NEW YORK, NY (April 8, 2014) — The Design Trust for Public Space launches a new, interactive, multimedia website. Designtrust.org has undergone a radical makeover in order to be an effective tool for cities, citizens and organizations worldwide interested in initiating change in their communities.

As a “digital toolbox,” the new designtrust.org is an accessible and user-friendly platform that advances design literacy, promotes best practices in design, planning, and policy projects and connects the public with transformative tools for change. Some of the new features include:

- A comprehensive database of Design Trust projects, detailing methodology, key milestones, activities and outputs, and implementation strategies; and an impact map highlighting pivotal Design Trust projects across the five boroughs of New York City;

- Areas of Impact to understand Design Trust’s work, an interactive diagram illustrating Design Trust’s unique project model and six key outcomes from its work, and a dynamic timeline highlighting Design Trust’s role in transforming public space in NYC;

- Case studies that provide an inside look at some of Design Trust’s key projects, and ten “Lessons learned” where Design Trust shares some of its expertise in the field;

- A publications library and integrated shop to distribute print and digital publications, and the blog and news section that allows for real-time discussions and mobile commenting.

“The new Design Trust website reflects the marked interest around the subject of public space—design awareness, advocacy and sustainable change—in part, as a result of our work,” says Susan Chin, FAIA, Executive Director of the Design Trust. “We are truly pleased this dynamic, yet easy-to-use tool has given us the capability to share our projects and our process, and thoughtful design solutions, with policy makers and the community around New York and across the globe.”

Design Trust’s new website was made possible through the generous support of the New York Community Trust, Double-R Foundation, and The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

Current Projects of The Design Trust for Public Space

Five Borough Farm provides tools to measure the impact and demonstrate the benefits of urban agriculture – health, social network, environmental, economic – and increase resources for local food production. The third phase of the Five Borough Farm project will develop and distribute the first-ever urban agriculture data collection toolkit and web tracking tool to hundreds of farmers and gardeners to create a robust data set on urban agriculture.

Under the Elevated is reconnecting communities divided by elevated transit infrastructure. Community input, designing, and testing recommendations are solicited for creative re-use of over 700 miles of underused space. The first pop-up installation will be unveiled underneath the Manhattan Bridge in Chinatown.

About The Design Trust for Public Space

The Design Trust for Public Space is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the future of public space in New York City. Our projects bring together city agencies, community groups and private sector experts to make a lasting impact—through design—on how New Yorkers live, work and play.