

Neo-Traditional/New Urbanism Town Planning in Michigan

Robert J Gibbs

*Gibbs Planning Group,
Birmingham*

Now in its tenth year, the new urbanism planning movement has become the hottest method for curbing suburban growth, and offering an alternative to the cookie cutter subdivisions found across Detroit. This session will focus on the following:

- I. What is The New Urbanism?
 - A. History
 - B. How does it differ from conventional development?
 - C. What about hybrids?
 - D. More than historic building fronts.
- II. Why bother with something new?
 - A. Expected market share
 - B. Baby boomers.
 - C. Local success stories.
- III. Planning and Development Techniques
 - A. The neighborhood
 - B. The Street
 - C. Open space
 - D. Residential
 - E. Retail
 - F. Civic
- IV. Case Studies
 - A. National: Seaside, Celebration, Kentlands, Easton
 - B. Local: Westwood, Vistas of Novi, Howell Town Commons
- V. What to watch out for!
 - A. Do planning boards really want it?
 - B. Is it worth the trouble?
 - C. How to make it happen.

Link to <http://www.gibbsplanning.com>.