

Preface

For more than five decades, the art of making places in our communities special and important to the people who live there has been tossed aside in favor of mass-produced, auto-dominated, formula-style “Anywhere, U.S.A.” development. As a country, we have been so focused on growing and building that engaging and involving community members in public and private projects also has been ill considered or deemed unnecessary. As a result, we are now faced with an expanse of communities that are not nurturing us. In many instances, we have exchanged important pieces of our history, culture, and natural resources for cold and lifeless places with no heart or local identity.

