"People Planning Newark," a joint project of NJIT’s College of Architecture and Design (CoAD) and the Newark Division of Planning, is the first-ever physical model of the entire City of Newark. Damon Rich, Director of Planning for the City of Newark; Anthony Schuman, Associate Professor of Architecture at CoAD; and Jae Shin, an artist and architectural designer who has taught at CoAD, served as project directors.

Created with over 2,000 hours of volunteer labor by CoAD students and Newark residents, city workers, high school students and youth groups, "People Planning Newark" is part of a larger effort to promote democratic participation in planning by the city’s residents. Principal funding was provided by the National Endowment of the Arts with additional financial support from the Victoria Foundation and logistical support from the Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee.