



NYC Parks

Rules for selling art, photography, reading material, or sculpture in City parks

The rules are available at www.nyc.gov/parks/rules. Vendors can learn more by reading the rules, FAQs below, or by calling 311.

Frequently Asked Questions

Rules for Selling Expressive Matter in Any City Park

Q. Who must follow these rules?

The rules apply to expressive matter vendors (anyone who sells art, photography, reading material, or sculpture whether original or mass-produced) who operate in City parks.

Q. What do the rules require?

The rules establish general standards for selling expressive matter in parks, such as the allowable location, size and set up of a display stand.

Q. Why has the Department of Parks & Recreation (“Parks”) created these rules?

Parks issued rules to clarify standards for selling expressive materials on parkland and to balance the needs of the variety of park users.

Q. Who enforces the rules?

Parks Enforcement Patrol (PEP) Officers and New York Police Department (NYPD) Officers will enforce the rules.

Q. How do I display my items for sale?

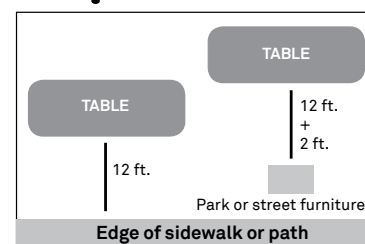
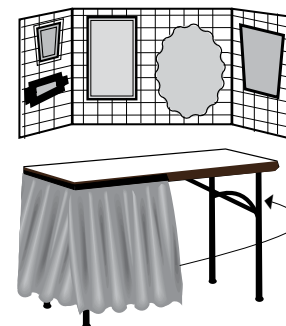
Your display must:

- provide at least a twelve (12) foot wide clear pedestrian path unless specifically otherwise allowed at a designated spot.
- occupy no more than eight (8) feet long by three (3) feet wide parallel to the curb or park path.
- must abut the curb unless specifically otherwise allowed at a designated spot.
- stand between two (2) to five (5) feet high.
- be more than five (5) feet from any park or street furniture.
- be more than fifty (50) feet from a monument, public art installation, including ornamental fountains.

You may not display items you wish to sell:

- directly on a sidewalk or park path, or on a blanket or board directly on the sidewalk or park path.
- using a trash bin, park wall, bench, or other street or park furniture or park feature, such as a rock, tree, shrub, or planting.

Expressive Matter Vendor Stand Requirements



Q. All of my items do not fit on my display stand. What can I do?

You may use the area below your display stand to store additional items, but you must use a covering, like a tablecloth, to shield these items from view.

Q. Can vendors leave tables or store anything overnight?

No. Vendors must set up when a park opens and everything must be removed from the park when the park closes.

Q. What happens if I do not comply with the rules?

Failure to comply can lead to a summons and possibly arrest.

Additional Rules for Selling Expressive Matter in Union Square Park, Battery Park, High Line Park, and certain sections of Central Park

Q. Where can vendors sell expressive matter in these parks?

Vendors can only sell from available spots designated by Parks (see attached maps for the number and location of these spots in each park). In Central Park, vendors can also sell in areas outside the zones where spots have been designated as long as they comply with all other Parks rules. Please note: planned reconstruction of the plaza in front of the Metropolitan Museum of Art is anticipated to begin on October 15, 2012 and continue for approximately two years. Because of the plaza reconstruction, designated spots for expressive matter vendors in the plaza will become inaccessible during this time and expressive matter vendors will no longer be able to vend at this location. For additional information regarding the construction and a location variance, please read the Metropolitan Museum of Art Construction Update which can be found on our website at www.nyc.gov/parks/rules.

Q. How will I recognize designated spots?

Spots will be marked with a Parks medallion on the ground. Vendors must set up centered directly behind the medallion.

In Union Square Park, daily, expressive matter vendors are authorized to vend directly behind the green-colored medallions. On Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays, expressive matter vendors in Union Square Park are also authorized to vend directly behind the gray-colored medallions.



Q. How many expressive matter vendors may use a designated spot?

One vendor at a time behind each medallion, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Q. When are designated spots available?

Designated spots are available for expressive matter vendors when the park opens and until it closes. Times are: Central Park, 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.; High Line Park: June 1 - September 30, 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m., October 1 - November 30, 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., December 1 - March 31, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., April 1 - May 31, 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; Union Square Park, 6:00 a.m. to midnight; Battery Park, 6:00 a.m. to midnight.

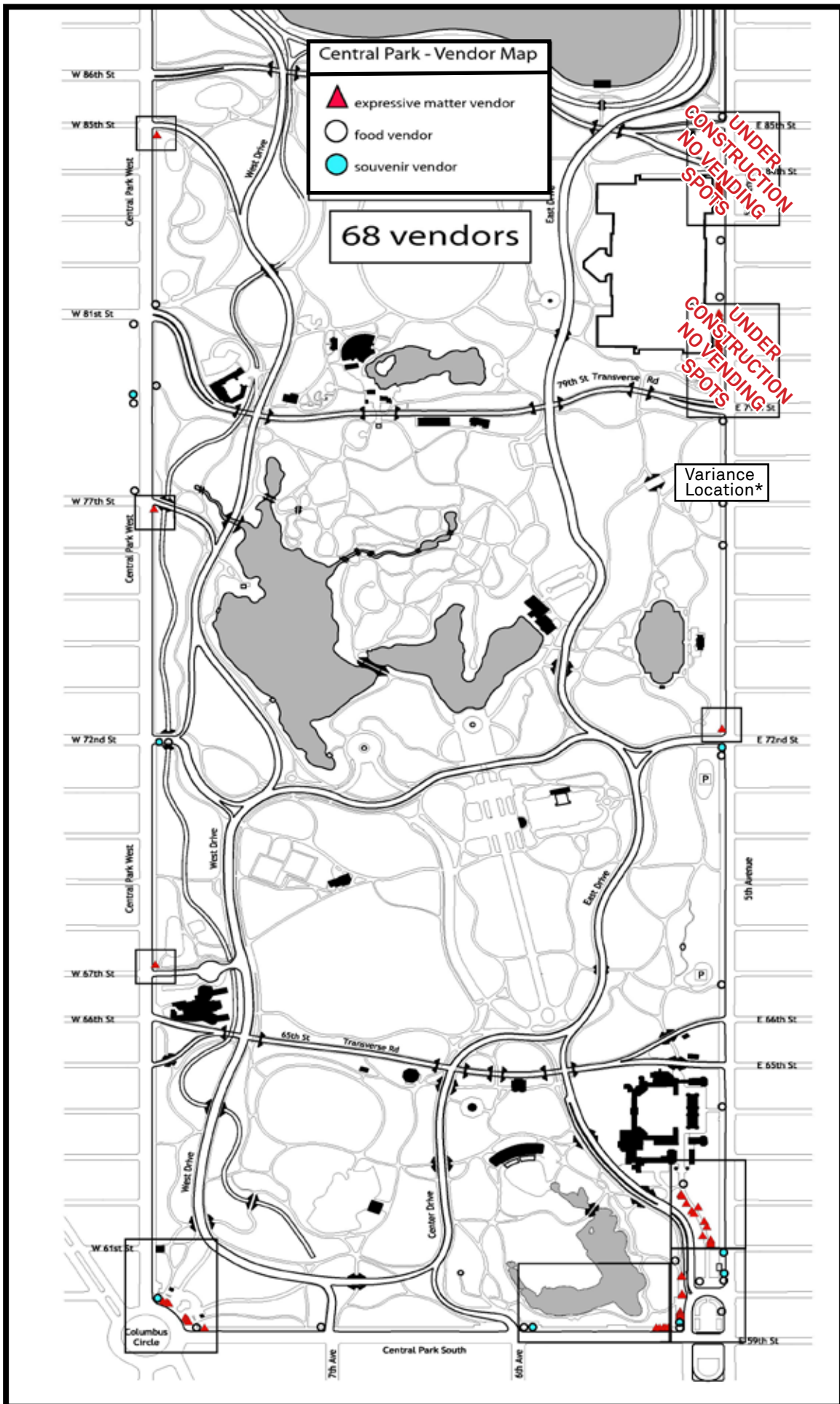
Q. What if all the designated spots for expressive matter vendors are taken?

If all the designated spots are taken by other vendors, vendors can go to another park. In the case of Central Park, there are areas that do not require vending at a designated spot. However, vendors will still have to abide by all other applicable rules.

Q. Can spots be reserved?

No.












For more information, please visit
www.nyc.gov/parks/rules or call 311.



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Columbus Circle

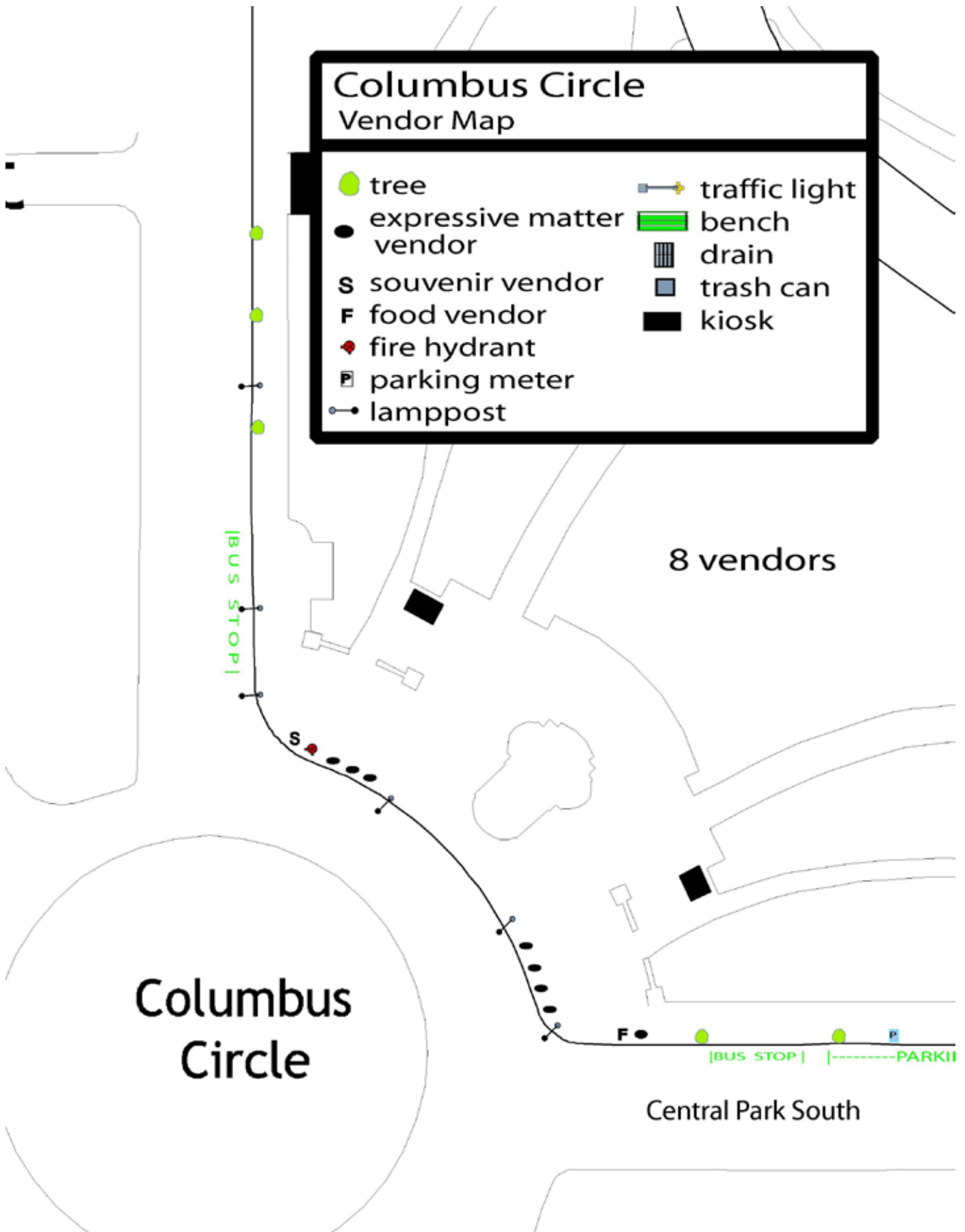
Vendor Map

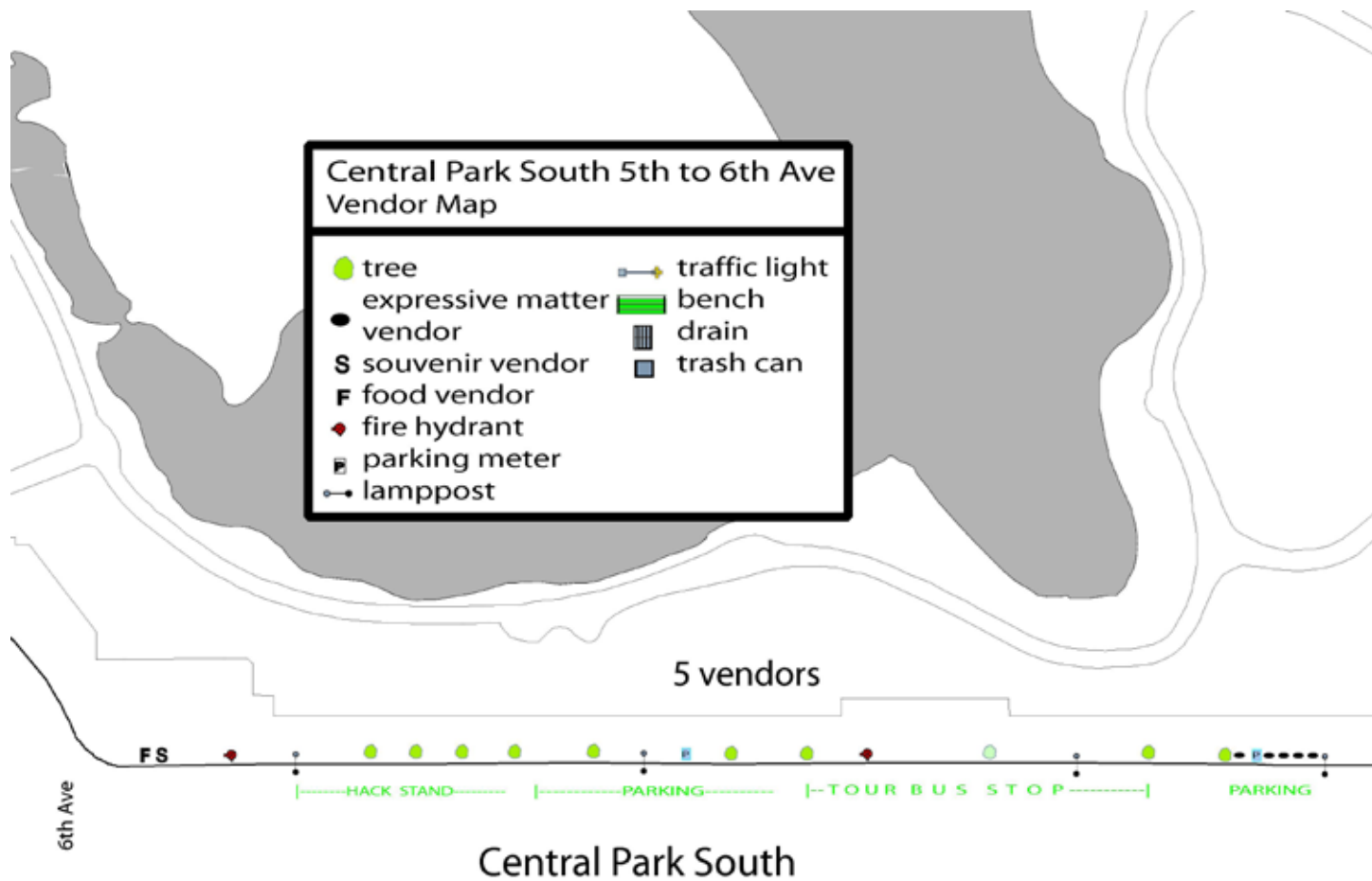
- | | |
|---|---|
|  tree |  traffic light |
|  expressive matter |  bench |
|  vendor |  drain |
| S souvenir vendor |  trash can |
| F food vendor |  kiosk |
|  fire hydrant | |
|  parking meter | |
|  lamppost | |

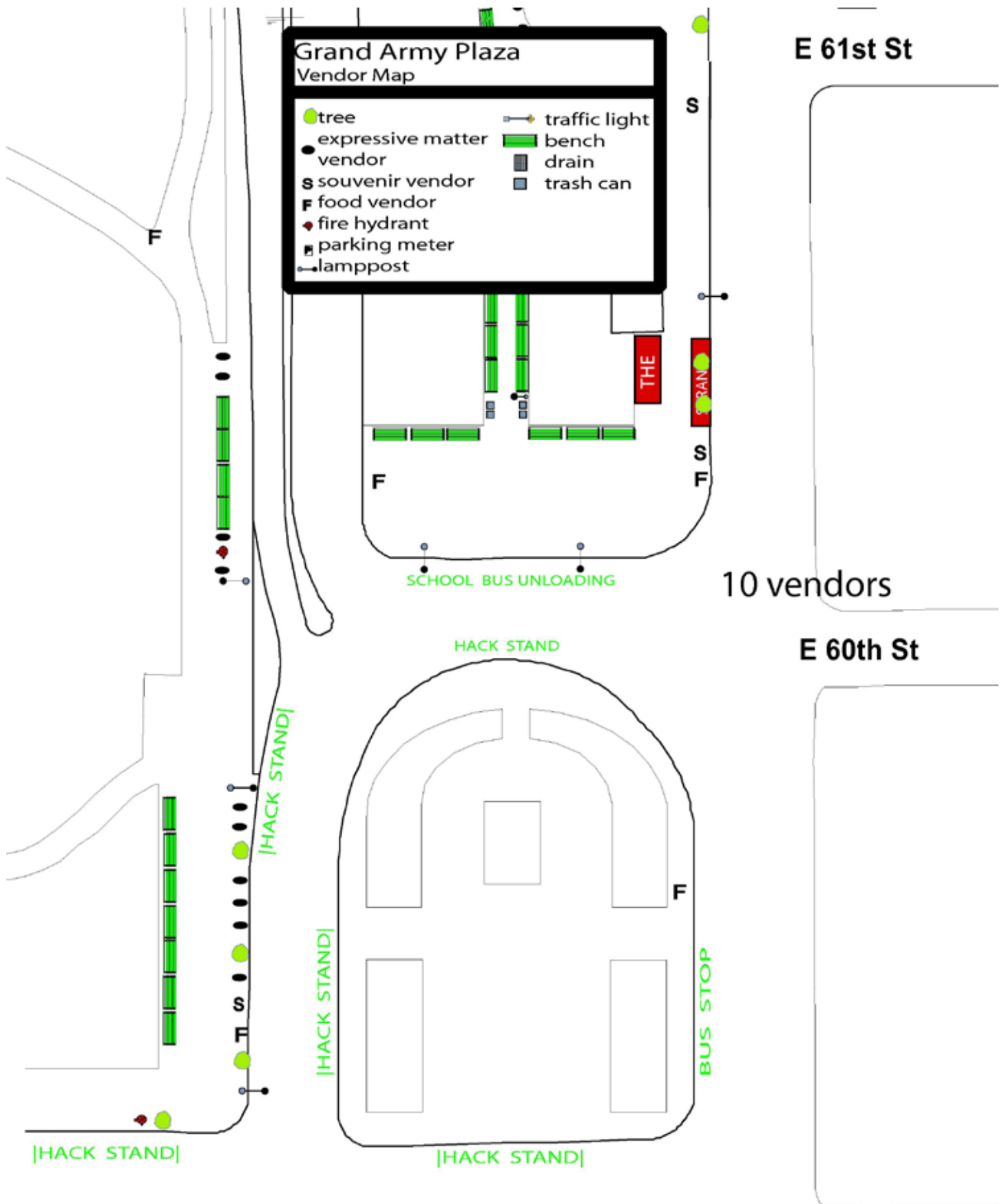
8 vendors

Columbus
Circle

Central Park South







Wien Walk Vendor Map

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| ● tree | ⚡ traffic light |
| ● expressive matter | ▬ bench |
| ● vendor | ▨ drain |
| S souvenir vendor | ■ trash can |
| F food vendor | |
| ● fire hydrant | |
| ⌚ parking meter | |
| ⦿ lamppost | |

E 62nd St

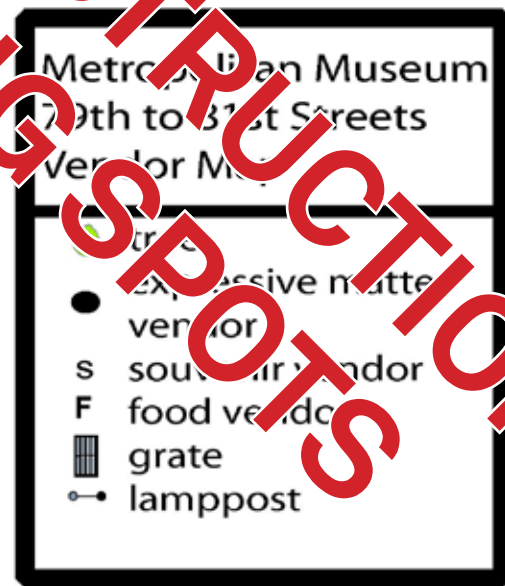
13 vendors

E 61st St

E 81st St

16 vendors

E 80th St



E 79th St

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

UNDER CONSTRUCTION
NO VENDING SPOTS

Ancient Playground

BUS STOP

E 8th St

E 9th Avenue

12 vendors

UNDER CONSTRUCTION
NO VENDING SPOTS

Ancient Playground

BUS STOP

E 8th St

E 9th Avenue

12 vendors

UNDER CONSTRUCTION
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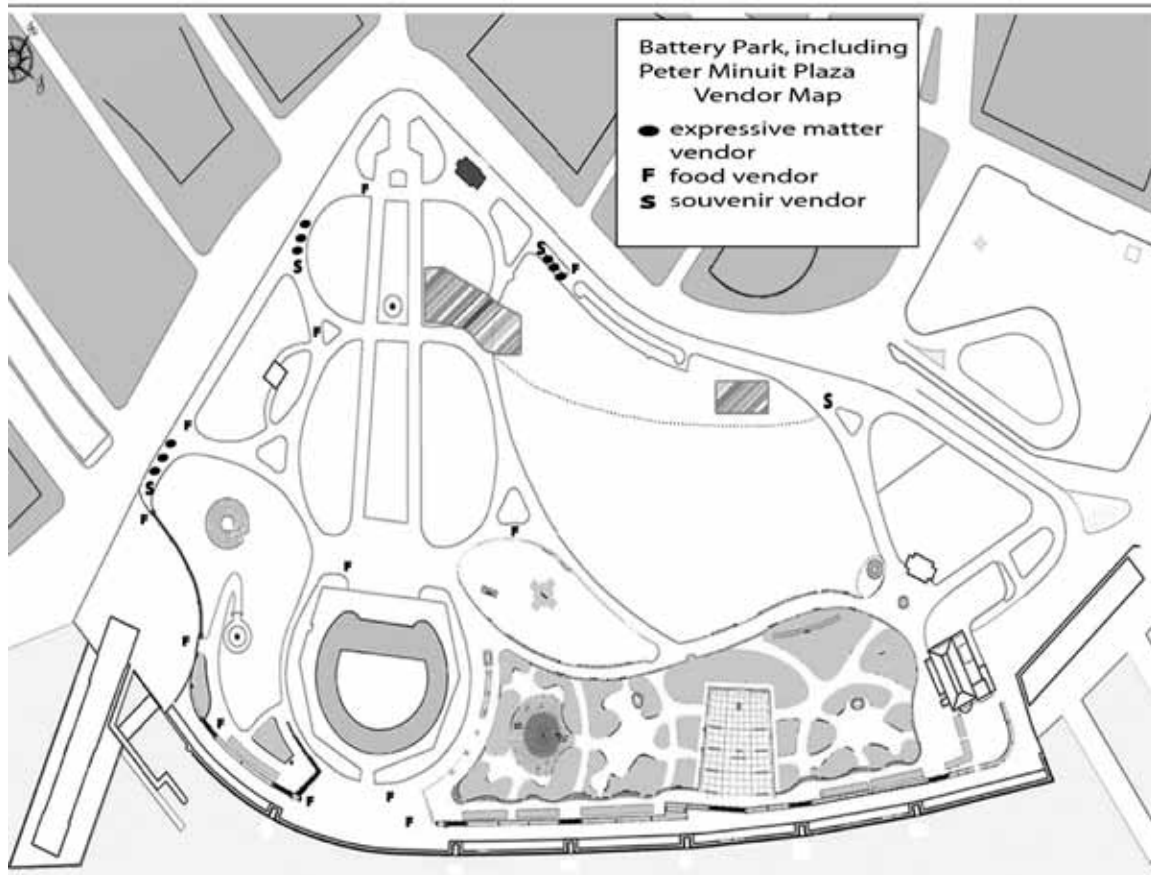
E 8th St

E 9th Avenue

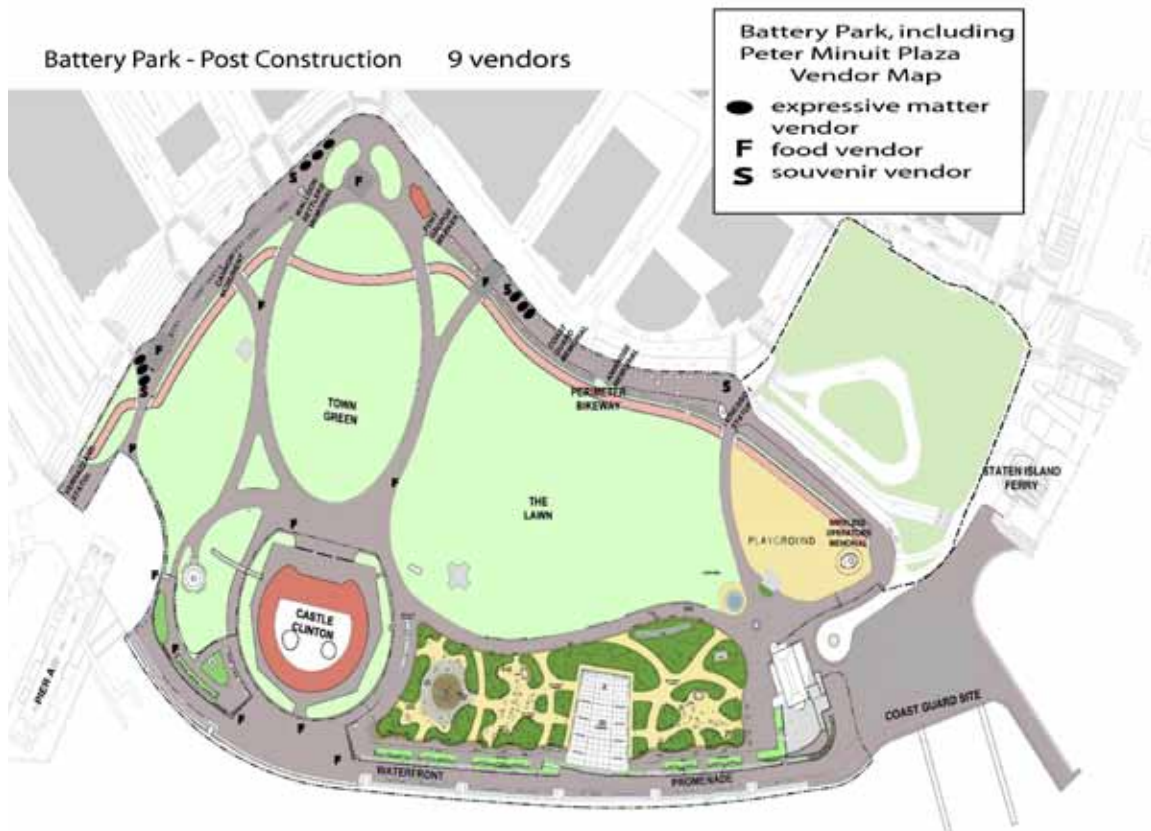
12 vendors

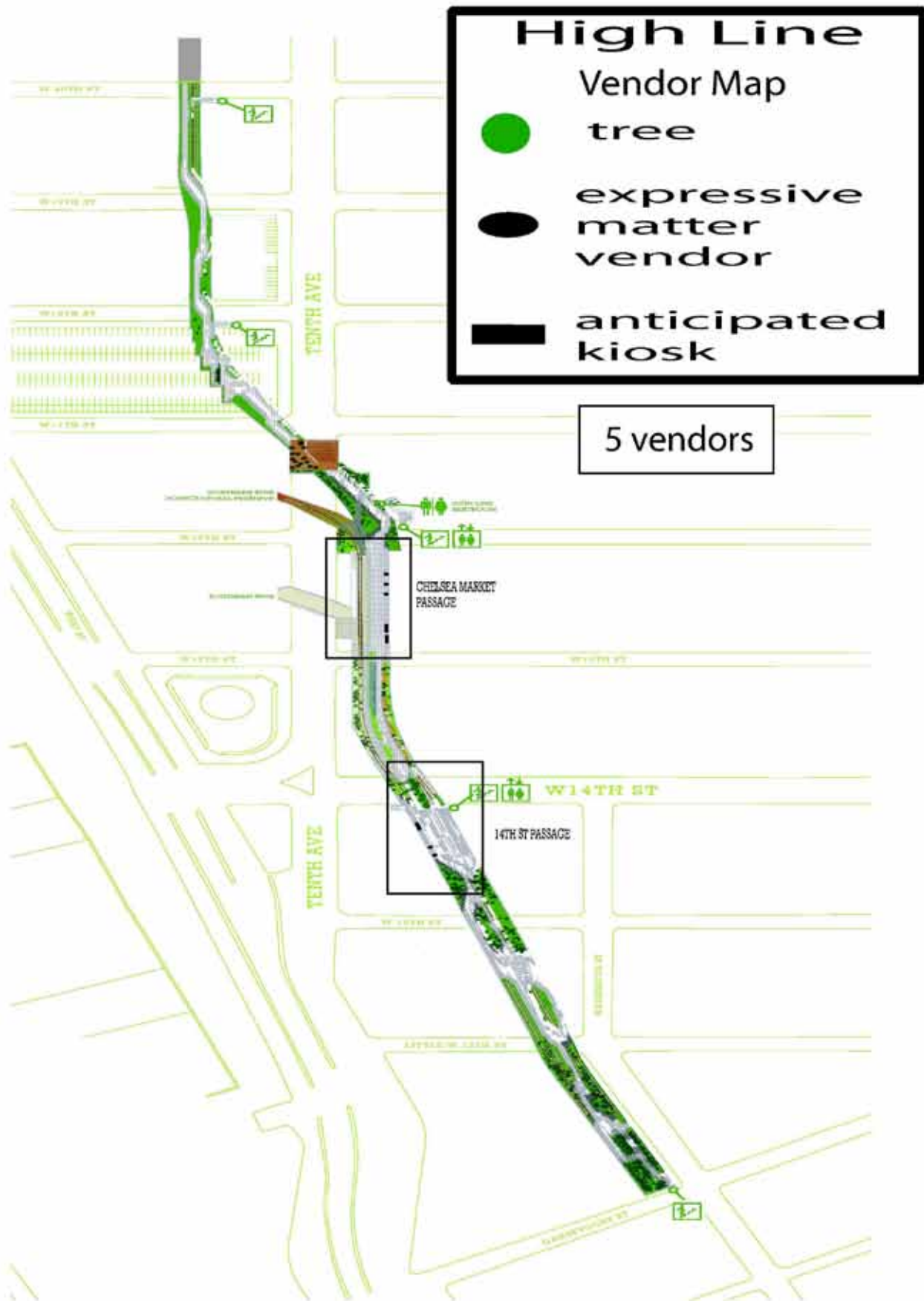
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- UNDER CONSTRUCTION
NO VENDING SPOTS
- Ancient Playground
- BUS STOP
- E 8th St
- E 9th Avenue
- 12 vendors

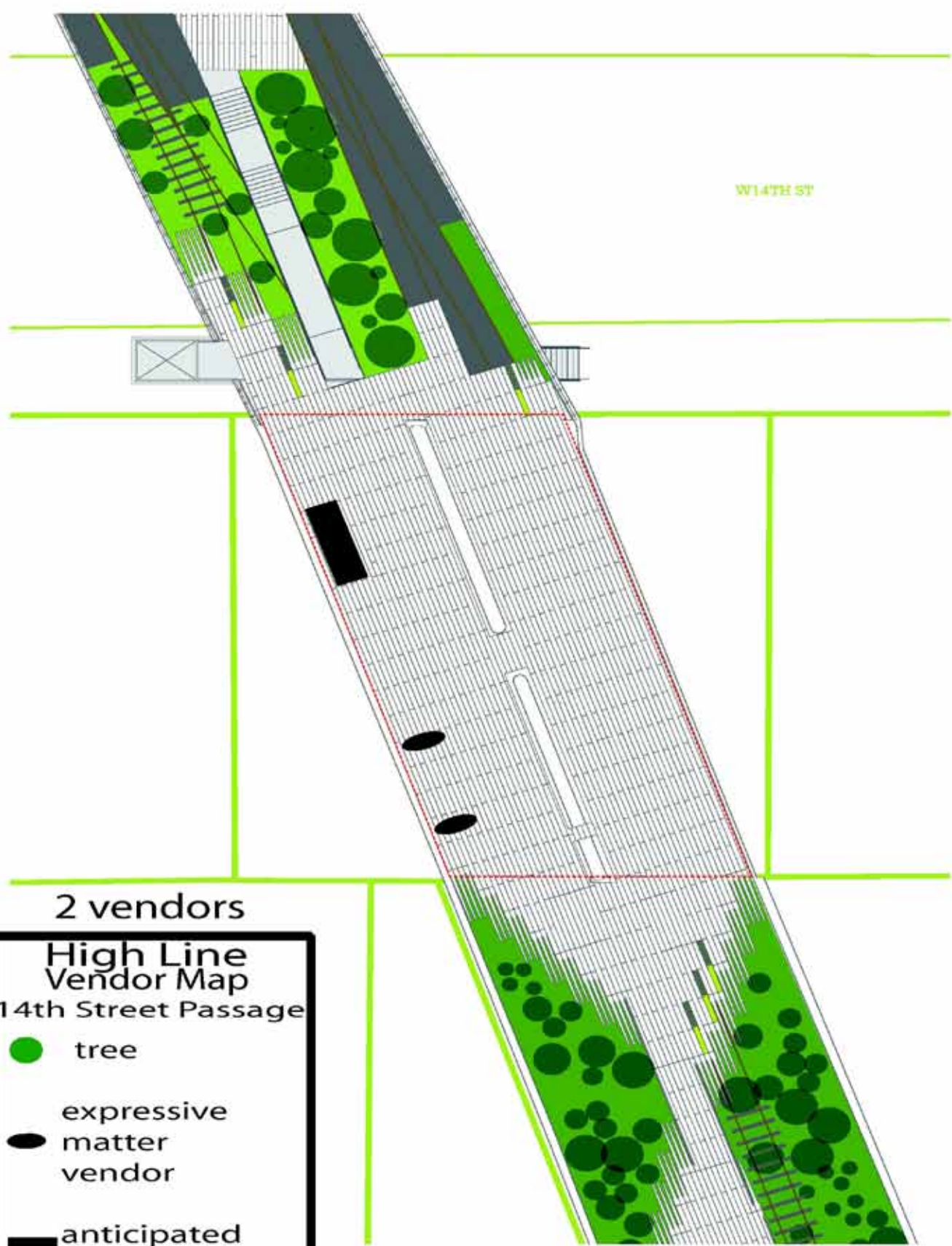
Battery Park - During Construction 9 vendors



Battery Park - Post Construction 9 vendors








2 vendors

High Line
Vendor Map
14th Street Passage

-  tree
-  expressive matter vendor
-  anticipated kiosk

