



Elizabeth Street Garden Questionnaire - Dawn Smalls

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

No. I have not been before but look forward to paying the garden a visit.

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 affordable housing is one of - if not the city's most critical needs. However we cannot provide affordable housing at the expense of all open space in the city. Given the ratio of open space to housing in the area, we should use all efforts to preserve the garden. This point is only underscored by the fact that there is an alternative site that will offer the same -or more - affordable housing than is envisioned for the garden site.

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?

Affordable housing is one of my key focus areas, and I will use that focus to advance the idea of using the alternative site as a preferred site, to the extent that it provides more units and is the preference of the community.

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?

Affordable housing is a priority. But in building affordable housing you cannot make the city unlivable. As a mom with three kids, I am sensitive to the need for parks and green spaces in each neighborhood. We have to balance both.