

DEVELOPING ELIZABETH STREET GARDEN IS A BAD IDEA

- HPD'S PLAN IS SUPPORTED ONLY BY COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN
- IT WILL REDUCE SENIOR HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES LOCALLY
- IT LEAVES THE NEIGHBORHOOD WITH A POSTAGE STAMP PARK



WHY THIS PROJECT DOES NOT MAKE SENSE

- Every other local elected official supports saving the Garden.
- They also support a proposal by Community Board 2 for five times as much housing at an alternative site, which will not be available if the Garden is destroyed. The CB 2 proposed site would be developed as both housing and public open space, in cooperation with HPD, DEP and Parks.
- Our beloved and heavily-used green space has an overwhelming base of local support.
- The Garden is located in the only downtown Manhattan neighborhood that NYC Parks defines as “underserved” by open space.
- The RFP is a ruse! It calls for lawns, trees, paths, sitting areas, with space for events and educational programming, all in an area the size of a basketball court.

GARDEN SUPPORTERS

- 6,800 email subscribers, 5,000 letters of support and hundreds of volunteers.
- Comptroller Scott Stringer, Representative Jerrold Nadler, State Senator Daniel L. Squadron, State Senator Brad Hoylman, Assemblymember Deborah J. Glick, Assemblymember Alice Cancel, Democratic Nominee for State Assembly Yuh-Line Niou, District Leaders Paul Newell and Jennifer Rajkumar, Community Board 2, former NYC Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe and 16 parks and community organizations listed at elizabethstreetgarden.org/supporters.

DEVELOPERS, REACH OUT BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR BID

- Jeannine Kiely, President, FESG, jeannine.kiely@elizabethstreetgarden.org, 917-297-4475
- Attend our 4th Annual Harvest Festival, Saturday, Oct 22, noon - 4 p.m.

HPD IS NOT TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT THIS PROJECT

FESG FACT CHECKS HPD AND COUNCILMEMBER CHIN STATEMENTS

FICTION

FACT

SENIOR HOUSING

HPD will build on both sites

- The alternative site on Hudson & Clarkson, promised as parkland, will not be available if Elizabeth Street Garden is destroyed.

Building on the Garden will allow “aging in place” in the neighborhood

- All residents of Manhattan Community Board 2, from Bowery and Canal to 14th Street and Hudson River, will receive preference for 50% of the units.
- Affordable housing at Hudson & Clarkson, will best serve local seniors, because they will have five times the chance of winning the affordable housing lottery.
- In addition, a proposed project at 550 Washington Street, currently going through rezoning, will have 476 affordable units, 178 for seniors. Residents of CB 2 also will receive preference for 50% of these units.

This building is for local seniors

- Under HPD & Chin’s plan, local seniors are 100% likely to lose the Garden.
- Seniors that live outside of CB 2 have 1,000 to 1 odds of winning a lottery. (Source: 6sqft.com, 9/2/16.)

OPEN SPACE

The site can provide both affordable housing and “re-create current features”

- The site is too small to do both well.
- It is impossible to re-create current features such as “lawns, trees, walks and planting and seating areas with a variety of sun and shade conditions, and also to provide for continuation of current educational and recreational programs and events,” all in the area the size of a basketball court, surrounded by seven-story buildings.

HPD proposes “publicly-accessible open space”

- Privately-owned public space is an oxymoron. Most is either “inaccessible or devoid” of “amenities that attract public use” according to a NYC Department of City Planning report.
- FESG seeks to preserve the Garden in perpetuity as a “public” NYC Park.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Been says she received “hundreds of letters”

- HPD Commissioner Vicki Been has received nearly 5,000 letters in support of saving the Garden.

ABOUT THE GARDEN

- Friends of Elizabeth Street Garden, a 501(c)(3) charity, operates the Garden year round and programs more than 200 free, public educational, wellness and arts-related events annually for children, seniors and all who live and work in the community.
- The Garden’s design, size and configuration make it ideally suited for movies, music, yoga, community festivals, arts performances, educational programs, gardening and quiet meditation that are not offered in any other nearby public community space.