

Lecture on the occasion of the opening of the exhibition

*Carrot City: Designing for Urban Agriculture*

American Institute of Architects/Rhode Island

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on the occasion of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of

the Southside Community Land Trust

**Creating the Carrot City:  
Urban agriculture and urban form**

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Until recently, designers have not given much thought to the roles they can offer to food issues, despite the enormity of the food sector's role in cities. At the same time, actors in the alternative food movement have barely engaged with the possible contributions that the built-environment professions can provide to their efforts supporting community food security. Yet the physical and spatial aspects of urban food production, distribution, provision and marketing are where food issues interface with urban planning and design. Many opportunities exist for a creative cooperation between planning and design professionals and those who focus on urban agricultural and food systems. Urban agriculture is gaining recognition as a legitimate area of urban design, both in schools and in practice. The *Carrot City* initiative brings together some of the most interesting examples of design for urban agriculture. This presentation will share some of these examples and reflect on some lessons for those who are seeking to make urban agriculture an integral part of the form and function of cities.

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