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DESIGN TRUST FOR PUBLIC SPACE ANNOUNCES VISIONARY TEAMS FOR NEW PROJECTS
LAYING THE GROUNDWORK: VIBRANT STREET LIFE AND QUALITY GROUND-FLOOR USES FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING
AND
THE WORLD'S PARK: RECONNECTING A REGIONAL PARK WITH ITS NEIGHBORS

NEW YORK, NY (December 17, 2014) – The Design Trust for Public Space is excited to announce the Project Fellows for two new groundbreaking initiatives: Laying the Groundwork: Vibrant Street Life and Quality Ground-Floor Uses for Affordable Housing, in partnership with the NYC Department of Housing Preservation & Development; and The World’s Park: Reconnecting a Regional Park with Its Neighbors, in partnership with the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation and the Queens Museum.

Design Trust has selected some of the best talent in their field from a large pool of applicants to join the two project teams. These Fellows will lead the research, design and planning work for Laying the Groundwork and The World’s Park projects.

Laying the Groundwork: Vibrant Street Life and Quality Ground-Floor Uses for Affordable Housing
Design Trust for Public Space is working with the NYC Department of Housing Preservation & Development to create a set of guidelines for the design of ground-floor retail spaces in new affordable housing developments. This project will ensure that new mixed-use developments include the type of spacious, flexible storefronts that can attract local entrepreneurs, provide vital services like banks and grocers as well as community facilities and cultural amenities, while supporting vibrant streets, and stable and sustainable neighborhoods.

The Project Fellows for Laying the Groundwork include Architecture Fellows James Slade and Hayes Slade from Slade Architecture, Engineering Fellow Fiona Cousins from Arup, and Graphic Design Fellow Penny Hardy from PS New York.

“Affordable housing is at the top of New Yorkers’ minds more than ever with Mayor de Blasio’s ten-year plan Housing New York to create or preserve 200,000 affordable units across the five boroughs. The Design Trust for Public Space's Laying the Groundwork project has the potential for furthering the impact of this ambitious plan. This goal is a perfect match for our highly innovative Project Fellows,” said Design Trust for Public Space executive director Susan Chin.

For further information, please visit http://designtrust.org/projects/groundwork/ and follow us at #LayingGroundwork.
The World's Park: Reconnecting a Regional Park with Its Neighbors
Design Trust for Public Space is partnering with NYC Parks and the Queens Museum, to work with local residents in the planning, design, and stewardship of the vast grounds of Flushing Meadows Corona Park. Through a series of educational workshops and open neighborhood forums, community members will develop new proposals for how the access, connectivity, and circulation of this regional destination can better serve the public's needs. An exhibition featuring these community-driven proposals is scheduled for April 2015. Further details about the exhibition will be announced soon.

The Project Fellows for The World's Park include Community Organizing Fellow José Serrano-McClain from the Queens Museum, Design Education Fellow Sarah Lidgus, and Participatory Design Fellow Sam Holleran.

“Seven million New Yorkers a year flock to this former fairground for its 897 acres of open space, its sports centers that host the U.S. Open tennis tournament and NY Mets, and its cultural amenities, including New York Hall of Science, Queens Museum, Queens Theatre, and Queens Zoo. With its confusing circulation paths and outdated fairground design, Flushing Meadows Corona Park is ready for improvements. I leave this to the capable hands of our brilliant Project Fellows, who have convened a group of Community Advisors to create design proposals with the Park administrators that will increase accessibility and connection to neighborhoods for all users,” said Design Trust for Public Space executive director Susan Chin.

For further information, please visit http://designtrust.org/projects/worlds-park/ and follow us at #WorldsPark.

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.

Design Trust’s projects jumpstarted the High Line’s conversions from derelict railway to a green corridor of open space, activated innovation for the first custom-built Taxi of Tomorrow, and developed the sustainability guidelines that became the precursor to New York City’s Local Law and PlaNYC.

Laying the Groundwork and The World’s Park are made possible by:

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