This spring, New York City’s Department of Design and Construction (DDC) has partnered with the Columbia Mailman School of Public Health, the Columbia Graduate School of Architecture, Preservation and Planning (GSAPP), and the Columbia Population Research Center to present the first annual SUSTAINABUILD Design Challenge. This challenge coincides with the launch of the DDC’s new ‘Design and Construction Excellence 2.0: Guiding Principles’.

New York City’s Department of Design and Construction strives to promote and support healthy minds and bodies with their infrastructure and building projects. DDC designs and builds the city’s public buildings and infrastructure—our plazas, libraries and police stations—so New Yorkers can be physically engaged and mentally healthy.

In this challenge interdisciplinary teams will be asked to combine their specialized knowledge to design a physical feature or a programmatic idea that could improve upon the public health of our built environment. Finalists will have the chance to present to Senior Leadership of DDC and their ideas will help to shape the future of DDC’s Design and Construction Excellence 2.0 program.

Our LAUNCH EVENT for this challenge will be on Tuesday March 29, 2016 from 2-6pm in 114 Avery Hall (Main Campus). Interested students should email urbanhealth@columbia.edu for more info. Also find us on Facebook or Twitter, where we will post updates regularly.