. Current Directors and their home cities are:

- Steve LawtonHercules
- Steve Coyle.....Oakland
- Daniel DuniganSan Francisco
- Nori Jabba.....Redwood City
- Tim Frank.....Berkeley
- Dan Zack.....Redwood City
- Michael MichaudKingsburg
- Paul Bettenhausen.....Irvine
- Howard BlacksonSan Diego
- Art CuetoFullerton
- Paul MartinTustin
- Matt Shannon.....North Tustin

In the coming months, the Directors plan to complete the administrative tasks of conforming the remaining organizational and tax-related documents to the new territorial scope. The enlarged California Chapter will serve nearly 200 CNU members influencing the continuing settlement patterns of 38 million Californians.

The California Chapter is organized to encourage the adoption in California of the principles and practices of the New Urbanism.

The [Congress for the New Urbanism](#) is the national movement advocating the restructuring of public policy and development practices in favor of the restoration of existing urban centers and towns within coherent metropolitan

regions, the reconfiguration of sprawling suburbs into communities of real neighborhoods and diverse districts, the conservation of natural environments, and the preservation of our built legacy.

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