























Presentation to CB 2 Elizabeth Street Garden Working Group, June 25, 2018

#### The Facts

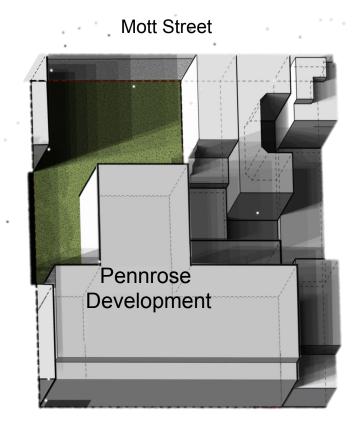
- Development will Destroy the Garden
- 2. City's Plan Ignores
  - Tremendous base of support
  - Garden's function as community center
  - Need for open space
- 3. CB 2 Proposed Alternative Site at 388 Hudson Provides 5x as Much Housing and 2x as Much Park Space



# Development will Destroy Garden No Space – No Sun

### 100% Saved vs. Destroyed





Elizabeth Street



# City's Plan is No Compromise

- Reduces 20,000 SF Garden by nearly 70%
  - Destroys entire Elizabeth Street side, leaving tiny footprint
  - Eliminates sunlight in public space
  - Bulldozes lawn, trees & programming space
  - Creates private amenity spaces: hallway for retail tenant, green roof
- Falsely portrays open space as give back rather than compliance with Special Little Italy District zoning
  - Open space figures inflated 33% by covered hallway and building overhang
- Development subsidized by market rate retail and Habitat office space



# Renderings Misleading

#### Deceptive Perspectives:

Depth of field manipulated

# Unsustainable Lawn: Due to shadows and

consistent foot traffic

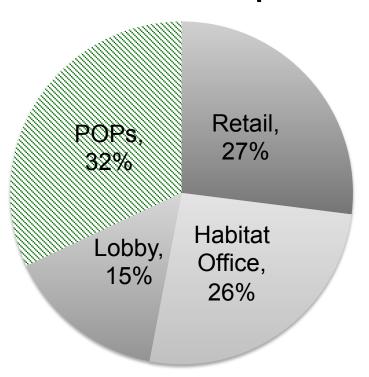
# Unrealistic Design: Addition of ADA circulation paths will leave only a couple patches of grassy lawn possible





# Development will Destroy 70% of Garden

#### **Pennrose Development**







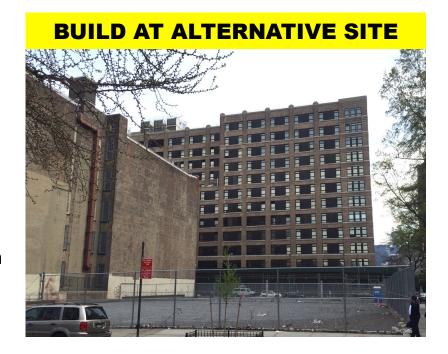
# 388 Hudson: A Better Alternative for Housing

#### Advantages of 388 Hudson Site

- Provides 5x as much affordable housing and 2x as much open space
- Increases local senior housing opportunities locally due to community preference
- Develops gravel-filled vacant lot vs. beloved and heavily-used Garden
- Allows 5x as many seniors to age in place

#### Suitable for Housing

- City-owned, 25,000 SF site promised as open space once DEP completes water tunnel construction
- Site can accommodate both housing and open space, due to DEP easement on Houston St. side
- CB 2 passed two resolutions in support of building housing here "only if" Garden preserved in its entirety
- Not available if Garden developed





# 5 Years Later Significant Community Support for Saving Garden

- Grassroots initiative to create more park space, began June 1, 2013
- Garden has become a beloved community space
  - Open to public year round
  - Host to hundreds of free public events and educational programming
- Tremendous base of community support
  - Nearly every local elected official
  - CB 2 passed 4 resolutions in support of saving 100%
     of the Garden and for an alternative site that can provide up to 5x as much affordable housing
  - 21 park and community organizations and former NYC Parks
     Commissioner Adrian Benepe
  - 100,000 annual visitors, 7,500 newsletter subscribers,
     10,000+ letters of support and hundreds of volunteers

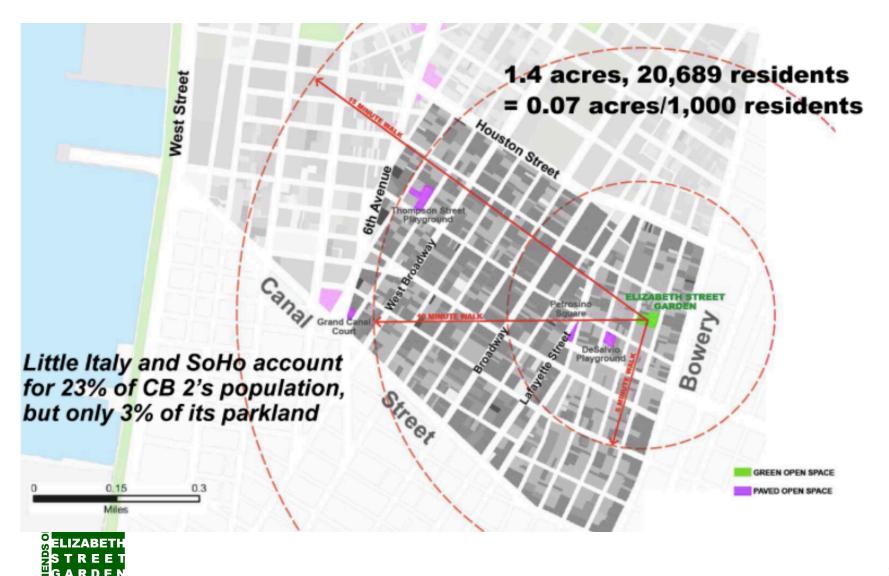


# CB 2 Has One of the Lowest Open Space Ratios in NYC

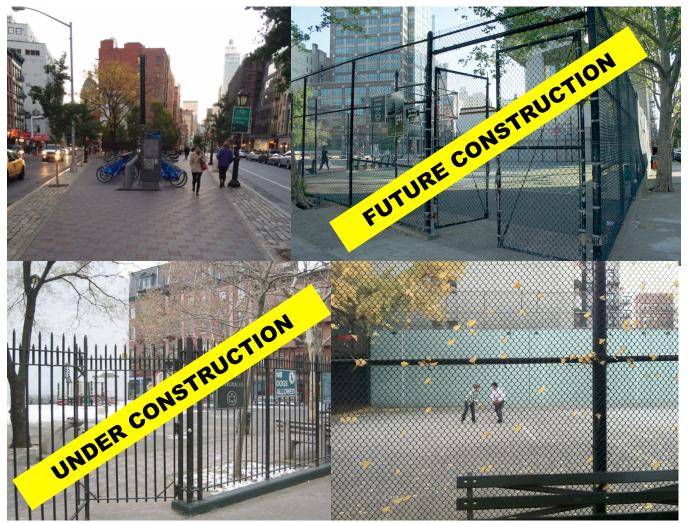




# CB 2: Little Italy & SoHo Lack Open Space Only 3 Square Feet Per Person!

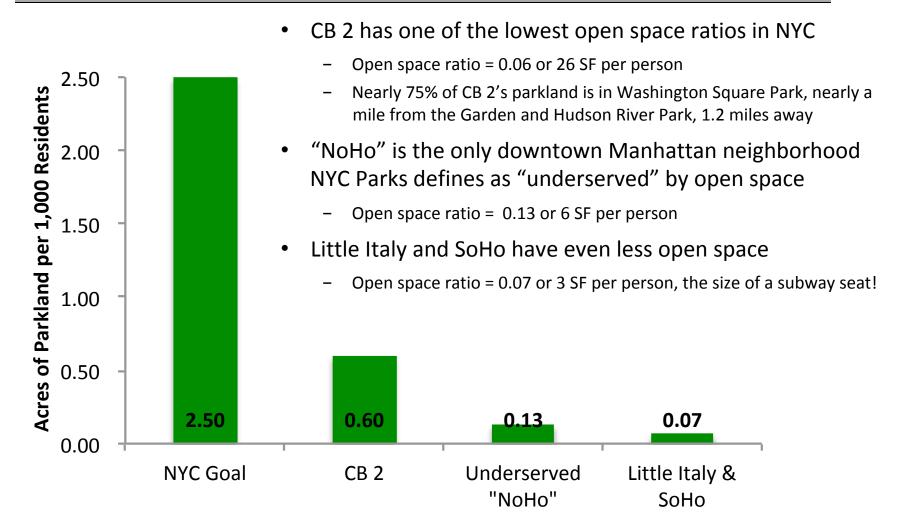


# Neighborhood Parks All Paved





## Our Community Lacks Adequate Open Space





Sources: CB 2 and Little Italy & SoHo open space ratios from CB 2, Manhattan. NYC Goal and "underserved" neighborhoods, 2014 City Environmental Qualitiy Review Technical Manual, Chapter 7, Open Space, page 7-4. NoHo includes NoHo, SoHo, Little Italy, parts of the East Village and the Lower East Side, including Sara D. Roosevelt Park north of Delancey Street. For map, visit http://on.nyc.gov/2n70iVX. © 2018 Friends of Elizabeth Street Garden

# Friends' Legal Defense Fund

 Friends of Elizabeth Street Garden is fighting to save the Garden from becoming a building site and has hired a legal team to sue the city, if necessary, to stop it from bulldozing our neighborhood oasis.

#### Our Legal Team

- Friends has retained Michael Gruen, an experienced land use attorney with a proven track record litigating against New York City and state governmental entities.
- Gruen is president of the City Club, a good governance organization that recently won two important land use cases -- Pier 55 and Flushing Meadows.

For questions, please contact Emily Hellstrom at emily@elizabethstreetgarden.org or visit elizabethstreetgarden.org.

Friends of Elizabeth Street Garden Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with the mission to preserve the Garden as a unique public green, open space and NYC Park.



# This is Not a Done Deal!



