



## About the Contributors:

John Lund Kriken FAIA is an internationally known city planner and urban designer and consulting partner at the San Francisco office of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP and a professor at UC Berkeley's College of Environmental Design. He has served on the board of the San Francisco Arts Commission during the tenure of three mayors, Intersection for the Arts, the Fort Mason Center, San Francisco Planning and Urban Research (SPUR), the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (for thirty-five years), and the San Francisco chapter of the Greenbelt Alliance.

Tim Culvahouse FAIA is Editor-at-Large of the American Institute of Architects, California Council and past chair of the board of the non-profit Public Architecture. He is the editor of *The Tennessee Valley Authority: Design & Persuasion*, published in 2007 by Princeton Architectural Press. His articles have appeared in a wide range of journals, including *306090*, *ANY*, *Art Papers*, *Design Book Review*, *Harvard Design Magazine*, *Modulus*, *Perspecta*, *Residential Architect*, and *World Architecture*.

Ellen Lou's life, education and distinguished career span the Pacific Rim during a period when the challenges of rapid urbanization have demanded her global perspective and expertise. As director of SOM's Urban Design and Planning Practice in San Francisco, she leads the design of groundbreaking development strategies for vital metropolitan centers. In a time when cities represent the greatest hope for a sustainable future, her practice helps cities plan wisely for the future. A sought after speaker and advisor nationally and internationally, she consults regularly with planning officials and the development community.

## Building Saigon South *Sustainable Lessons for a Livable Future*

By John Kriken with Ellen Lou and Tim Culvahouse

*Building Saigon South* provides an in-depth portrait of a livable, sustainable future for Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. In Saigon South, globally renowned architecture firm Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP designed a livable, human-scale, urban environment in partnership with the Phu My Hung Development Corporation. SOM created the master plan that still guides growth and change in this part of the city, which has been accepted as an example of sustainable development to be imitated across Asia and throughout the rest of the world. Saigon South's neighborhoods accommodate residents of varying income levels and provide green public space for all. Verdant parks are placed alongside the area's natural water features. The master plan's emphasis on multi-use design allows for traditional shophouses as well as larger businesses, integrating all parts of life into a pedestrian-friendly district. Saigon South is an economically and civically vibrant realm that showcases the city's cultural richness rather than the egos of the architects and developers.