

# Booklist

Advanced Review – Uncorrected Proof

Issue: July 1, 2013

**The End of the Suburbs: Where the American Dream Is Moving.**

Gallagher, Leigh (Author)

Aug 2013. 248 p. Portfolio, hardcover, \$25.95. (9781591845256). 307.74.

While the baby boomers helped fortify the notion of the suburban single-family house as the American dream, the millennials are headed in another direction, according to *Fortune* writer Gallagher. The recession, rising fuel prices, and demographic shifts that mean smaller families and fewer and later marriages are contributing to a decline in the appeal of the suburbs. Gallagher talked to homebuilders, developers, planners, transportation engineers, architects, psychologists, and home buyers and sellers in cities and suburbs to offer a fascinating portrait of housing and lifestyle trends. She examines how the American dream came to be tied to the suburbs even as they are lambasted in popular culture and by social scientists and, lately, planners and engineers. New Urbanists argue that the suburb is an unsustainable model because the low-density population doesn't generate enough tax base to support it, unless it sprawls. Gallagher points to research and analysis showing rising populations in urban areas and suburbs who adapt the ideals of green living and walkable communities. Fascinating reading on changing trends in how and where we live.

— *Vanessa Bush*