



Elizabeth Street Garden Questionnaire - Ron Kim

1. Have you visited Elizabeth Street Garden before? If so, please describe your experience.

Yes, I've walked past and seen the garden. I always wondered why we didn't have more like it; Community organized green spaces that both brighten their environment and allow for inspiration to grow.

2. What is your position on the alternative site solution that would use 388 Hudson – a gravel-filled, city-owned lot – to provide 5x the amount of affordable housing and additional public open space while saving Elizabeth Street Garden?

I believe that all possible options must be considered. We are in deep need of more affordable housing, but location must be decided with the community in mind and partnership. We want everyone to experience and enjoy the ESG even new and future residents to area.

3. Given the immediate threat, how as Public Advocate would you work with our community to protect and preserve Elizabeth Street Garden and use the alternative site for the proposed development?

As Public Advocate I will use every tool at my disposal including litigation and the bully pulpit. The Public Advocate is positioned to work with the community and give it a megaphone. I will support the designation of ESG as a Green Thumb Garden where it can receive NYC Parks protections and maintain its unique aesthetic. There are suitable sites in the area that I will be sure to highlight as we work together to save the ESG.

4. What is your position on how the City prioritizes public open green space and how community gardens are being pitted against the need for affordable housing?

We need to invest more into green space and community gardens and as Public Advocate I will make sure our communities aren't pitted against each other, fighting for crumbs while big real estate corps get all the benefits.