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**Statement from Elected Officials
and Community Board 2 Opposing the
City's Plan to Build Housing on
Elizabeth Street Garden**

(New York, NY) — Today, downtown elected officials, including State Senator Brian Kavanaugh, Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez, Congressman Jerrold Nadler, Comptroller Scott Stringer, Public Advocate Letitia James, State Senator Brad Hoylman, Assemblymember Yuh-Line Niou, and Assemblymember Deborah Glick joined with Community Board 2 Chair Terri Cude to release the following statement in opposition to the City's proposed housing development at the beloved Elizabeth Street Garden:

"The City's decision to build housing at Elizabeth Street Garden is both unfortunate and a great disappointment. We oppose this development proposal. Lower Manhattan needs both more affordable housing and more open space, and we reject as false the idea that we must choose between these two vital community needs. There's no doubt we must address our City's affordability crisis. We have all been and will remain deeply committed to that effort. But affordability cannot come at the expense of the precious open spaces in our communities. We can — and must — both build affordable housing and preserve our green spaces.

"Rather than razing a much loved and much needed community asset in

select more appropriate locations that will allow for both affordable housing and preservation of the Garden."

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