Special Thanks

SustainaBuild Challenge Jurors who helped make this challenge a success through their time, support, and dedication:

- Lee Altman, GSAPP
- Rick Bell, DDC
- Alison Brown, DDC
- Eric Bunge, GSAPP
- Tei Carpenter, GSAPP
- Margaret Castillo, DDC
- Gina Lovasi, Mailman
- Dana March, Mailman
- Silvia Martins, Mailman
- Kathryn Neckerman, CPRC
- Andrew Rundle, Mailman
- Hilary Sample, GSAPP
- Ada Tolla, GSAPP

Thanks to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars for contributing the cash prizes for the winning and finalist teams.

Also to contributors from the Urban+Health Initiative, especially Sarah Davies, Lori Fingerhut, and Melika Behrooz.
This spring, the New York City Department of Design and Construction (DDC) partnered with Columbia University to present the first annual SUSTAINABUILD Design Challenge.

This challenge brought together the Mailman School of Public Health, the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP), and the Columbia Population Research Center (CPRC) to consider how design can affect health—a key issue in our fast-urbanizing world.

The challenge coincided with the launch of the DDC’s new “Design and Construction Excellence 2.0: Guiding Principles,” which emphasizes elements of health, equity, sustainability, and resilience in design.

The DDC
NYC’s Department of Design and Construction is the city’s primary capital construction manager, and builds many of the civic facilities New Yorkers use every day. This includes city libraries, firehouses, police precincts, courthouses, and senior centers, among others. They also deliver essential infrastructure across the five boroughs including roadways, sidewalks, and sewer and water main construction projects.

SUSTAINABUILD Challenge
Participants were challenged to form interdisciplinary teams and develop a project consisting of:
1. A needs assessment of existing buildings, public spaces, and community priorities,
2. Design of a new urban feature that promotes physical and mental health of city residents, and
3. A proposal of how they would evaluate the health impact of their innovation.

Teams researched the DDC’s portfolio of buildings and infrastructure, visited their chosen site, and ground designs in the experience these spaces provide city residents.

PROGRAM

Welcome
New York City Department of Design and Construction

Team Finalist Presentations

Public/Park/Station
- Diego Soto, GSAPP
- Lindsey Wikstrom, GSAPP

Jardín de la Libertad
- Joshua Foster, Columbia College
- Subhas Nair, Columbia College

People’s Toilet
- Tonia Sing Chi, GSAPP
- Brian Ho, GSAPP
- Mathilde Puls, Mailman
- Nicole Tay, Mailman

The High Bridge
- Kelly Cheung, Mailman
- Ashley Gripper, Mailman
- Adena Hernandez, Mailman

Announcement of Winner and Closing Remarks
Margaret O’Donoghue Castillo, Chief Architect
NYC Department of Design and Construction