

DEMETRI BACHES | AICP, CNU-A

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Demetri Baches, city planner, urban designer, code writer and lecturer, has dedicated over thirty years to the study and implementation of strategies that make communities successful. His professional career has been at the forefront of the revolutions in planning, and development that have brought about today's renaissance in how towns and cities of all sizes approach building places of enduring value.

Demetri has worked alongside the world's top firms and practitioners in the planning and development fields on a broad range of projects. He was a member of the 2000 National Home Builder's & Urban Land Institute's Millennium Commission. He prepared the Downtown Vision Plan for Bentonville, AR and has worked at larger scales on brownfield and greenfield projects ranging from new Cities to large urban redevelopments. He co-led the master planning of Putrajaya, Malaysia's new Administrative Capitol City; and the planning of Madinat Al Arab for Nakheel, a new City in the UAE. Demetri also led the nation-wide strategic & redevelopment plan for the Pacific Island nation of Nauru called The Higher Ground Initiative (HGI), and most recently prepared the master plan for the redevelopment of Lakeforest Mall in Gaithersburg, MD. These, and the many other projects he has been involved in throughout his career, have provided Demetri the skills and tools needed to help municipalities, developers, and landowners recognize and unlock the untapped potential of their neighborhoods, downtowns and land holdings; a journey of learning that began in 1992 with his first job as the City of Belmont North Carolina's first planner, where he prepared the first form based code for an existing municipality in the United States.

Since then, Demetri has worked in over 150 communities in the US and abroad, starting as a Director of Projects for the internationally renowned planning and architecture firm of DPZ & Company in Miami, FL, then as Founding Partner of DPZ Pacific based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Today Demetri is the Owner of Metrocology, an urban design and planning consultancy, located in Savannah, GA.

With a client base ranging from developing nations, small and medium sized towns and cities, to developers, and the real estate offices of legacy family trusts, Demetri continues to revise and write zoning ordinances, create master plans, and develop long-term strategies for projects large and small that support resilient growth and value adding principles. His work has been recognized with numerous awards from the American Planning Association, the Congress for New Urbanism, and the Urban Land Institute.