

Shelley Poticha is the President and CEO of Reconnecting America, a national non-profit organization working to integrate transportation systems and the communities they serve, with the goals of generating lasting public and private returns, improving economic and environmental efficiency, and giving consumers greater choice. Reconnecting America has two major projects: The Center for Transit-Oriented Development (CTOD) which assists developers, transit agencies, communities and investors to use transit investments to spur a new wave of development that improves housing affordability and choice, revitalizes downtowns and urban and suburban neighborhoods, and creates lasting value and high quality urbanism; and Reconnecting America's Transportation Networks (RATN) which is working to redefine national policies for intercity travel in order to integrate our separately functioning aviation, passenger rail and intercity bus systems into a more convenient, secure, financially viable and sustainable network.

Prior to this position, Ms. Poticha was the Executive Director of the Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU). The Congress for New Urbanism is an internationally known non-profit organization dedicated to teaching and implementing the principles of New Urbanism and as identified in their Charter, advocates the restructuring of public policy and development practices to support diverse neighborhoods; communities designed for pedestrians, public transit as well as the automobile; physically defined and universally accessible public spaces; and an environment that celebrates local history, ecology and building practice.

During her tenure, Ms. Poticha guided CNU's growth into a nationwide coalition with a prominent voice in national debates on urban revitalization, growth policy, and sprawl. She has authored several books, including *the New Transit Town: Best Practices in Transit-Oriented Development*, *Charter of the New Urbanism*, a CNU publication, and *The Next American Metropolis*, with Peter Calthorpe.

Ms. Poticha is an urban planner with expertise in land use planning, policy development, and citizen involvement. With Calthorpe Associates, she directed the firm's planning efforts, with an emphasis on land planning, design guidelines and implementation programs. She has been involved with the writing of two documents for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development: *Vision/Reality: Strategies for Community Change* and *the Empowerment Zone Guidebook* and has experience preparing plans for growing urban and suburban communities, regional agencies, non-profit groups, and private developers.

Ms. Poticha holds a Master of City Planning from the University of California at Berkeley and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California, Santa Cruz.