



# The New Metropolis

A video documentary series about rebuilding America's older cities and suburbs

Produced and Directed by Andrea Torrice

## What People Are Saying... About The New Metropolis Documentary Series by Andrea Torrice

"Torrice's films capture some of the critical issues facing America's older first suburbs. All communities, old and new, will find the challenges and opportunities raised in these films informative and useful."

**Rob Puentes**

Metropolitan Policy Program  
Brookings Institution

"This remarkable documentary series by award-winning filmmaker Andrea Torrice takes us inside the older, inner ring suburban communities, often overlooked by policy makers, and special interest groups, as a key to building healthy cities, suburbs, and sustainable regions. These older jurisdictions, facing challenges of urban decay commonly associated with inner cities, are the battleground communities for nurturing a new metropolitan vision. The series is suitable for academic, public education, and community organizing use. "

**Carl Anthony**

Noted Author and Founder  
Earth House Leadership Center

"**The New Neighbors** really resonated with me. I saw the strengths and challenges of my own community in the film, and was surprised to learn that such important work was being done."

**Frank De Lucca**

Mayor  
Linwood, New Jersey

"**The New Neighbors** [is an] excellent case study that explores how the dream of integration can become a reality and how residents themselves were able to fight sprawl and the decline of the first suburbs. This documentary is a powerful example of effective citizen action in addressing one of the more serious problems facing urban America. **A Crack in the Pavement** [provides] a good introduction to the problems facing the first suburbs and the policy decisions that have caused sprawl and the resulting impact on these communities. [The film] portrays vividly the impact of urban sprawl that local officials must deal with and why this is an issue that we should all pay more attention to."

**Philip Star**

Executive in Residence, College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University  
Co-Editor, *Revitalizing Urban Neighborhoods*

"**A Crack in the Pavement** is a masterful documentary that raises the visibility of the issues facing first suburbs today. It convincingly puts a name and face to the real problems of suburban decline such as population loss, infrastructure decay, and fiscal stress. We see that the harmful consequences of uncontrolled suburban sprawl impact central cities and first suburbs. **A Crack in the Pavement** is a call to action and should be viewed by all federal, state, and local policymakers with an interest in the future of sustainability and American communities. This will be a great resource for students and faculty of urban and public affairs for years to come.

"**The New Neighbors** is essential viewing for anyone who cares about the future of American communities. This important documentary details the role that stable racial integration plays in combating suburban decline and sprawl. The story of Pennsauken, New Jersey--masterfully told in **The New Neighbors**--serves as a national model for suburban renewal. Highly recommended."

**Thomas Vicino**

Department of Political Science, Wheaton College  
Author, *Transforming Race and Class in Suburbia*

"Andrea Torrice's films **The New Neighbors** and **A Crack in the Pavement** are interesting and informative explorations of the past, present, and future of where millions of Americans live: the suburbs. Weaving compelling personal stories with social and historical analysis, they explain how race and taxation policies created the crisis that the suburbs face today. They also offer answers to the problems that they identify--constructive solutions that will stimulate the participation of viewers and their communities. These concise, touching films are just perfect for the history, sociology, politics, or social policy classroom. I intend to show them in mine."

**Matthew Lasar**

Instructor of History and Politics  
UC Santa Cruz

"[**The New Neighbors**] is a fascinating story of one particular place that embodies a wider national phenomenon and a deeper truth - that community organization can shape a neighborhood for the better and for the common good... **A Crack in the Pavement** recounts the problems and shows how a coalition of first suburbs in Ohio are now trying to halt the drift to the distant suburbs and reclaim public policies interest and investment.

Compelling arguments are made for regional growth policies and land use planning...[**The New Metropolis**] as a whole provides a detailed account of the rise of first suburbs, their problems of current decline and imaginative attempts to make them viable, livable, and sociable. A must see for those interested in urban issues."

**John Rennie Short**

Professor of Public Policy, University of Maryland,  
Author, *Alabaster Cities*, *Cities and Nature* and *New Metropolitan Realities*

"These videos are terrific! Torrice has taken a complicated but important topic and made it clear and compelling -- as well as prescriptive. Activists for sane growth and revitalization in communities all around America will find these programs helpful."

**Terry Grundy**

Director of Community Impact  
United Way of Greater Cincinnati

"Residents of America's racially changing suburbs may long for stable integration but not know how to achieve it; the inspiring citizens chronicled in Torrice's **The New Neighbors** share the straightforward steps they are taking to build a racially diverse, stable community. City managers of our nation's first suburbs will applaud the message Torrice makes in **A Crack in the Pavement** – that we'd rather build new communities than fix our older ones, a pattern we can ill afford to continue."

**Jill Mazillo**

10,000 Friends of Minnesota

"Through powerful story telling, these films show how ordinary citizens have acted to save and revitalize their communities. **A Crack in the Pavement** gives life to mundane but critical issues like infrastructure by uncovering the stories, people and places that are often buried beneath government bureaucracies. **The New Neighbors** brings home the struggles and reveals the possibilities when Americans grapple with rather than ignore the issues of race and diversity."

**Steve Johns**

Executive Director  
Citizens for Civic Renewal