



# Retrofitting Suburbia: Urban Design Solutions for Redesigning Suburbs

*Ellen Dunham-Jones , June Williamson*

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Updated with a new Introduction by the authors and a foreword by Richard Florida, this book is a comprehensive guide book for urban designers, planners, architects, developers, environmentalists, and community leaders that illustrates how existing suburban developments can be redesigned into more urban and more sustainable places. While there has been considerable attention by practitioners and academics to development in urban cores and new neighborhoods on the periphery of cities, there has been little attention to the redesign and redevelopment of existing suburbs. The authors, both architects and noted experts on the subject, show how development in existing suburbs can absorb new growth and evolve in relation to changed demographic, technological, and economic conditions. **Retrofitting Suburbia** was named winner in the Architecture & Urban Planning category of the 2009 American Publishers Awards for Professional and Scholarly Excellence (The PROSE Awards) awarded by The Professional and Scholarly Publishing (PSP) Division of the Association of American Publishers

## Retrofitting Suburbia: Urban Design Solutions for Redesigning Suburbs Details

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## From Reader Review Retrofitting Suburbia: Urban Design Solutions for Redesigning Suburbs for online ebook

### Stuart says

A must read for anyone interested in the future of planning and sustainable development.

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### Sarah says

This book was right on point with the article I'm writing and provides some great case studies about how cities and private developers are attempting to re-create versions of urbanism in suburban locations, and on the sites of abandoned or underused suburban retail properties.

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### Emilia P says

Uhhh yeah of course I read an urban planning textbook I heard about on NPR. Wouldn't you? There was a lot of stuff here, some of it more plausible and some of it more useful than other stuff. Basically, trying to get back to sustainable mixed-use residential and urbanizing things that were originally intended solely for commerce...it's a tricky business, but an important one. I think the most interesting stuff to me was talking about how suburbs are built with a particular economic class and even age/generation of people in mind, and it is probably a much better bet to mix types, sizes, and prices of housing so communities don't hollow out completely when the kids grow up or the mix of employment changes/industries leave the area etc. Yeah...I think I understood about 40% of this book, but what I understood was pretty interesting. :)

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### Nick says

I wrote of a review of this book for The Architect's Newspaper: [http://www.archpaper.com/e-board\\_rev....](http://www.archpaper.com/e-board_rev....)

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### A says

I see this book as the precursor to getting into more detailed design related to sprawl, specifically Tachieva's Sprawl Repair Manual. I've speculated as to why Dunham-Jones doesn't go as deep as I would have expected, with reference to technicality, and I believe this is because she is professionally an architect and not an urban designer or planner per se. Tachieva excels more at technicality in her book, likely because she spans the fields of architecture, civil eng., and planning.

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### Aviva says

A great perspective of how to transform our changing suburban environmental. Although I would take 50%

of the statements in the book with a grain of salt, the case studies are interesting and worth a quick read. Great for anyone interested in county-level urban planning which will address many of these issues today or in the near future.

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### **Gordon Howard says**

Excellent and inspiring book.

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