



Charlotte, Asheville and Area Towns

- 1st Ward
- 4th Ward
- Dilworth
- Myers Park
- The Metropolitan
- Baxter Village
- Belmont
- Kannapolis
- Davidson
- Cornelius
- Flat Rock

The Southeast brings us BIG answers

Charlotte has given birth to many Smart Growth strategies from its early days as a trading post to recent years building its future around transit, reinventing its entire downtown, implementing daring road diets, and building urban villages and trails. Come see the change for yourself. Whatever size town you work in, whatever your profession in town-making, Charlotte has a great planning history, which led to great historic neighborhoods, and an abundance of modern pride. This gives Charlotte the rightful throne as “Queen of the South.”

But the answers to town-making don't stop at the city's limits. The tour takes you to many neighboring towns, and ends in the more bohemian city of Asheville. Many neighboring towns and cities are full of beauty, charisma and livability.

Starting more than fifteen years ago, Charlotte challenged its conventional suburban future by focusing on modern tools and practices. Participants will experience the original good “bones” of older neighborhoods like Dilworth and Myers Park, as well as discover how suburban and old mill towns are becoming transformed into sustainable, healthy, socially engaging and financially sound new neighborhoods. These select towns and neighborhoods illustrate the potential for many, many places in North America to build a prosperous future. On this tour you will walk and take transit through the best neighborhoods, traditional neighborhood developments (TNDs), transit-oriented developments (TODs), villages and urban labs anywhere in the nation.

Features, Details and Tour Options

Tour starts at 9:30am on Monday, January 31, 2011 from the Westin Hotel in downtown Charlotte, 601 S. College Street.

Included: The price of \$595 (double room) or \$765 (single room) includes all planning, coordination, administration, guide services, lodging for three nights, meals, tour bus, light rail and other direct costs. If you don't need a hotel room for Sunday night the cost is \$485 (double room) or \$655 (single room). If you are flying in on Monday morning you can also meet up with the tour at 1:00pm. We will try to accommodate rooming preferences. **Space is limited so please reserve early.**

Not included: You must provide and schedule your transportation to the Westin Hotel in downtown Charlotte. Many participants will stay for the New Partners for Smart Growth conference, which starts at the Westin Hotel (our end point) on February 3rd. The tour ends the evening of February 2nd after dinner, so catch your breath, discover Charlotte, and get ready for the conference. (Hotel for night of February 2nd is **not** included)

How Fit Should I Be? You should feel comfortable walking, bicycling and photographing twelve hours each day. This is **not** a leisure tour. Fancy clothes are out. Comfort is in. People in good health find this tour moderate in its challenge. Bring cool weather gear, and hope for lots of fun in the sun.

For Information or to Register:

Local Government Commission
1303 “J” Street, Suite 250
Sacramento, California 95814
erin@lgc.org www.lgc.org
Erin Hauge, Project Associate

For information on the New Partners for Smart Growth conference check out:
www.NewPartners.org

Tour Leaders:

Dan Burden is considered North America's walkability and livability guru with over 30 years of experience designing for pedestrians and bicyclists. Dan is founder of the Walkable and Livable Communities Institute. Since 1995, he has visited and worked in over 200 communities every year.

Paul Zykovsky, AICP is Associate Director at the Local Government Commission where he manages community design programs. Over the past 15 years he has worked with dozens of local jurisdictions to create, walkable, livable communities that incorporate the best principles of Smart Growth and placemaking.

Dan Gallagher, Charlotte DOT's Transportation Planning Manager, works on integrating land use and transportation and applying innovative transportation tools to retrofit older neighborhoods and create walkable and transit-friendly new neighborhoods.



Charlotte and Region

Smart Growth

Tour

Big City, Suburbs,

Small Towns, Old

and New

Jan. 31 - Feb. 2
Charlotte, NC



Charlotte and her Sisters — Using the Oldest Tools to Rebuild America



What to expect? Tours start promptly each day right after breakfast and end around 8:00pm each evening (following a relaxed dinner). If you want leisurely do not sign up for this tour. This is an information-saturated, highly active, shared learning experience. Courtesy to others means you will rejoin the group on time after independent exploration. Participants should be in good health and be ready for a full day of activity, including walking, with intermittent travel by coach bus and light rail. Meals will be a mix, from quick breakfasts, to relaxed lunches to comfortable dinners.

DAY ONE

Downtown Charlotte

We start our tour on a high note, riding Charlotte's South Line light rail to explore several evolving stations. Next, a visit to the 4th Ward provides a historic view of the city. The 1st Ward allows us to see one of the nation's best Hope VI housing projects. A walk along Tryon and Trade provide a close up look at great streets and new urban form.

Myers Park and Dilworth

It was the boom years of the 1910s and 1920s. The Olmsted Brothers, John Nolen, and Earle Draper, three of America's best planning firms, worked to establish these two highly desired Charlotte neighborhoods. Nolen and Draper then took what they learned working in Charlotte and spread these design concepts to hundreds of cities. Charlotte leaders have since honored these ideals by using them in present day urban design. In Charlotte we also take in "The Metropolitan," and other new villages, as well as several extensive road diets and street transformation projects.

DAY TWO

Belmont, NC (pop. 8,705)

The first municipality to adopt a Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) ordinance, Belmont is committed to a high quality of life, and maintaining the balance between growth and a strong sense of community. We'll visit the downtown and Eagle Park, a former mill that's being transformed into a new neighborhood.

Baxter Village, SC

New urban villages are attracting many who want the advantages of place, but are happy to live beyond the edges of a large city. Baxter Village is in Fort Mill,

SC (pop. 10,700) a now defunct textile industry. *Architecture Week* described it as "the most mature and sustainable example of New Urban planning in the region." Is it a model for your city?

Kannapolis, NC (pop. 37,000)

This old textile mill town is taking on new life with the creation of a large new research university, the North Carolina Research Campus. This is a massive scientific and economic revitalization project on the site of a former Cannon Mills plant and most of the downtown area of Kannapolis, complete with a traditional campus layout and classic architecture.

Cornelius, NC (pop. 12,000)

Features include one of the best Safe Routes to School projects in the nation. The principal street was purposefully narrowed and speeds are kept low with use of a flat top table. Cornelius also hosts Antiquity, a well crafted new urban project, complete with homes around small parks, a variety of housing types, trails and a full scale covered bridge.

Davidson (pop.9,000)

A town and campus laid out in the finest traditions, that is taking on growth with numerous new mixed use village areas, a host of roundabouts and new streets. Model new downtown

mixed use centers built to a scale that honors the historic town center, including a surprisingly well-designed CVS drugstore.

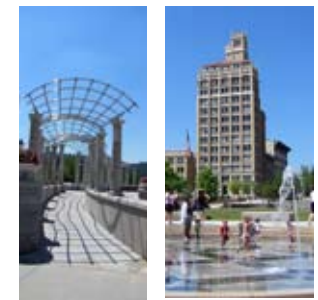
DAY THREE

Asheville, NC (pop. 78,543)

Asheville is a true mountain settlement with one of the most impressive, comprehensive collections of Art Deco architecture in the United States. Newly restored Pack Square is complemented by a well crafted road diet on College, as well as other new streetscapes. Wall Street, a shared street, a new greenway trail and other innovations make Asheville one of our best teaching places. While there we'll visit Biltmore Park Town Square, which serves as a model for a smarter, more sustainable way of creating communities that are livable, functional, energy efficient, environmentally-friendly and people-focused.

Flat Rock, SC (pop. 2,565)

Carl Sandburg lived out his last decades in a quiet spot of Flat Rock. We'll explore rural principles of Smart Growth and a nearby new urban village, transformed from a lakeside Church Camp. This community provides a range of housing prices and makes organic gardens a lifestyle feature, while preserving the rural character of this small town.



10th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth Conference

February 3-5, 2011 Charlotte, NC

The program will kick off on Thursday morning and continue through Saturday afternoon. It includes a dynamic mix of plenaries, breakout, implementation workshops, trainings, and networking activities. There's something for everybody, from veteran experts to smart-growth novices, with over 95 sessions and workshops.



Style of Travel

All participants will want good digital cameras and spare batteries and chips. Each town visit includes local experts to explain their history of achievement. On average, 40-50% of the time you will be free to roam with a friend or associate, and record and discover. Plenty of discussion follows each site.