



# TOWN+GOWN:NYC

## January 2025 Newsletter

Dear Members of Town+Gown:NYC--just a quick update on Town+Gown!

[Update to 2014 Pratt Studio Design Research Project for NYPD 73 Precinct.](#)

In 2014, NYPD Commissioner Bratton transplanted the idea of the “People’s Precincts” from Los Angeles to New York City with several existing precincts in mind, including the 73 Precinct in Brownsville. The “People’s Precincts” are a building-based intervention to support police and community collaboration to make neighborhoods safer.

Existing precinct buildings, like the 73 Precinct, are in continual use 24 hours/7 days a week, which makes insertion of a community room in such buildings difficult. The Pratt students developed a design for a “Community Connections Pavilion”—or the CCP—as a standalone BIM-enabled designed and off-site prefabricated structure to be sited on the sidewalk next the Precinct building. Throughout the semester, the students engaged with the 73 Precinct staff and the community resident members of the 73’s Community Precinct Council, as stakeholders for the final design. The last time Town+Gown left this design research project was at a Town+Gown symposium event in 2018 (see [PushingDesignResearchIntoImplementation.pdf](#)), which focused on the impediments to implementing a variety of design research projects.

On December 10, 2024, Town+Gown attended the ribbon cutting for the Community Room at the 73 Precinct. This Community Room, carved from space within the building, had many features from the 2014 Pratt design it was constructed by the NYPD Capital Construction Unit, funded in part with local elected official discretionary capital funds. Putting the Community Room in the existing 73 Precinct building required officers moving their case processing functions to the adjacent muster room to free up the space. It also required the continued efforts of volunteer residents from the 73

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Community Precinct Council collaborating with the 73 Precinct staff to make their Community Room a reality.

After the Pratt students completed the design for the CCP, discussions between NYPD and DDC about two new precinct building were under way, which led to community rooms being designed for the new 40<sup>th</sup> Precinct (see [Mayor Adams, Interim NYPD Commissioner Donlon, DDC Commissioner Foley Open New 40th Precinct Station | City of New York](#)) in The Bronx and the new 116<sup>th</sup> Precinct in Queens (see [Mayor Adams, NYPD Commissioner Tisch, DDC Commissioner Foley Open New 116th Precinct Station House | City of New York](#)). These projects were also recently completed.

With ten years of incubation of the “People’s Precinct” idea, community involvement, designs and construction, the City has a roadmap for the installation of community rooms in existing precinct buildings and new precinct buildings.

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Agency+Academic Research Exchange (R/EX) Events.

Town+Gown has reached out to a number of NYC agencies for their own R/EX events.

Symposium Events in Development.

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We are developing symposium events for spring and summer--please stay tuned for them.

- Water In Water Out—Wet weather standards under the Clean Water Act
- Under the Ground.3: “Multi-Modal” Approaches
- Pushing the Urban Resource Recovery and Re-use Envelope: Updating the Closing Loops City Program Initiative (URR.11)
- Principles of universal public right of way design
- BIM-enabled pre-fabricated modular design and construction

*Event of Interest to Town+Gown Community.*

New York Law School, the Population Reference Bureau, NYC Planning Department, and the U.S. Census Bureau will be hosting "The American Community Survey on the Road" event from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM on January 28, 2025, at 185 West Broadway. The conference will include presentations from the NYC Planning Department and Census Bureau about new developments in the ACS and an open discussion how ACS data is used in New York. The event will end with breakout sessions where you will have the opportunity to interact with Census Bureau staff and share what you need to better use ACS data in your work. To RSVP for this event, go to [ACS On The Road: New York City Conference](#).

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Link to **Town+Gown: NYC** webpage:

<http://www1.nyc.gov/site/ddc/about/town-gown.page>

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