

# Putting People First: Transforming The Suburban Landscape

Lynn Richards, CEO, Congress for the New Urbanism, Washington DC



Many suburban areas are showing signs of deterioration, with vacant retail centres and underutilised space. These landscapes have come to epitomize sprawl— places built for the car and accessed only by the car. But they also hold enormous opportunities for creative reinvention. A number of communities across the United States are rescaling their suburbs into vibrant, walkable places built for people.

Reoriented for pedestrians, suburban neighbourhoods can thrive and diversify to better support local economies, raise quality of life indicators and improve local and regional environmental conditions. Even deteriorating suburbs have the potential to generate new housing infrastructure, transit access, open space, and local retail. Join Lynn Richards as she provides concrete examples of suburban transformation and lessons for Australia.

## About the speaker

A widely recognized smart growth and new urbanism expert, Lynn has been President and CEO of the Congress for the New Urbanism since 2014. Previously, she had a long and distinguished career at the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), including Acting Director and Policy Director in the Office of Sustainable Communities. She has worked with dozens of state and local governments to implement placemaking approaches by developing policies, urban design strategies, and environmental solutions for vibrant, prosperous neighbourhoods.

This small-group event offers a unique opportunity for Australian practitioners to engage with a global expert in a genuine conversation about international lessons and how they can be applied in Australia.

**Where:** MAV office (Level 12)  
60 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

**When:** 1.30pm - 4.00pm  
Wednesday 20 March 2019

**Cost:** \$145 (ex GST) per person

**Registration:** book your ticket to attend using the online registration link below:

<http://www.cvent.com/events/-putting-people-first-workshop-with-lynn-richards/event-summary-0fb66734c06a40adb66aa759d010a102.aspx>

Lynn Richards will also be presenting at the [Smart Urban Futures](#) conference.

Her visit to Australia is sponsored by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP).