

**Written Submissions –  
Submitted After  
December 6, 2021**

## FW: Scarsdale Village united

Mayor <mayor@scarsdale.com>

Tue 12/7/2021 12:05 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Resending

**From:** Mayor

**Sent:** Monday, December 06, 2021 11:47 PM

**To:** submission@nyirc.gov

**Cc:** Trustee Ahuja <sahuja@scarsdale.com>; Trustee Arest <jarest@scarsdale.com>; Trustee Brew <kbrew@scarsdale.com>; Trustee Crandall <lcrandall@scarsdale.com>; Trustee Lewis <jlewis@scarsdale.com>; Trustee Whitestone <rwhitestone@scarsdale.com>

**Subject:** Scarsdale Village united

Dear IRC,

The Village of Scarsdale should not be divided in the drawing of legislative districts. We have a unified town and Village government, and our schools and Village are coterminous. As Scarsdale elected officials, we represent the collective best interest of our community, and we speak as one voice.

Both the proposed Letters and Names draft Congressional Districts would be a better fit for Scarsdale than the current Congressional district (**District 16**). Scarsdale shares similar interests with other communities in southern Westchester County, particularly the other towns and villages. Scarsdale also has shared interests with the communities along the Metro-North Harlem line and neighborhoods in the cities and towns that border Scarsdale. The proposed Letters and Names Congressional Districts (**District S** and **District YONKERS**) would better serve the Scarsdale community by placing the village in a district that is almost entirely contained within Westchester County.

Both the proposed Letters and Names draft Senate Districts work for Scarsdale, keeping the village whole and placing it in Senate districts that are mostly made up of southern Westchester communities. The two proposed districts (Senate **District AM** and **District Yonkers**) also have the advantage of placing Scarsdale in the same district as the Town of Mamaroneck. This is important because a small portion of the Scarsdale School District extends into the northern part of the Town Mamaroneck, and these plans would unite the school district within a single Senate district. While in prior decades, Scarsdale and Mamaroneck were together in a single Senate District, for the past decade the Scarsdale school district has not been whole within a single State Senate or State Assembly district.

The Assembly Letters plan places Scarsdale in a district (**District CK**) with minimal changes to the current district (**District 88**). This plan works well for Scarsdale, keeping it with similar southern Westchester communities, including the towns of Eastchester and Pelham, the villages of Bronxville, Tuckahoe, Pelham and Pelham Manor, and neighborhoods in the cities of White Plains and New Rochelle that have institutional connections to adjoining parts of Scarsdale.

The Assembly Names plan divides the village of Scarsdale into two entirely new Assembly districts (Districts **WHTPLNS** and **CNTRWSCHSTR**). The IRC should not divide Scarsdale into multiple Assembly districts. Scarsdale has a population of just over 18,000. Dividing the municipality into multiple districts would prevent the community from having a single representative who would understand and be able to advocate for the Village's interests.

This proposal also ignores the requirement of maintaining the cores of existing districts. Scarsdale has been in a district with Eastchester, Bronxville, Tuckahoe, Pelham, Pelham Manor and parts of New Rochelle and White

Plains through several redistricting cycles. Dissolving the core of that district would remove the continuity of representation that the Scarsdale has had for decades.

On behalf of all of Scarsdale, we urge you to keep Scarsdale united.

With thanks for your consideration

Jane Veron  
Mayor of Scarsdale

**Jane E. Veron**  
**Mayor**  
**Village of Scarsdale**  
[mayor@scarsdale.com](mailto:mayor@scarsdale.com)  
Follow me @mayorjaneveron

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/7/2021 12:15 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Wai
- **Last Name:** Chan
- **Email:** wcchan8@gmail.com
- **Body:**
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Queens

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### **Richmond Hill**

Richmond Hill and Ozone Park are neighborhoods where Hispanic residents are the plurality group. In sections adjacent to Woodhaven, they're the majority group. Commission hearings and submissions have heavily emphasized the South Asian and Indo-Caribbean community centered in South Richmond Hill and South Ozone Park. But people repeatedly confuse these four distinct neighborhoods.

Many New York City neighborhoods contain overlapping communities, these four neighborhoods are no different. But I hope the Commission keeps neighborhoods intact to the extent practical. Some neighborhood divisions reflect clearly different socio-economic and demographic groups with limited interaction, but others do not.

### **Middle Village**

Maspeth, Middle Village and Glendale are adjacent central Queens neighborhoods marked by lower density, high automobile ownership, and high home ownership. Neighborhood groups such as the Juniper Park Civic Association and COMET help bind them together. Their commonalities are one reason why together they form New York City Council District 30. It's a diverse area where Hispanic and Asian residents are almost half the population. But some proposals to the Commission divide these three neighborhoods unnecessarily. I urge the Commission to resist partisan gerrymanders and keep these neighborhoods together to the extent practical.

### **Jackson Heights**

Proposals that append large blocks of southern Jackson Heights (Historic District and Garden Co-ops) to either Elmhurst or Corona Assembly districts dilute the voices of working class Asian and Hispanic immigrants. The Commission's Letters Plan correctly places higher income, higher formal education, higher turnout Jackson Heights residents in a Jackson Heights district entirely north of Roosevelt Avenue.

The Letters Plan reflects that (1) Elmhurst and Woodside and (2) North Corona and Corona residents are lower propensity voters. Citizenship and turnout rates are lower in these heavily immigrant communities. Because housing is dominated by one to three family houses often with limited English speakers, engagement is more difficult. Unlike densely populated co-op apartment blocks with fluent English-speaking professionals more common in Jackson Heights.

I urge the Commission to follow the Letters Plan division of Assembly districts and to discount maps by some non-partisan redistricting coalitions. They might reflect the political interests of incumbents and affluent Jackson Heights residents, but they don't reflect the working class immigrant communities in Corona, North Corona, Elmhurst and Woodside.

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/7/2021 12:32 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** JoAnne
- **Last Name:** Young Doesschate
- **Email:** jmytd@yahoo.com
- **Body:**
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Long Island

This e-mail has been automatically generated

Dear Commission Members -

I'm now 71 years old and graduated from Stony Brook University (SBU) before some of you were born. After more than fifty years living in this community I have not only seen the University blossom, I've seen Brookhaven National Lab blossom, and I've seen the fruits of their union. They have made Suffolk County what it is. They are not only our largest employer, they are Suffolk's largest creator of jobs through their research and incubators.

You were chosen because you understand politics. Here's the politics of why it is so important to keep the Lab and University together in NY1. Whether it has been Democrat Tim Bishop or Republican Lee Zeldin, our Member of Congress has made those two research centers their primary concern. Why? The success of each builds the success of both. No matter what the party, they make incumbency almost a foregone conclusion. And while I may not like it when the MoC is not someone from my party, I still would not separate the two just to try to make NY1 or NY3 more blue, even though I am a Democrat. What is more important is what those two institutions do - together - for our economy and for our quality of life.

If SBU was moved into NY3, as your first map suggested, it would screw SBU, and in the process, hurt BNL. Seriously - NY3, which stretches from NYC to Suffolk, is already an absurdity. To stretch it further to include SBU would leave us with an MoC who would not make SBU their first priority. They care about votes. If most of the people who work at SBU live in NY1 and not NY3 - there's not a whole lot of incentive for the NY3 MoC to put the same effort into a public state university that does not get most of its funding from the federal government as there is for the NY1 MoC who currently reaps the benefits the two institutions combined create.

I don't know all the ED numbers to tell you, but the district line can be very straightforward; if you keep all of the Town of Brookhaven in NY1 - the University, which is in the NW corner of Brookhaven - will stay in NY1 with BNL.

Please, keep BNL & SBU together in NY1!

Thank you!

JoAnne Young Doesschate

54 Quaker Path, Stony Brook, NY 11790

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/7/2021 12:40 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Linda
- **Last Name:** Royster
- **Email:** lacop1969@gmail.com
- **Body:** My name is Linda Royster I resigned at 720 Lenox Avenue # 25i New York, NY 10039 Esplanade Gardens is my home and in redistricting I ask that the 71AD continue to include 144th street River to River and go north to 207th street. I am also in the 30th Senate District and want to remain. I strongly request the above change to be made. Thank you.
- **Categories Selected:** State Assembly, State Senate

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/7/2021 11:09 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Steve
- **Last Name:** Smollens
- **Email:** Steven.Smollens@gmail.com
- **Body:** Steven Smollens, a resident of the former 14th and current 12th Congressional District and 74th Assembly District at Waterside Plaza since 1984. This little piece of NYC is my home and my children's. I am a former Democratic Party District Leader and Waterside Tenant Association President. The preservation of the integrity of the so-called Town & Village, Waterside, East Midtown Plaza, Kips Bay, Hospital Corridor Community is vital to the quality of life in our community, comprehensive infrastructure (where would the Second Avenue Subway be if subdivided into 2 or 3 CD's?), the integrity of a sense of place (I am from the Waterside, Stuyvesant Town, PCV community) the creation of a unified coastal resiliency barrier, parks, river access. This makes sense for all residents, community planning boards, school districts, and other community advisory boards. It is not simply the representative we have a chance to elect, it is the notion of neighbor and neighborhood too that is worth preserving. Preserve the District of Representative Maloney.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Manhattan

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## Request to Chair Imumura the Redistricting Commissioners

Minewattie Gayadin Ali <minewattiegayadinali@gmail.com>

Tue 12/7/2021 11:48 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Dear Chair and Commissioners on the Redistricting Panel,

Good Morning. Since this is a time in history where there is an Independent Redistricting Committee, I would like to ask of you that you listen to the voice of the People rather than the Politicians, otherwise the ordinary people who braved Covid-19 risks to testify personally, and those who braved using the technology to present their testimony would be in vain and lose interest in any further Independent Redistricting Commission.



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/7/2021 12:08 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Maria
- **Last Name:** Concolino
- **Email:** chatterbox3664@yahoo.com
- **Body:** I have lived in Woodhaven for over 30 years. My district has always been divided with City Council, which has been a disadvantage. We seem to get less money because the one City Council person will say that the other should also give money.

Please don't redistrict.

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Queens

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## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/7/2021 1:01 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Émilia
- **Last Name:** Decaudin
- **Email:** me@edecaud.in
- **Description:** Attached is my attempt at drawing Assembly Districts for Queens. In particular, please take a close look at districts 36 and 37. The rest of the districts are my ideas for the rest of the borough, but they should be taken with a grain of salt in comparison to those in Western Queens. I attached a version in .geojson, but am able to provide this map in other formats as well. You may see the source of this map at <https://davesredistricting.org/maps#viewmap::5f730f3a-82c8-4e20-b3e8-edcd74f46404>.

Sincerely, Émilia Decaudin

- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** State Assembly, Queens

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/7/2021 2:02 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Dorothea
- **Last Name:** Brady
- **Email:** dollybrady@prodigy.net
- **Body:** Please don't break up my neighborhood of Woodhaven in Queens, NY. We have many issues which need to be addressed and we are a community. I've lived in the neighborhood all my life and it is critical that we have representation that is unified and will fight for the funding we need for addressing the problems of illegal conversions, gang activity, illegal business use in the residential areas, the general lack of adequate services for the elderly and the handicapped, which are sorely being left behind. The list can go on and on. Please keep Woodhaven together in one district.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Queens

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/7/2021 2:03 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Amy
- **Last Name:** Tse
- **Email:** de.merovingian@gmail.com
- **Body:** I support the proposed Unity Map. Asian Americans need better and more representation at all levels of government. Our needs and concerns are often minimized and/or ignored even though Asian Americans are the fastest growing racial and ethnic demographic in NYS and across the US. Thank you.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Brooklyn, Queens

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/7/2021 2:11 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Louise
- **Last Name:** Naples
- **Email:** napleslm@aol.com
- **Body:** To The NYS Redistricting Commission

22 November 2021

Ladies and Gentlemen

I have been a resident of Woodhaven for over fifty years, - my grandparents emigrated to this community from Lithuania over one hundred years ago. My family has had a presence in this very cohesive neighborhood for over a century. Our neighboring communities, including Richmond Hill, Glendale, and Ridgewood are cooperative, sister enclaves. We share very diverse groups: races, nationalities, ethnicities and religious beliefs, but we also share a common belief in our inter-dependent and cooperative Assembly District administrations. Our interests and needs are the same and our government representatives, be it City Council, State Assembly or State Senator, all work in harmony and have done so for decades.

Your proposed change would suddenly deprive us of our current Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar, slicing her home, and office right out of our District. Why?

In comparing the current, and proposed redistricting maps, I am appalled that you would even consider slicing a portion of Woodhaven, 11421 out of our district. That is like cutting off one

of our arms or legs. The people that reside in the area from 98th St. to 85th St. from Jamaica Avenue up to Forest Park are part of our family. You simply cannot cut them out - they are Woodhaven residents, all inside 11421. We all have common needs and desires for our neighborhood.

Then seeing the convoluted string-bean of a tail south, out to Howard Beach, Broad Channel, and Rockaway all the way to Breezy Point defies all logic. The concerns of the population in those communities are wholly different from ours, as they deal with rising water, storm surges, and many other weather-related concerns than we do. They deserve a dedicated representative who can concentrate on those very special needs. Lumping us together divides the focus of required funding, regulation, and representation.

Our existing map works. Please don't try to fix what ain't broke.

Sincerely yours.

Louise Naples Woodhaven, NY

- **Categories Selected:** State Assembly, Queens



## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/7/2021 3:47 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Cynthia
- **Last Name:** McKnight
- **Email:** [cynthiamcknight@gmail.com](mailto:cynthiamcknight@gmail.com)
- **Body:**
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional

This e-mail has been automatically generated

Greetings, My name is Cynthia McKnight, and thank you for the opportunity to present the lines for Congressional District 8. This is an update to my testimony in Albany, New York. I am the President of Community Education Council 13 in Congressional District 8 and a union leader for the AFGE Local 913 of the United States Department of Urban Development. Community Education Councils are an initiative of the state legislature and are responsible for reviewing and evaluating educational programs, assessing their impact on student achievement, and advising the legislature on capital funding and public hearings. I have deep roots in Congressional District 8, and I was raised in Linden Houses in East New York and later moved to Clinton Hills, where I have resided for the last 25 years. I am here to urge the commission to keep our communities of the NY-08 together in a similar configuration to the current lines.

Our communities of interest are linked by public safety, which is why I am testifying as an education and children advocate. Education is the key to public safety, and if you do not educate, you incarcerate. People who experience barriers to educational achievement are disproportionately represented in the criminal justice system, and improving education outcomes is a way to increase public safety. The communities of District 8 are linked by transportation which makes it easier for parents to access better schools for their children. For example, many families in East New York take the B25 bus or three or A train to District 13, 15, and 16 schools,

Congressional District 8 also has the largest number of public housing and is third in the nation for the highest percentage of public housing in a Congressional District. It is paramount that the communities stay together to fairly represent the most vulnerable population. For these reasons, I suggest eliminating Sea Gate and Howard Beach from District 8. Thank you again for allowing me to weigh in on the lines for Congressional 8 and expressing the need to keep our communities unified.

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/7/2021 5:02 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Dorca
- **Last Name:** Reynoso
- **Email:** Dorcareynoso@gmail.com
- **Body:**
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** State Assembly, State Senate, Manhattan

This e-mail has been automatically generated

My name is Dorca Reynoso I have been a proud resident of Inwood community, the northern part of the district for the past 35 years. I am a member of Met Council on Housing. The 31st District has for many decades been composed by diverse neighborhoods with shared housing needs, transportation patterns, public school enrollment, civic engagement and houses of worship.

The A, C and 1 train lines the veins that help keep Inwood, Washington Heights, Morning Heights, and the Upper Westside together. These lines run from Inwood to the Upper westside in a pattern that complements the vertical traveling patterns of the residents of Northern Manhattan, they are essential to day to day lives, and meeting our needs. These lines play a role in many aspects of our lives. We as a community very similar patterns when it comes to supporting small businesses and selecting our medical providers

Forcing a Senate district to cross country lines, as proposed by the ITC, will be counterproductive, it will diminish the services and run counter to the boundaries of important civic constituencies such as school districts, community boards and precinct councils none of which spill to other boroughs. It is of great importance for our elected officials to be able to consistently deliver in-person services and here once again is important to note the important role played by our mass transportation system, this in-person engagement is otherwise hindered by our severe vehicle congestion. What is needed is to limit the district to the borough of Manhattan to help ensure strong government services that are cohesive and interrelated.

The above-mentioned neighborhoods are bound by historical, cultural, and civic characteristics. The Dominican community flows from Inwood and Washington Heights to West Harlem (or as some refer to it Hamilton Heights), as well as the City College of New York situated on West 138th Street and home to The Institute of Dominican Studies. The history of the Black community thriving in Harlem is echoed in the Betty and Malcolm X Education Center and Morris Jumel Mansion community in Washington Heights, and further up on the grounds of the Dyckman Public Housing where the Negro Baseball League once stood. The heavy Jewish population on the west side of Inwood and Washington Heights shares houses of worship, causes, and extended family with the Upper West Side. All of these communities worked together via grassroots groups and political clubs, to name a few, to raise issues of environmental justice, affordable housing, saving our small businesses, and progressive electoral representation. Lastly, the diversity embraced in this district has offered the opportunity for critical organizing and unifying dialogue across cultural and socio-economic boundaries to occur, leading to the emergence of thoughtful community and culturally-responsive leadership.

I ask that you strongly consider the above testimony and attached maps in drafting the IRC's lines.

Kind Regards,

Dorca Reynoso

71st and 72nd ADs Map: <https://districtr.org/plan/90155>

31st Senate District Map: <https://districtr.org/plan/90163>

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/7/2021 9:55 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Naseem khan
- **Last Name:** Alizai
- **Email:** alizai01@hotmail.com
- **Body:** A huge number of Pakistani community living around Coney Island Ave between Ave H to Church Ave, we want our separate district for city council
- **Categories Selected:** Brooklyn

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/7/2021 9:58 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** richard
- **Last Name:** Mermelstein
- **Email:** mermelsteinr@gmail.com
- **Body:** David: The word "independent" in your committee's name must have some meaning. It is imperative that as redistricting evolves, it is not seen simply as a means to deprive New Yorkers of a Black congressman. That's what they do in Texas and Florida. We don't do that here. It's up to you to make sure New York remains a beacon of hope for good people in red and blue states. Your epitaph shouldn't be "Et tu, New York." You have that rare chance to make a difference.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Congressional District 17 Redistricting

Michel Lee Council <lee2councilenergy@gmail.com>

Tue 12/7/2021 10:25 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

It is extraordinarily disappointing to learn that communities of interest in the Lower Hudson River rivertowns are being targeted for a redistricting in a manner that would break up representation for villages and towns which are clearly communities of interest in a broad array of areas. These areas include towns that regularly collaborate in small business activities, tourism, school activities, civic group actions, and organized environmental and social justice advocacy.

Most egregiously, breakup of NY-17 would undermine the often enunciated goals of promoting environmental and social justice.

The interests of some of these marginalized residential areas within this district are beginning – at last – to be represented.

New York has one (actually more than one – but I focus here on NY-17) of the most brilliant and fresh voices in Congress who has in just a brief period become amazingly knowledgeable on topics which are highly complex and challenging.

I am an attorney who has personally worked, *entirely in a pro bono capacity*, on a number of environmental and environmental justice issues in the Lower Hudson Valley. I also serve as a advocate for the public interest on energy and nuclear risk issues. I have been most appreciative and relieved at the level of acumen and dedication NY-17 brought to bear on the important and complex issues surrounding Indian Point, the AIM Pipeline, and high-level radioactive waste (spent fuel). It is imperative for the communities in the region as well as for the State of New York that a Congress member which has already demonstrated an ability and willingness to dive into these extremely intricate topics and rather daedal regulatory schemes – **and who now has footing in committees and task forces which will be determining energy and radioactive waste related Federal policies** – be able to continue this important work.

New York State's Constitution mandates the Commission ensure districts are compact. The Lower Hudson Rivertowns are really one community. This would argue for including Hastings-on-Hudson as part of NY-17; but, in any event, it would most certainly preclude splintering apart the towns which are already part of NY-17.

Finally, communities of color have at long last been able to be heard and have had reason to hope diversity is not just verbiage. What a travesty it would be to roll back these gains for our democracy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Michel Lee, Esq.

Chair, Council on Intelligent Energy & Conservation Policy

## Redistricting testimony

blair horner <bhorner@nypirg.org>

Wed 12/8/2021 6:23 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Please find attached for your consideration a testimony from NYPIRG.

--

Blair Horner

Executive Director, NYPIRG

Office: 518 436-0876 x257

107 Washington Avenue, Albany NY 12210 and

9 Murray Street, lower level, New York, NY 10007

[www.nypirg.org](http://www.nypirg.org), [www.nypirgstudents.org](http://www.nypirgstudents.org)

Twitter: @blairhorner and Skype: blair.horner1

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**NYPIRG**

NEW YORK PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP

**TESTIMONY  
OF THE  
NEW YORK PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP  
BEFORE THE  
NEW YORK STATE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
REGARDING  
REACTIONS TO PROPOSED CONGRESSIONAL, STATE SENATE, AND STATE ASSEMBLY  
DISTRICT LINES  
December 6, 2021  
New York, N.Y.**

Good afternoon. My name is Blair Horner, and I am Executive Director of the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG). NYPIRG is a non-partisan, not-for-profit, research and advocacy organization. Consumer protection, environmental preservation, health care, higher education, mass transit, voting rights and governmental reforms are our principal areas of concern. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed boundaries for New York's congressional, state Senate and Assembly districts.

You have received considerable testimony covering the wide range of redistricting issues. Our testimony focuses on two areas: the issue of population size in the proposed districts and an appeal for you to consider the college students populations as a "community of interest" when drafting your final recommendations to the Legislature.

U.S. Supreme Court rulings have made it clear that legislative districts should be of comparable size. In one case, the Court ruled that "the achieving of fair and effective representation for all citizens is ... the basic aim of legislative apportionment" and it was for that reason that the decision insisted on substantial equality of population among districts.<sup>1</sup> Essentially mapmakers' goals are to keep Congressional districts as close to the average population size.<sup>2</sup>

Under the U.S. Supreme Court rulings, state legislative districts, on the other hand, are usually allowed to range within 10 percent from smallest population to largest, plus or minus 5 percent of the average size.<sup>3</sup>

Yet as much as a 10 percent difference in populations undermines the core democratic principle of "one person, one vote." When challenged in the past, mapmakers have identified provisions in the state Constitution that they have said makes the standard for Congressional districts impossible for state legislative line drawing.

Previous legislative districts lines have been drawn with wide population disparities as part of a thinly-veiled effort to rig the new political boundaries to benefits one political party over another. While not illegal, New York's current legislative district lines and those under consideration allow for dramatically different populations. As seen below, the vast majority of districts approved ten years ago allowed large differences in populations.

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Supreme Court, *Reynolds v. Sims*, 1964.

<sup>2</sup> Source of Congressional district information obtained from the New York State Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, see <http://www.latfor.state.ny.us/maps/>, we used the population figures from each Congressional district map.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Supreme Court, *Gaffney v. Cummings*, 412 U.S. 735 (1973).

Map	Population up to 1 percent	Population from 1 to up to 2 percent	Population 2 percent or more
Assembly District lines in 2012	26	10	114
Census current Assembly	35	22	93
Proposed Assembly "letters"	65	30	55
Proposed Assembly "names"	133	14	3
Senate District lines in 2012	3	1	59
Census current Senate	4	5	54
Proposed Senate "letters"	43	10	10
Proposed Senate "names"	58	5	0

"Letters" maps were advanced by the Democratic commissioners

"Names" maps were advanced by the Republican commissioners

As you see, the districts drawn for the proposed "letters" maps would allow significantly larger population differences than those drafted and in the "names" districts.

**NYPIRG urges you to advance in your final maps, that the population differences be more like those contained in the "names" maps.**

An important consideration for the Commission is the treatment of "communities of interest." Our view is that "communities of interest" should include college students that live both on and off campus. We urge that any final Congressional and State Legislative maps treat this community of interest similar to how you would any other. As you have described on your website, a community of interest

". . . is a population which shares enough social and economic interests of importance that suggest said community should be included in a single district for effective and fair representation. These might include similar standards of living, shared methods and patterns of transportation, or similar economic and societal concerns."

There can be no doubt that college students – who are counted in the census as living in this community and who can register to vote from their college addresses – meet the above-mentioned standards. College students living on and off campus have "similar standards of living," use similar forms of "transportation," and share similar concerns.

Like any other "community," college communities include a wide variety of interests and ideologies, but as a group of individuals, they are no different from other communities. As such, college students should be offered the same considerations.

There is no doubt that you have a daunting task ahead of you as you push to develop the final maps for submission to the Legislature. However, college students have too often faced obstacles to their right to vote from their college addresses and gerrymandering that weakens their political clout – while the communities in which they live benefit from sales tax revenues, inclusion of their populations in political boundaries, and governmental services that are determined by census population data.

Thus, college students deserve the same consideration offered to other communities of interest. **NYPIRG urges you to ensure that any final maps adequately ensure political cohesion for the college student body.** Thank you.

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 12/8/2021 6:38 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Marie
- **Last Name:** Inserra
- **Email:** minsjsul@gmail.com
- **Body:** Please note that I tried repeatedly to enter this statement via the link provided in several outreach emails but my log in information was repeatedly rejected. I apologize that I did not try to submit via the website earlier.

Marie Inserra

\*\*\*\*\*

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a resident of Peekskill, NY, a racially and linguistically diverse environmental justice community that is part of Congressional District NY-17. As one of the Hudson River towns, Peekskill shares a similar economic and societal profile with the other towns in this category, as well as a direct concern regarding a number of environmental issues: the presence and decommissioning of the Indian Point nuclear plant, the ongoing effect of the Wheelabrator incinerator and the presence of a 42 in. high pressure fracked gas pipeline on the Indian Point premises.

I urge the maintenance of the current NY -17 profile as a way of ensuring the consistency of the election choices made by our community of interest in 2020. Our Member of Congress was the clear choice among the large number of primary candidates against whom he ran, and he has provided highly effective

representation for his constituents.

In my opinion, any representative of our area must be committed to assuring that the decommissioning process at Indian Point is conducted safely and transparently and that the issue of long-term storage of the huge inventory of radioactive spent nuclear fuel is addressed. Many of us in the community fear that this process is now the responsibility of a company with a long profile of fraudulent behavior and are deeply concerned that the NRC is not providing the oversight needed. The current long-term plan for storage involves the use of flimsy (by comparison to our European counterparts) storage casks which will be transported (presumably via the Hudson River) to an unidentified "interim" storage site. Given the fact that there is not at present (and likely will never be) a permanent storage site, the law should preclude the establishment of any interim sites. Furthermore, these sites are all located in poor communities of color – often on or adjacent to indigenous lands. The collective risk of transporting or "disposing" of this waste according to Holtec's plan is unthinkable. Permanent storage on site in more robust casks – hardened on-site storage – is the safer and more just solution. Mondaire Jones has fully involved himself in these issues.

Peekskill is home to the most significant source of air pollution in the county – the Wheelabrator "waste to energy" plant where all non-recyclable garbage from most of Westchester County is sent. Westchester's air quality is graded as "F" as a result in large part of the effluence from this plant. This is clearly an issue in dire need of a different solution – mandatory food scrap recycling, legislative pressures to significantly reduce waste and favor reuse must be considered.

The 42 in. AIM pipeline that crosses northern Westchester was permitted several years ago and puts the lives and safety of those in NY-17 at risk, owing in part to the emission of carcinogens and other toxins at the compressor stations along its route, but most significantly because of the collocation of this hazard and the nuclear plant at Indian Point. For years, community activists worked to prevent its construction; now we are fighting to shut it down during the precarious decommissioning period. These are all issues that tie us together in the district and urgently need the

support of a committed MOC.

In summary, I believe that the common location with proximity to the Hudson, similar socioeconomic profile, similar diversity of our populations, and the prevalence of environmental risk are the threads that hold our compact district together and indicate the need for the preservation of the present NY-17 district's geographic profile.

Respectfully submitted, Marie Inserra, NP Peekskill, NY

- **Categories Selected:** State Assembly, State Senate, Mid-Hudson

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 12/8/2021 11:20 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Cynthia
- **Last Name:** Monteleone
- **Email:** monte818@verizon.net
- **Body:** As a longtime resident of Woodhaven in Queens, NY I am very concerned about the new re-districting plan that you are considering which would break my community up into different zones. My community should be unified under one "roof" when redistricting so we have the representation that we need as a community going forward. Please do not break my community into smaller groups.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Queens

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 12/8/2021 11:29 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** John
- **Last Name:** Carlin
- **Email:** john.c.carlin@verizon.net
- **Body:** Please do not separate the Rockaway's into separate districts. The Peninsula has to be kept as one. We are one community with the same goals and aspirations for our neighborhood. It seems like a typical divide and conquer type of initiative.
- **Categories Selected:** Queens

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Redistricting comments

Mike Carey <mikecarey2009@gmail.com>

Wed 12/8/2021 11:42 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Please do not divide up the Rockaway Peninsula as part of this redistricting!

Sent from my iPhone



## Redistricting comments

PAUL ZUCKERBERG <zandco@aol.com>

Wed 12/8/2021 11:50 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

This proposal is an abomination. How do you split a neighborhood down the middle? The politics of gerrymandering stinks no matter who is doing it...power corrupts, and nobody gives it up voluntarily...there is always an ulterior motive that winds up screwing us in Rockaway!

Sent from my iPhone

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 12/8/2021 12:12 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

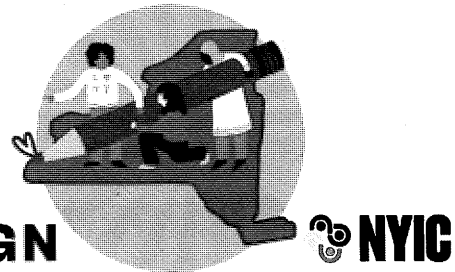
A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Marylin
- **Last Name:** Caprio
- **Email:** mctc3@verizon.net
- **Body:** The Rock away peninsula must remain undivided. The plan to divide the peninsula into two districts is wrong. We are one community with very specific needs and this plan would totally undermine our rights. I strongly oppose it.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Queens

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**MAPPING  
OUR FUTURE**

**NYIC'S 2021  
REDISTRICTING CAMPAIGN**



## **Testimony for the New York Independent Redistricting Commission**

Sunday December 5th, 2021

Thank you to the Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) for organizing this second series of public hearings.

I am Asher Ross, Senior Strategist at the New York Immigration Coalition Action.

The NYIC serves one of the largest and most diverse newcomer populations in the United States. We have over 200 grassroots member organizations across NY state, representing immigrants and communities of color from Buffalo to Suffolk. We serve as a forum for immigrant groups to voice their concerns, as a platform for collective action to drive positive social change.

The NYIC is the lead facilitator of the Mapping Our Future coalition, a statewide coalition of NYIC member orgs and advocates dedicated to mobilizing the grassroots to get involved in redistricting and advocate for a fair process and fair maps.

Over the course of this year our members have engaged in community education, met with numerous elected officials, raised awareness of our

concerns about redistricting in the media-- and dozens have turned out to testify at these public hearings.

Our mission is to elevate the voices of our members in this process, to speak about the impacts that unfair districts and unfair representation have had on their communities and on their everyday lives.

**Fair districts are the foundation for fair representation.**

Currently the elected officials in our state legislature do not reflect the diversity of our state.

NY is 45% non-white, but only 32% of our state legislators are non white. 22% of the state is foreign born, but only 8 % of the legislators are; 35% of ny are either immigrants or the children of immigrants, and only 17% of legislators are. The legislature also skews much older, more male, and more highly educated and upper middle class than the population as a whole.

**This situation is due largely to gerrymandering of communities of color.**

We expect this Commission and the State Leg to create districts that keep our immigrant and BIPOC communities whole, and that empower them to elect candidates of their choice.

Unfortunately, this commission failed to come to an agreement in September and instead of one compromise draft map, released two partisan maps.

These maps contain some significant improvements and a clear responsiveness to advocates' testimonies-- particularly for Asian communities in NYC, which we applaud.

However, other groups were ignored. I want to highlight how Arab communities, including those in Bay Ridge, Astoria, Little Yemen in the Bronx are split both in the current districts and in all of the various proposed Assembly and Senate plans. These populations may not appear as distinct communities of interest in the data, as the census codes them as white; but they form cohesive ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and economic communities of interest across NYC and NY state.

I thank the commission for committing to an open process and for maintaining a website with archived meetings, events, and documents. Moving forward, it is now more important than ever to create a partnership between this commission and advocacy organizations. I particularly urge this commission to take a proactive role in engaging with ethnic media around the state. We stand willing to support you in that effort.

I hope this commission will fulfill its mission to create fair maps without the partisan and racially-tinged bias of previous decades.

Thank you again and thanks also to the many partners who are in this fight for fair maps and fair representation.

## Testimony Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 12/8/2021 12:53 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Testimony

#### Final Statewide Public Hearing on December 5, 2021

- **First Name:** Asher
- **Last Name:** Ross
- **Email:** aross@nyicaction.org
- **Time:** 2:00 PM
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Long Island, Mid-Hudson, North Country/ Mohawk Valley, Southern Tier, Central New York, Finger Lakes, Western New York, Bronx, Staten Island, Capital Region

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## **objection to proposed Rockaway redistricting**

Keith DeMatteis <keith@demworld.com>

Wed 12/8/2021 2:30 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

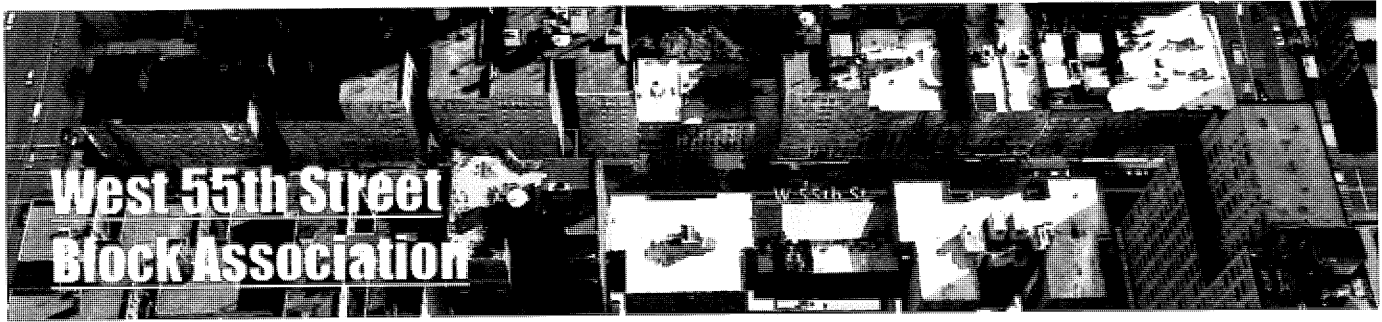
Cc: addabbo@nysenate.gov <addabbo@nysenate.gov>; Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato <amatos@nyassembly.gov>

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I am writing to express my objection to the proposed division of the Rockaway peninsula. Please do not divide Rockaway – it has taken so much effort to make it what it is today!

---

Keith DeMatteis  
(917) 299-0737  
keith@demworld.com



Dec. 8, 2021

Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chair and Commissioners:

I represent the West 55th Street Block Association in Manhattan (New York County). We are located on West 55th Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenues. At our general meeting of Nov. 22, we voted unanimously to ask you to reunite our Hell's Kitchen neighborhood (politically speaking) when you draw the district maps for New York State this year. Currently, we are split between districts, as outlined below.

The West 55th Street Block Association also voted to support the solution outlined by Manhattan Community Board 4 on Oct. 22 to reunite Hell's Kitchen. Here is a link to their [letter](#) for your reference.

The splitting of our neighborhood under the current map has weakened our ability to participate in state and local government because it has doubled and sometimes even tripled the number of elected officials we have to deal with to find solutions for various community issues.

Hell's Kitchen has, historically, comprised the blocks between West 34th to West 59th Street (north and south boundaries) and Eighth Avenue to the Hudson River (east and west boundaries). Yet, for example, we have been split between Assembly Districts 67 and 75, which greatly complicates our ability as a neighborhood to get things done on a local and state level.

The northern section of Hell's Kitchen in the West 50s, which has been shoehorned into the Upper West Side, has very different priorities and needs from our neighbors to the north. We would like to be reunited with the southern part of the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood, whose issues and needs are much closer to our own.

Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal (AD 67) has been good to us in northern Hell's Kitchen, but we want to join our voices with our southern neighbors in Hell's Kitchen to be more fully represented at all levels of government.

Please draw the lines so that Hell's Kitchen between West 34th to West 59th Street (inclusive) and Eighth Avenue to the Hudson River is all in the same district for state and national offices.

Thank you,  
Christine Gorman  
President

--

The West 55th Street Block Association  
Homepage: [west55ba.org](http://west55ba.org)



## Redistricting comments

Munns5 <munns5@aol.com>

Wed 12/8/2021 4:21 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Cc: addabbo@nysenate.gov <addabbo@nysenate.gov>; amatos@nyassembly.gov <amatos@nyassembly.gov>

Dear Committee Members, I am opposed to the proposed redistricting plans that would divide the Rockaways in Queens. Rockaway has its unique issues including a 7 mile border with the Atlantic Ocean. In my opinion good government should unite geographical communities of interest . Without a united district Rockaway's unique voice and concerns may not be heard .

Respectfully submitted

Michael Munns  
134-04 Cronston Avenue  
Rockaway Park, New York 11694

## Redistricting comments

Rita <frmullen007@gmail.com>

Wed 12/8/2021 5:37 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Rockaway should not be divided

Sent from my iPad

## Redistricting comments

Eileen Van Note <weasvn@gmail.com>

Wed 12/8/2021 7:53 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Rockaway, Far Rock to Breezy, is land mass connected boardwalk connected and schools and sports connected. Don't divide us. Thank you. And we already have enough divisions in our Country

Sent from my iPhone

## Redistricting comments

Eileen McBride <eandgmcb@verizon.net>

Thu 12/9/2021 12:05 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Gentlemen and Ladies.

I am strongly opposed to any and all changes to our district.

We are neighbors sharing many common needs, and must be heard.

Transportation in our Belle Harbor community is a primary issue and other neighborhoods and districts do not share this horrific condition and our subsequent needs.

**DO NOT ALTER WHAT WE HAVE AND DIMINISH OUR NEEDS.**

Sincerely,

Eileen McBride, Belle Harbor

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 12/9/2021 11:28 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Omar
- **Last Name:** Suarez
- **Email:** omar.suarez13@gmail.com
- **Body:** Thank you for accepting my comment on the ongoing NY State redistricting process. My name is Omar Suarez and I have been a resident of the Bronx for over 15 years. I have worked in the Dominican community of the West Bronx and Upper Manhattan for several years now and have seen first hand how it forms a cohesive and vibrant community of interest. Residents of these two adjoining sectors of the city share patterns of cultural expression (food, music, barber shops, salons, recreation), employment and economic ties, countless lines of public transportation, and high levels of internal migration. In short, the large Dominican population across this part of the city means that we need districts that respect the boundaries of this zone. The zone, roughly, tracks East of Broadway, north of 155th street in Manhattan, and from the Harlem River to Webster Ave, North of 149th street. In particular, Assembly Districts should recognize that east and west of the Grand Concourse in the Bronx represents a significant dividing line along geographic, social, and cultural lines. Assembly district lines should avoid crossing over Grand Concourse or Webster avenue in as an alternative North-South divider. Respecting the continuity of this community of interest will lead to better representation for residents of the Bronx.

My best, Omar Suarez

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Bronx

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## **objection to proposed Rockaway redistricting**

Michael Carey <mikecarey2009@gmail.com>

Fri 12/10/2021 9:20 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Cc: addabbo@nysenate.gov <addabbo@nysenate.gov>

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I am writing to express my objection to the proposed division of the Rockaway peninsula. Please do not divide Rockaway – it has taken so much effort to make it what it is today!

## Redistricting comments

Sofia Balile <sofia.balile@gmail.com>

Sat 12/11/2021 2:33 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

I live on beach 80th street in Rockaway and I am writing to let you know my objection to splitting the peninsula up. It would be too our document to be treated as if we are 2 different districts when we are very much 1. If anything may be our area should be split up from ozone park or other communities which are not on par with our values and beliefs. Please don't split Rockaway peninsula.



## Redistricting comments

pjc137@aol.com <pjc137@aol.com>

Sat 12/11/2021 3:24 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

my husband and i as residents if rockaway since birth are strongly against redistricting we are content in not being divided thank you pat and tom cleary

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sun 12/12/2021 3:49 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** elaine
- **Last Name:** fleischman
- **Email:** elaine.fleischman350@gmail.com
- **Body:** I want to thank the commission for giving me the time to testify:

My name is elaine fleischman\_\_ I am a member of the Jewish community of Central Queens. Currently, under the current maps, our community is divided between the 27th Assembly District and the 25th Assembly District. The neighborhoods of Kew Gardens Hills, Pomonok, Electchester, and Hillcrest are divided.

I am asking this commission to take into account the unification of Kew Gardens Hills, Pomonok, Electchester, and Hillcrest so that Jewish representation is not diluted in this redistricting process. When this commission redraws the Assembly district lines, please incorporate all neighborhoods mentioned into one assembly district. The aforementioned neighborhoods in the south should be connected with College Point, Northern Whitestone, and Le Havre Cooperative in the north.

Currently, the Jewish Community in Central Queens is split between 4 state senate districts. It does not allow for any conformity to representation in the State Senate. Your drafts have created a central Queens and Eastern Queens plan that incorporates parts of Kew Gardens Hills being split up again in three districts. Again, we need to be in one State Senate district. We are asking when you redraw your drafts that Kew Gardens

Hills, Pomonok, Electchester, and Hillcrest be drawn into a Central Queens district with the neighborhoods of Northern Forest Hills, Middle Village, Glendale, Maspeth, and Ridgewood. Also, Please consider the Eastern Queens map as well, where the neighborhoods I mentioned as a block be included with Fresh Meadows, Oakland Gardens, Little Neck Douglaston, Bayside, and Bay Terrace. Consider your guide eastward between the Long Island Expressway and the Grand Central Parkway to the County Line, before heading strictly north.

Please make every effort to keep Kew Gardens Hills, Pomonok, Electchester, and Hillcrest together in both an Assembly District as well as one State Senate district.

- **Categories Selected:** Queens

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The West 47<sup>th</sup>/48<sup>th</sup> Streets Block Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 317  
New York, NY 10101

December 12, 2021

Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

RE: REDISTRICTING MAPS

Dear Chair and Commissioners:

The West 47<sup>th</sup>/48<sup>th</sup> Streets Block Association that comprises the areas from 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue west to the Hudson River on 47<sup>th</sup> Street and 48<sup>th</sup> Streets, voted at its December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, monthly meeting to request that the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood be kept whole as you draw your district maps.

We know you are aware, Hell's Kitchen has, historically, comprised the blocks between West 34<sup>th</sup> to West 59<sup>th</sup> Street (north and south boundaries) and Eighth Avenue to the Hudson River (east and west boundaries). Yet, for example, we have been split between Assembly Districts 67 and 75, which greatly complicates our ability as a neighborhood to get things done on a local and state level. One example is that Hell's Kitchen Park is in one Assembly District and a few blocks north, Dewitt Clinton Park is in another.

The northern section of Hell's Kitchen in the West 50s, which has been shoehorned into the Upper West Side, has very different priorities and needs from our neighbors to the north. On the other hand, the West 50s shares many of the same issues and needs as the southern part of Hell's Kitchen.

We ask that you draw the lines so that the Hell's Kitchen area between West 34<sup>th</sup> to West 59<sup>th</sup> Street (inclusive) and Eighth Avenue to the Hudson River is all in the same district for local, state and national offices. We fully support Manhattan Community Board 4s request as outlined in the attached letter.

Your attention to this request is very much appreciated.

Regards,  
*Elle Fears*  
President  
Email: [aefearshk@earthlink.net](mailto:aefearshk@earthlink.net)



CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

424 West West 33 Street, Suite #580  
New York, NY 10001  
tel: 212-736-4536  
[www.nyc.gov/mcb4](http://www.nyc.gov/mcb4)

**LOWELL D. KERN**  
Chair

**JESSE R. BODINE**  
District Manager

October 22, 2021

Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22nd Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Re: Redistricting Maps

Dear Chair and Commissioners:

On behalf of Manhattan Community Board 4 ("MCB4"), at a duly noticed public meeting taking place on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, by a vote of 43 approvals, 3 denials, 0 abstentions, and 0 present not eligible to vote, voted to support this letter. We provide the following observations on the preliminary district maps the Commission has issued.

The paramount issue for MCB4 in reviewing these maps is that our community district (which is bordered on the south by 14<sup>th</sup> Street, on the west by the Hudson River, on the north by 59<sup>th</sup> Street and on the east, by 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 14<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> Streets and by 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 26<sup>th</sup> to 59<sup>th</sup>) be kept intact, so that neighborhoods are not divided by Assembly or State Senate districts. The Commission prioritizes keeping towns in rural and suburban areas intact within single districts when new district lines are drawn. Manhattan's District 4 should receive the same treatment and be considered a Community of Interest, since our board advocates for the residents of District 4 and coordinates with city agencies on the provision of their services within our boundaries.

To this end, the Democratic version of the Assembly map comes closest to achieving our needs. The southern border of the Assembly district is pushed south (from the border of the current 75<sup>th</sup> AD) to 14<sup>th</sup> Street, matching the district line. While the eastern edge does not exactly follow the district line, tracking Broadway will keep our district whole. We would prefer that the northern edge of the Assembly district be pushed to 60<sup>th</sup> Street, both to track the community district border and to keep the entirety of Hell's Kitchen neighborhood (including the Coliseum Apartments) intact, instead of dividing the northern edge of Hell's Kitchen between Assembly districts. One other aspect of this map that is helpful is that the entirety of Hudson River Park north of 14<sup>th</sup> Street is contained in a single Assembly district.

Conversely, the Republican version of the Assembly map divides Hell's Kitchen between Assembly districts and includes portions of unrelated neighborhoods to the east within the district, including a large portion of the Midtown business district. The failure to include the northwest portion of Hell's Kitchen within the district is a fatal flaw for this plan.

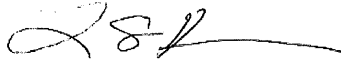
The Democratic version of the Senate map suffers from a similar flaw, dividing Chelsea in half and including Hell's Kitchen and the rest of Chelsea in an Upper West Side district, where our voices will be blunted, instead of the traditional inclusion of our neighborhoods with the Greenwich Village area. Particularly upsetting about this plan is that it divides the Mutual Redevelopment Houses (Penn South) (a group of 10 buildings that are managed as one unit) between two Senatorial districts. This must be corrected.

The Republican Senatorial map is better, in that it keeps our community district together, although the inclusion of the district with the Upper West Side causes the same concerns that the Democratic plan does. The issues that face our district have much more in common with the issues faced in the Village than on the Upper West Side.

Thus, while all of the proposed maps are flawed and need correcting, the Democratic version of the Assembly map and the Republic version of the Senate map at least keep most of our district intact, in line with the principle of a Community of Interest.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'ASL' followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Chair  
Manhattan Community Board 4

cc: Hon. Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Majority Leader, New York State Senate  
Hon. Carl E. Heastie, Speaker, New York State Assembly  
Hon. Brad Hoylman, New York Senate  
Hon. Robert Jackson, New York Senate  
Hon. Dick Gottfried, New York Assembly  
Hon. Linda B. Rosenthal, New York Assembly

## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 12/13/2021 3:18 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Michele
- **Last Name:** Lamberti
- **Email:** michele.c.lamberti@gmail.com
- **Description:** On behalf of the Unity Map Coalition, I am submitting a revised New York State Assembly district plan. The Unity Map Coalition is comprised of the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF), the Center for Law and Social Justice at Medgar Evers College, CUNY (CLSJ) and LatinoJustice PRLDEF.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Michele C. Lamberti, Esq. Redistricting Project Coordinator Unity Map Coalition michele.c.lamberti@gmail.com (917) 270-1340

- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** State Assembly, Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Bronx, Staten Island

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 12/13/2021 5:52 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Patricia
- **Last Name:** Stroh
- **Email:** strohpatty@gmail.com
- **Body:** I am sad to admit I don't know a lot about districts. I don't even know what my district number is. What I do know, is the census was wonky. It took place at the beginning of the pandemic. I was outside in my garden and a woman came by, didn't tell me what she left on my door knob, and left. How many people there theirs out?

Also, since the pandemic, many people from outside of Columbia County moved here. Some had summer homes qnd made them their permanent residence. I know this because I worked at the local hospital ER. The number of people from NYC, NJ, VT and as far away as Texas came to our doors. The population, according to the census, went down. The truth is, it went up. Can you know these from where you sit? I don't think now is a good time to change our districts.

Also, rules are constantly changing, regarding immigrants. There has been a huge influx this past year. How will this affect the census, taxes, social services in our area, etc.? There is really a great deal to be considered. More than in any normal time. I hope you can see these factors and how they play in the uncertainty of district reassignment.

Thank you, Kindly Patty Stroh

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Capital Region, Mid-



Hudson

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## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/14/2021 8:37 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Jonathan
- **Last Name:** Chen
- **Email:** jonathan.chen.4@stonybrook.edu
- **Description:** General New York Congressional map that keeps districts mostly compact and keeps metropolitan statistical areas together.
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Long Island, Mid-Hudson, North Country/ Mohawk Valley, Southern Tier, Central New York, Finger Lakes, Western New York, Bronx, Staten Island, Capital Region

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Redistricting comments

George Johnson <fdnyrocket@gmail.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 9:56 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

While considering the options for redistricting, please take the following into account: The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided! Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is absurd. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district. Please take this into consideration when making your decision on redistricting.

Thank You!

-George R. Johnson

Belle Harbor

**Redistricting Rockaway**

Linda Spadaro <lgspadaro@gmail.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 10:42 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Linda G Spadaro  
Rockaway NY, 11694

## Do Not Divide the Rockaway Peninsula

Bill Erhard <tridentmarine@gmail.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 10:43 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

**The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided.** Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. **The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.**

Best regards,

William Erhard  
175 Beach 130th Street  
Belle Harbor, N.Y. 11694

Cell 917 992 - 5608

E ~ [TridentMarine@gmail.com](mailto:TridentMarine@gmail.com)

## Redistricting Rockaway Beach

Mark Anaya <surfrats@hotmail.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 10:44 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

## Redistricting Commission,

Craig Carey <craig.carey@me.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 10:47 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Craig W Carey  
917 692 8198  
13306 Rockaway Beach Blvd  
Belle Harbor NY 11694

## Redistributing Proposal

Mark Spadaro <marklind78@gmail.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 10:49 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Mark V. Spadaro MD  
Belle Harbor, NY 11694

Sent from my iPad



## **REDISTRICING**

gbj247@aol.com <gbj247@aol.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 10:52 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

**PLEASE!!! THE ROCKAWAY PENINSULA MUST REMAIN ONE DISTRICT OR WE'LL HAVE NO SAY IN THIS CITY**

## Rockaway

Robert Ostrander <mcseaver@aol.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 11:02 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Sent from my iPhone

## Division of the Rockaway Peninsula

Brian Davan <bd1120@earthlink.net>

Tue 12/14/2021 11:19 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Good morning . I am writing to voice my displeasure about the division of the Rockaway peninsula. I believe it is indeed NOT in the best interest of Rockaway residents to move ahead with this idea. We are one community with unique needs and concerns and to break up our neighborhoods with different representation would mean the loss of our voice as a cohesive group. We should not be grouped in with any community or neighborhood off the peninsula, as again our needs are unique to us and need special attention at times. We strongly oppose this idea. Thank you.

Tara and Brian Davan, Beach 128th St., Belle Harbor

Sent from my iPhone

## Redistricting Commission

fivekidscare@aol.com <fivekidscare@aol.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 11:24 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Regina Carey  
13306 Rockaway Beach Blvd  
Belle Harbor NY 11694  
917 854 0181

## Rockaway rezoning

Shaun Cerrone <burnfitnessnyc@gmail.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 11:26 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Shaun Cerrone  
Belle harbor 11694

Forward this to everyone you know in Rockaway.

Shaun Cerrone  
Founder Burn Fitness 24/7 LLC  
NASM CPT,PES,FNS,CES,WLS  
ASSISTED Stretch Specialist  
Mad Dogg Spin Certified  
TRX Group & Fitness Specialist  
ISCA Boxing Specialist  
"MOVE THE BODY. Earn IT!"  
Work: 7183182200

"In order to do great work you must love what you do" Steve Jobs

## **Fw: Redistricting Commission**

victor spadaro <vsjet103@yahoo.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 11:36 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Victor Spadaro  
Belle Harbor 11694

## United Rockaway

John Sica <john.sica@gmail.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 11:42 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Ours is a unique neighborhood because as a peninsula we are isolated from Brooklyn and queens and have unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Thank you for your consideration.

John Sica

Rockaway resident for 35 years

## Rockaway redistricting

JOE DUGGAN <joe233@aol.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 12:00 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Gerrymandering the current voting district in Rockaway will deprive conservative New Yorkers of a voice. And it will only lead to follow on moves. All this results in less confidence in election integrity. Don't do it!

Sent from my iPhone

Joseph Duggan, Jr.

917-301-9908

Joe233@aol.com

Joseph.DugganJr@fdny.nyc.gov



## **The Rockaways must remain within ONE congressional district**

GABRIELLE D ROVENTINI <gabrielledana@mac.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 12:13 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Cc: Rosemarie Curley <rmcmuz918@aol.com>; Cath Glenview <catherine@glenviewcapital.com>

The Rockaway peninsula should be continue to represented in one Congressional District so that it can speak clearly for itself and its unique issues and interests. The peninsula should NOT be redistricted to join other areas with their own voices, needs and interests.

By virtue of it being a peninsula - isolated by water from its surrounding neighborhoods - its residents share common concerns quite unique to its geography, most notably surrounding climate change, housing and transportation.

The "letters" plan for the Congressional district at best, diminishes the uniqueness of Rockaway's geography relative to the rest of NYC and at worst blatantly seeks to ignore its importance.

It would significantly dilute Rockaway's voice and interests if it were forced to share a voice amongst three counties across three different representatives. Further, it would create unnatural dividing lines between the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway, where interests are arguably more aligned.

In order to ensure the unique issues facing the Rockaways are addressed fairly and promptly, the entire peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

## Against Redistricting the Rockaway's

Joseph Butler <jibfd@aol.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 12:42 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Thank you  
Joseph Butler

Sent from my iPhone

## Redistricting Belle Harbor - Breezy

jibgirl@aol.com <jibgirl@aol.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 1:03 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Committee,

It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Thank you,

Joanna Ostrander

Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/14/2021 1:30 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Joseph
- **Last Name:** Silber
- **Email:** jes397@georgetown.edu
- **Body:** To the Commission:

Thank you for considering this map. As a lifelong Orthodox Jewish New Yorker who loves this state, I have been disappointed with the lack of representation our community has received, and redistricting has a lot to do with that. Borough Park has been separated from the rest of Brooklyn, and placed into a Manhattan-based district. Midwood, the Orthodox Jewish community right next door, has been drawn into a separate Brooklyn district, hence neither community has any influence. I was born in Manhattan, raised in Scarsdale, and will be moving to Manhattan after graduating law school, but am submitting my comments as a concerned citizen of New York, the state I love and call home, and hope you consider this map. Ensuring that communities of interest receive fair representation must be the hallmark of a nonpartisan redistricting process.

My proposed map ensures that communities of interest are paired together. It would likely be classified as having 18-22 Democratic districts or 4-8 Republican districts depending on the election year, which is completely in line with the current maps but not gerrymandered in a way that dilutes voices within the Orthodox Jewish community. For example, District 7, currently represented by Nydia Velasquez, will be a safe Democratic district but include Borough Park and Midwood, ensuring those Orthodox Jewish

communities can at least present a unified voice on issues important to them.

Please consider this map so that all communities of interest can have their voices heard. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,  
Joseph Silber

- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/14/2021 2:00 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Elizabeth
- **Last Name:** Sullivan
- **Email:** liz10300@gmail.com
- **Body:** The Rockaway Peninsula should not be divided into different districts. We are one peninsular and should all be part of the same congressional district.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Queens

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Rockaway Redistricting

Mike O'Neill <mikeo@bcmone.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 2:46 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district

Sincerely,  
Michael O'Neill

**(No subject)**

Colin Armstrong <bfa138@me.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 2:49 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Completely against redistricting Rockaway !! Must remain as one. Unacceptable  
Brendan Armstrong.

Sent from my iPhone



## Rockaway proposed redistricting

Thomas Carroll <tomcarroll526@me.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 2:58 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation and climate change.

The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway.

The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Thomas Carroll  
Belle Harbor NY  
11694

## Redistricting

Meg Cronin <meg11157@aol.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 3:18 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.  
Sent from my iPhone

## Redistricting plan for the Rockaways

Margaret Cronin <meg11157@icloud.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 3:42 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Paul Cronin  
Rockaway resident

Sent from my iPhone

## Redistricting comments

PAUL DOROGOFF <rockbklyn@aol.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 3:46 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Don't redistrict Rockaway

## Rockaway peninsula

William Moore <wmooreny7@gmail.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 4:17 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

The rockaway peninsula must not be divided. We the residents of Rockaway Park, Belle Harbor, Neponsit, Roxbury, Breezy Point & the rest of are neighbors in Rockaway share a bond around some of the worst tragedy to hit NYC. We have been through alot & have come together like no other community I know of. Just to name a few. September/11/2001(911 for those of you elected officials who forgot) ,flight crash of plane 587 on beach 130st on 11/12/2001 & super storm Sandy on 10/29/2012 that devastated all of Rockaway . When we all bonded together to rebuild Rockaway from east to west. Now we are some what back & are elected officials want to cause a division in are community by putting up a dividing line right across Rockaway & redirect us to Bedford Stuyvesant Brooklyn. How is this possible when Rockaway is no where near Bedford Stuyvesant Brooklyn. It also skips Canarsie, Spring Creek, East Flatbush . How would the people of this great community who are with out transportation get to Bedford Stuyvesant Brooklyn to talk to there elected officials who no nothing about life on the beach . The many issues we have to endure climate change, sea water rising, transportation & FEMA flood insurance . Please vote down this redistricting it is completely unfair to this great community.

Thanks

William C Moore

198 beach 133rd st

Rockaway Park NY 11694

## Redistricting Proposal

Karen Erhard <karenrockaway@gmail.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 4:45 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/14/2021 6:25 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** George
- **Last Name:** Ebert
- **Email:** gebert@verizon.net
- **Body:** Please do not split the rockaway peninsula. The whole peninsula is all facing the same climate based issues. Thank you  
George
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Queens

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## redistricting of Rockaway peninsula

Rosemarie Curley <rmcmuz918@aol.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 6:54 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

The Rockaway peninsula should be continue to represented in one Congressional District so that it can speak clearly for itself and its unique issues and interests. The peninsula should NOT be redistricted to join other areas with their own voices, needs and interests.

By virtue of it being a peninsula - isolated by water from its surrounding neighborhoods - its residents share common concerns quite unique to its geography, most notably surrounding climate change, housing and transportation.

The "letters" plan for the Congressional district at best, diminishes the uniqueness of Rockaway's geography relative to the rest of NYC and at worst blatantly seeks to ignore its importance.

It would significantly dilute Rockaway's voice and interests if it were forced to share a voice amongst three counties across three different representatives. Further, these are unnatural dividing lines separating a whole peninsula with shared interests where interests are arguably more aligned into three disparate areas.

In order to ensure that the unique issues facing the Rockaways are addressed fairly and promptly, the entire peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.



## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/14/2021 7:22 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Katelyn
- **Last Name:** McFadden
- **Email:** kmcfadden89@gmail.com
- **Body:** I am a resident of Belle Harbor in Queens 11694. It is my understanding that the plan for redistricting in my area would split up the Rockaways, which is a peninsula, and loop my area in with parts on Brooklyn. I don't think it is right to split up the representation for the Rockaway peninsula. We are one peninsula with unique needs, far different from the needs of those in Brooklyn. I don't think a Congress rep could appropriately represent the needs of this community I'd also representing Brooklyn. Please do not divide this community. Rockaway is one peninsula. We are in Queens. Please keep our representative as one person for this peninsula. Otherwise I do not think we would be fairly represented. Thank you.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Queens

This e-mail has been automatically generated

**changing of rockaway district**

fdkingfish@aol.com <fdkingfish@aol.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 7:23 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Please do not change our district area i am happy with our representatives

## Rockaway Peninsula.

Geraldine Walsh <rockawaygb@gmail.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 8:16 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change.

The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Sent from my iPhone

## Stop rezoning Rockaway

Arthur fitz <arturofitz08@gmail.com>

Tue 12/14/2021 10:02 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sent from my iPhone

## Rockaway Peninsula Redistricting Comments

Sean Shevlin <shevy62@verizon.net>

Tue 12/14/2021 11:32 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

This email is sent in reference to the Congressional Redistricting Plan that would separate the communities of Belle Harbor, Neponsit, Roxbury and Breezy Point from the rest of the Rockaway Peninsula. In effect, this will bury our mostly Republican voting area amongst a larger Democratic voting area, so our voices will not be heard. Rockaway needs unified representation. **DO NOT PASS THIS REDISTRICTING PLAN!**

**(No subject)**

DENNIS FARRELL <dfarrell6@verizon.net>

Wed 12/15/2021 7:33 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

I APPOSE ANY DISTRICT CHANGE IN MY AREA OF ROCKAWA

DENNIS FARRELL

## Redistricting Vote

LAURA OCONNOR <lauraoconnor427@msn.com>

Wed 12/15/2021 7:33 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

I, registered democrat, was outraged to hear about the proposed plan to change the district parameters, essentially chopping the Rockaway peninsula into fragments that will make it impossible to get any legislation passed that benefits our unique community.

We have long been the city's "dumping ground" and therefore the "letters" plan for the Congressional district will be a disaster for our residents. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district. To vote otherwise is nonsensical, and gives a clear message as to what the committee's underlying agenda truly is.

Voters have little faith left in their politicians, elected or appointed, so I urge you not to erode this trust even further.

Laura OConnor

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 12/15/2021 7:38 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** L
- **Last Name:** Oconnor
- **Email:** lauraoconnor427@msn.com
- **Body:** I, registered democrat, was outraged to hear about the proposed plan to change the district parameters, essentially chopping the Rockaway peninsula into fragments that will make it impossible to get any legislation passed that benefits our unique community.

We have long been the city's "dumping ground" and therefore the letters plan for the Congressional district will be a disaster for our residents. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives (this is outrageous). It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district. To vote otherwise is nonsensical, and gives a clear message as to what the committee's underlying agenda truly is.

Voters have little faith left in their politicians, elected or appointed, so I urge you not to erode this trust even further.

Laura OConnor

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Queens



This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Redistricting of Rockaway peninsula

Jeanmarie Anaya <janaya75@hotmail.com>

Wed 12/15/2021 10:40 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. **Doing so is clearly an attempt at redistributing and dispersing the political power of our district.** Nature has given us unique uncommon needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives, none of whom have any connection to or understanding of the complex issues facing the Rockaway peninsula alone. The redistricting would also create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Sincerely,

Jeanmarie Anaya

Rockaway Resident

## Proposal to redistrict Breezy point and Belle Harbor

James.Mccool@sony.com <James.Mccool@sony.com>

Wed 12/15/2021 10:57 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

I'm a Belle Harbor resident for 40 years and have great concerns regarding this proposal. This would divide the peninsula and a great community that is diverse with strong voices and many interests.

For those that decide and make the final decisions, please give serious consideration to what may be proposed and vote "NO"

Thank you for your time and support.

Best,

Jim McCool

Resident of the Rockway Beach peninsula

## Redistricting

Deirdre Mccool <ddmccool96@aol.com>

Wed 12/15/2021 11:20 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district.

Best,

Deirdre McCool  
Belle Harbor Resident

Sent from my iPhone

## Redistricting

ADA Janet Marie McDonnell, Esq. <janman440@gmail.com>

Wed 12/15/2021 12:02 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fwd:Send this to: Submissions@NYIRC.gov

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district. It's Common sense.

Janet McDonnell  
440 Beach 134th Street  
Belle Harbor, NY 11694

## Redistricting

Caitlin Shannon <c.shannon514@gmail.com>

Wed 12/15/2021 12:04 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Good afternoon,

I am writing to you today to urge you to reconsider redistricting the Rockaways. Our community needs unified representation and this new proposed plan seems biased.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Caitlin Shannon

347-439-1512

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 12/15/2021 12:57 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Fern
- **Last Name:** Liberman
- **Email:** fliber1@yahoo.com
- **Body:** I am very concerned with the concept of splitting Rockaway up into three districts. We are a small unique community with issues that no other community has. By splitting us we lose clout . Having to deal with politicians from 3 different areas will not help us join together on important issues in the Rockaways. We will be split racially, religiously etc. Not the right thing to do. Do you think the representative in Brooklyn cares anything about Rockaway. We will only be able to give a very limited amount of votes so they will not react as representing us in any manner shape or form. This is a political disgrace!
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Queens

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Redistricting

NANCY GENTILE <ngent45992@aol.com>

Wed 12/15/2021 2:29 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

The Rockaway peninsula needs to remain in the same district. It makes zero sense to split us up. Residents from the peninsula all have similar issues that wouldn't necessarily be addressed appropriately should we be divided. Why is the city wasting money on something like this? We have been one district for a long time. Please seriously reconsider this action.

Sincerely,

Nancy Gentile

Sent from my iPhone



## Gerrymandering

Desmond Egan <desmond.egan@outlook.com>

Wed 12/15/2021 9:50 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Combining the Rockaway peninsula with Bed Sty etc is utter madness. The issues facing the peninsula community are unique and need their own representation. The only reason for this is solidifying one party rule in New York City and New York State. Ugly partisan politics.

Sent from my iPhone

## Redistricting Rockaway

Thomas Meehan <keemee5@gmail.com>

Thu 12/16/2021 5:42 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Cc: addabbo@nysenate.gov <addabbo@nysenate.gov>; amatos@nyassembly.gov <amatos@nyassembly.gov>

It is unconscionable to believe that there is a plan to separate the communities of Belle Harbor, Neponsit, Roxbury and Breezy Point from the rest of the Rockaway Peninsula. I am disheartened as an American citizen and member of this great community in Rockaway. There is no way that this is just and believe this is another way our government leaders are trying to silence our voices. To lump our community with other communities that are in another borough and across a bridge is a total breach of sane thinking. These communities do not have the same needs as us. The Rockaway community must remain part of one congressional district. This is just another way of our leaders trying to conquer and divide our country and our community. I am sickened by the actions of our leaders in this great city! Please vote down this redistricting. It is a total disregard for our needs as a community. Thanks

Thomas Meehan  
307 Beach 146th St.  
Neponsit, NY 11694

Sent from my iPad

## Rockaway Redistricting Plan

Theresa Curley <curleyt45@outlook.com>

Thu 12/16/2021 6:17 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

I write to register my opposition to the letters Redistricting Plan. The Rockaway Peninsula should not be divided. This plan would divide our voices into 3 different counties with three different representatives and diminish our voices and concerns. The Rockaway Peninsula should remain one Congressional District.

Thank you,  
Terry Curley

Sent from my iPhone

## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 12/16/2021 9:49 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Ryan
- **Last Name:** Feeney
- **Email:** ryanfeeney905@gmail.com
- **Description:** I have included a direct link to the map on the site it was made with, Dave's Redistricting. This site is a tool for creating congressional and legislative districting maps, and is especially useful as it provides detailed, precise data about district demographics. <https://davesredistricting.org/join/91e0d2a2-cea7-4ede-b387-da8368d61aff>

This senate map results in an upper chamber that is much more proportional to the wishes of NY voters, both statewide and in every region. As I see it, this map does a very good job of making competitive seats in places where they should be competitive - places like Long Island and in the Southern Tier - while keeping areas that are deep red or blue as close as possible to electing senators that way. It is important to note that this map was drawn without consideration of partisan lean at any point in its inception, and for that reason, has resulted in a very fair map. It also features minimal splitting of counties where it can be avoided, ensuring communities of interest are not needlessly divided.

Thank you for your consideration. It makes me deeply proud to be a New Yorker when I know there is a commission working to ensure our maps produce as democratic results as possible.

Ryan Feeney

- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)

- **Categories Selected:** State Senate

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 12/17/2021 12:14 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Alex
- **Last Name:** Vigorito
- **Email:** letitbealex4@gmail.com
- **Description:** This map is much cleaner along city and county borders, removes much of the upstate gerrymandering by Republicans, and has 3 Asian majority districts, 1 Asian plurality district, 5 Black majority districts, 3 Black plurality districts, 5 Hispanic majority districts, and 7 Hispanic plurality districts, so it is very good in giving minority populations a voice.
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** State Senate, Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Long Island, Mid-Hudson, North Country/ Mohawk Valley, Southern Tier, Central New York, Finger Lakes, Western New York, Bronx, Staten Island, Capital Region

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 12/17/2021 9:26 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Alex
- **Last Name:** Vigorito
- **Email:** letitbealex4@gmail.com
- **Description:** Here is a cleaner (fairly county/town compliant) 119D-30R State Assembly map. It has 4 Asian majority districts, 3 Asian plurality districts, 16 Black majority districts, 4 Black plurality districts, 13 Hispanic majority districts, 3 Hispanic plurality districts, and 9 general majority-minority districts. The link to it is: <https://davesredistricting.org/join/b255dd7c-2fcf-4141-8cfa-1dc23b032f61>, and the link to my State Senate map which I forgot to include in my description for it is: <https://davesredistricting.org/join/c4c8a870-d602-4c90-9964-ef30900ea1f5>
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** State Assembly, Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Long Island, Mid-Hudson, North Country/ Mohawk Valley, Southern Tier, Central New York, Finger Lakes, Western New York, Bronx, Staten Island, Capital Region

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Congressional Districts

Brett Thacher <bwthacher@gmail.com>

Sat 12/18/2021 12:32 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Please find attached comments on the proposed redistricting.



**15 State Street  
Canton, NY 13617**

Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22nd Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Congressional Districts

Dear Members of the Commission

There has been good work on the thorny issue of redistricting and the commission is to be commended.

I acknowledge that tweaking the boundaries between districts is at best challenging, particularly when tasked with maintaining equity across the State. I favor the Names Plan as it creates districts in the North Country that ensures its residents better representation as regards travel by the Representative and staff. However, I would ask that before finalizing the Congressional District realignments that consideration be given to one change which is to include St. Lawrence County in the JEFFRSNULSTR district as our connections lie more to the west with many of our residents working in Watertown and at Fort Drum. There seems to be some flexibility in the south of the proposed district to accommodate such a change.

Thank your consideration to this matter and for your work to date.

Sincerely yours,

Brett W. Thacher  
Canton, NY

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sat 12/18/2021 2:02 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Pat
- **Last Name:** Whelan
- **Email:** pwhelan@sahadiff.com
- **Body:** Splitting Rockaway up into three districts does not make sense. The peninsula is a small unique community that is geographically connected and cohesive.

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Redistricting Rockaway

Joseph Curley <joecurley1500@msn.com>

Sun 12/19/2021 11:40 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

The Rockaway Peninsula should not be divided. The "letters" plan will divide our voices into three different counties with three different representatives and diminish our voices and concerns. The Rockaway Peninsula should remain one Congressional District.

Thank you,  
Joseph Curley

## Redistricting our Rockaway

Cathy Keiley <cathykeenakeiley@gmail.com>

Sun 12/19/2021 4:29 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

We are totally opposed to the efforts Of democrats to divide our communities by redistricting. The Rockawsys must not be divided. We have spoken before

We are not stupid and we are aware this effort is to take away our voices in our communities

Thsnk you

Csthy Keiley and family

Sent from my iPhone

## Redistricting of the Congressional seat in the Rockaway's

S. Moise <smoisern@gmail.com>

Mon 12/20/2021 9:00 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Hello,

As a long time resident (over 40yrs) of the Rockaway's I urge you not to break up our Congressional district. To divide us up into parts of Nassau County and Brooklyn doesn't make sense at all. The needs of the Rockaway's are unique and we need unified presentation. We want Rockaway to be 1 peninsula, not divided into 3. It's bad enough we have 2 Assemblymen, 2 Councilmembers and 2 local Senators. We don't need any more division! Please take my thoughts into consideration.

Thank you,  
Sonia Moise  
Long time Rockaway Resident

***Lokah Samastah Sukhino Bhavantu:*** MAY ALL BEINGS BE HAPPY AND FREE, AND MAY THE THOUGHTS, WORDS AND ACTIONS OF MY OWN LIFE CONTRIBUTE IN SOME WAY TO THAT HAPPINESS AND FREEDOM FOR ALL...

## Redistricting comments

Wanda Warden <wwarden365@gmail.com>

Mon 12/20/2021 9:23 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Good morning I am a long time resident of Arverne area. The Redistricting plan to break up Rockaway into 3 parts would leave us without representation that would service our unique area. This must not happen.

Wanda Warden

7187265202

[www.stepupmygame.com](http://www.stepupmygame.com)

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 12/20/2021 10:49 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Fran
- **Last Name:** Stathis
- **Email:** frantastic001@aol.com
- **Body:** To The Independent Redistricting Commission, I was born and raised on the Rockaway peninsula which is in QUEENS and consists of many small communities such as: Breezy Point, Roxbury, Neponsit, Belle Harbor, Rockaway Park, Arverne, Far Rockaway to name a few. We are neighbors WHO HELP each other. The Rockaway peninsula MUST NOT BE DIVIDED. Our voice can only be heard through unity; dividing us would be terrible for everyone. It would be discriminating one end against another. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It would breakup our voices creating a division right through communities. The Rockaway peninsula MUST remain part of ONE congressional district. We are all healing from division, do not create more separation. As a peninsula we have special needs such as education, transportation, storm issues, and climate change which can only be acknowledged and served when we work together.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Queens

## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 12/20/2021 11:13 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Fran
- **Last Name:** Stathis
- **Email:** frantastic001@aol.com
- **Description:** The Rockaways are on a peninsula in QUEENS with access try two toll bridges and on the east end through Nassau county. It should continue to be United when considering redistricting. It should not be divided. We are able to work together helping each other and if divided we would loose that unity. We are a peninsula with several small communities. Dividing us would lead to dividing neighbors who have worked together for ages. It would lead to discriminating one area against another. We need to remain ONE congressional district. Know that the "letters" planned for the congressional district are terrible to our peninsula and communities. It will divide one end against another...neighbor against neighbor. Keep us all in our current QUEENS district
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, Queens

This e-mail has been automatically generated



## Redistricting comments

Siane Parker <sianeiparker@kw.com>

Mon 12/20/2021 11:21 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Hello Fellow Civil Leaders,

I'm Siane Parker, my husband and I build our property in Edgemere B45th Street 18 years ago. I opposed to redistricting the peninsula and will be detrimental for our community. as a Real Estate Sales Person I think the property value will be lower Than in the other Redistricted areas.

Thanks,

Siane Parker

516-660-8184

--

### **Siane Parker**

#### **Licensed Real Estate Salesperson**

**RES.NET CERTIFIED ID #: 431415**

**Short Sales and Foreclosure Resource Certification (SFR)**

**Pricing Strategy Advisor Certification (PSA)**

**Certified Buyer Representative**

**Commercial & Investment Real Estate Certified (CIREC)**

**At Home With Diversity (AHWD)**

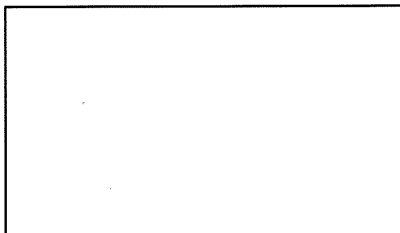
**Solar Specialist**

**Notary Public**

**Military Relocation Professional (MRP)**

**CDPE Certified Distressed Property Expert**

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**O: 516-328-8600**

**C: 516-660-8184**

**E: sianeiparker@kw.com**

*I had reviewing any confidential Information contained in this electronic transmission, you agree to maintain and protect the confidential nature of the Confidential Information in accordance with the applicable law and to ensure nondisclosure except for the limited purpose for which it is being provided, and agree to indemnify us against any losses or expenses resulting from any unauthorized use or disclosure of Confidential Information.*

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 12/20/2021 11:24 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Michelle
- **Last Name:** McCalla
- **Email:** mmccalla@verizon.net
- **Body:** As a homeowner and resident of the Rockaways, I firmly opposed the new redistricting of the Rockaways. My community has unique needs which will not be met by redistricting. The community needs, which are many, would better be met by unified representation.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Queens

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## community board 14-Queens-letter

QN14@cb.nyc.gov (CB) <QN14@cb.nyc.gov>

Mon 12/20/2021 2:07 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Cc: Queens Boro President - Donovan Richards <drichards@queensbp.org>; Rep. Greg Meeks - Joseph Edwards <joseph.edwards@mail.house.gov>; joe addabbo <jaddabbo@live.com>; Sen. James Sanders, Jr. <sanders@nysenate.gov>; Assemb. Stacey Pheffer-Amato <amatos@nyassembly.gov>; Khaleel Anderson <andersonk@nyassembly.com>

Commission Members,

attached is a letter from the Community board stating our position regarding proposal for three Congressional seats in our Community board  
the board strongly object to the proposal and would like to remain being represented by one congressional seat

Jonathan Gaska District Manager



COMMUNITY  
BOARD #14

December 16, 2021

COMMUNITY BOARD #14  
City of New York  
Borough of Queens

Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, N.Y 10007

Dear Commission Members:

DOLORES ORR  
Chairperson

JONATHAN GASKA  
District Manager

Community Board #14 at its December 14, 2021 Board meeting voted overwhelmingly to send you a letter regarding our objection to the proposal to split up /Community Board #14 into three congressional districts. The Board feels that we are best served and represented by one member of congress instead of being a small part of three congressional districts. We hope you support and implement our position in this important matter.

Sincerely,

  
Jonathan Gaska  
District Manager

Cc: Hon. Gregory Meeks  
Hon. Joseph Addabbo Jr.  
Hon. James Sanders Jr.  
Hon. Khaleel Anderson  
Hon. Stacey Pheffer-Amato  
Hon. Donovan Richards

1931 Mott Avenue, Room 311  
Far Rockaway, NY 11691  
Tel.: (718) 471-7300  
Fax: (718) 868-2657  
[qn14@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:qn14@cb.nyc.gov)—NEW  
[www.nyc.gov/queenscb14](http://www.nyc.gov/queenscb14)  
FACEBOOK [cb14rockaway](https://www.facebook.com/cb14rockaway)

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 12/20/2021 3:53 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Louis
- **Last Name:** Stathis
- **Email:** louiestathis@aol.com
- **Body:** To the independent redistricting commission, I was born and raised in the Railway Peninsula which is part of queens and consist of mainly small communities from breezy point on the west end to far I go on the East End. As you can see from the map I attached the peninsula is attached to Nassau County on the East end. We have two tall bridges to get off the peninsula. We stand united in our fight for many issues that only deal with the Rockaways such as coastal erosion, transportation, education And public safety as we are also a vacation spot because of the Rockaway beaches. The proposed changes would divide the communities, losing the unity that took years to build. I urge you to keep the current districting as is.. Without it we would have no voice and what's best for our communities.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Queens

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 12/20/2021 4:11 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Louis
- **Last Name:** Stathis
- **Email:** louiestathis@aol.com
- **Description:** As you can see from the attached map, the Rockaways is a Peninsula, Surrounded by Jamaica Bay, the Atlantic ocean, and connects to Nassau County at the east end. As a Peninsula we have special issues such as but not limited to coastal Erosion, (Because of storms from the 2 large bodies of water), Transportation (2 bridges to accessing the peninsula), An education. We need to keep our collective voice By keeping our current district format. Rockaway Peninsula must remain part of one congressional district. Only this way in the Rockaways be served properly. Keep a united Rockaway and not a divided Rockaway.
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Queens

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/21/2021 11:29 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Ely
- **Last Name:** Chopp
- **Email:** eychopp@gmail.com
- **Body:** I live currently in NY 9. The current representative Yvette Clarke does not represent the community beliefs as large. I would like to propose that either NY11 extend in to include the midwood area or a representative from Suffolk county encompass in the midwood, sheepshead bay, Borough park areas so we can get a fair representation.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Brooklyn

This e-mail has been automatically generated



**(No subject)**

lpc24 <lpc24@aol.com>

Tue 12/21/2021 3:09 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Keep Rockaway together. Don't split

Sent from my iPad

## redistributing proposal

Guy Maranga <guymaranga@icloud.com>

Tue 12/21/2021 4:25 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Independent Redistricting Commission,

i have lived on the rockaway peninsular for 28 years with my family, and have run a business in Far Rockaway for 22 years constantly employing dozens of local residents at any given time.

The Rockaway peninsula must not be divided. Nature has given us unique common needs, especially when it comes to education, transportation, and climate change. The "letters" plan for the Congressional district is terrible. It will disperse our voices into three different counties with three different representatives. It would create unnatural dividing lines right through the middle of Belle Harbor and Far Rockaway. The Rockaway peninsula must remain part of one Congressional district. please hear my voice i am a registered voter and vote in EVERY election!

thank you

Guy Maranga

## Queens Redistricting Plan for Rockaway.

Brendan OConnor <bezero7741@outlook.com>

Thu 12/23/2021 8:00 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

I am against the proposed plan to redistrict part of The Rockaways. Why would they be made to be part of Brooklyn when the entire peninsula is in Queens? We need consistent and unified representation.

Thank you.

Take care.

Brendan (O'Connor).

Rockaway resident since 1974, but raised in Brooklyn.

## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 12/23/2021 9:51 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Mark
- **Last Name:** Anaya
- **Email:** surfrats@hotmail.com
- **Description:** Keep the Rockaway district together from Breezy Point all the way to beach 9 Street Howard beach and broad Channel
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Queens

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 12/23/2021 9:55 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Mark
- **Last Name:** Anaya
- **Email:** surfrats@hotmail.com
- **Body:** Keep all of Rockaway together Breezy Point Neponsit Belle Harbor all the way to beach 9 Street and Nassau county also Howard beach and Broad Channel
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Queens

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 12/27/2021 8:41 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** robert
- **Last Name:** wick
- **Email:** robertwick@gmail.com
- **Body:** My name is Robert Wick, I vote in the Election District 12 in the Town of East Hampton

Brookhaven Town has a strong shared community of interest, based on historical, economic, scientific, academic, environmental and cultural interests. Splitting the Town into two Congressional Districts as proposed under the Congressional Letter Draft would cause irreparable harm and undercut our economy, civic institutions and feeling of shared history and current purpose.

From the North Shore to the South, Brookhaven Town shares a proud history dating back to the mid-1600s. Our primarily agrarian roots and long tradition as fishermen and whalers shaped who we are today: Pro environment, protective of our farmers, and fierce guardians of our parks, beaches and shores. The feisty, independent ethos of small yeoman farmers and independent fishermen that inspired the famous Setauket-based Culper Spy Ring of Brookhaven residents who risked their lives for George Washington remains a defining characteristic of the community.

Coram, the oldest community in central Brookhaven Town, contributed its Light Dragoons to work with the Culper Spy Ring on acts of sabotage against the British and subsequently became the meeting place of the Brookhaven Town government for 10 years. The Congressional Draft Letter plan would split Coram, the

oldest settlement in central Brookhaven, in two. Ronkonkoma, which is a key transportation hub for Brookhaven Town commuters and residents, would likewise be divided. Considering the money spent to make Ronkonkoma a thriving community hub, the division seems doubly perverse.

Today Brookhaven Town is home to two renowned research centers, SUNY Stony Brook and Brookhaven National Laboratory. Combined, these two research centers are about 50% of the Town's top ten employer's employee count. After WWII, scientists and academics from the two institutions revitalized communities from Bellport in the South to the Three Village area in the North. The two institutions fostered a Townwide commitment to education, embrace of scientific innovation, and civic engagement that remains a vital shared outlook.

Splitting Brookhaven Town's two most dynamic and renowned research institutions into two Congressional Districts would hurt their shared academic and scientific research and negatively impact the economic stimulus they bring to the Town. The scientific and research communities at Stony Brook and BNL – and the many employees throughout Brookhaven Town that they support – benefit from having one member of Congress advocate for them and prioritize their mutual needs. In fact, their ties are numerous and inseparable:

Stony Brook is a partner in Brookhaven Science Associates LLC, managing Brookhaven National Lab for the Department of Energy. Brookhaven Science Associates (BSA) was established for the sole purpose of managing and operating Brookhaven National Laboratory. Formed as a partnership between Battelle Memorial Institute and The Research Foundation of SUNY on behalf of Stony Brook University (SBU), BSA is the legal entity responsible for leading BNL successfully through the 21st century. Stony Brook is the single largest user of BNL facilities; BNL facilities and its scientific staff are essential to the vitality of the university's intellectual life and to the impact of many of its research programs. BNL and the University share an increasing number of joint faculty appointments. Stony Brook and Brookhaven National Lab have formalized collaborations that form communities of interest in educational, economic, and intellectual research. It is

critical that this complex, major economic engine has the benefit of effective representation in Washington, DC, from one member of Congress. Moreover, the proposed division would split Stony Brook's incubators, leaving its Research and Development Park and the Long Island Tech Incubator in one congressional district and its Calverton Incubator in another.

Splitting Brookhaven Town into two Congressional Districts would also undermine the shared interests and improvement efforts of Brookhaven Town's African American communities which have both been historically plagued by political "cracking" and disenfranchisement. Their common purpose to address historical wrongs through Town-wide civic organizations like the Brookhaven NAACP would be severely hampered.

Likewise, the membership of many of Brookhaven Town's most trusted and effective civic organizations like the Brookhaven League of Women Voters would be split apart, endangering our progress on good government reforms and environmental cleanup.

Finally, a commonality of economic realities characterize Brookhaven Town's North and South Shores. Tourism is a major part of Brookhaven's North and South Shore economies, especially during the summer months, which brings a shared commonality of challenges as well as economic benefit. The surge in tourists benefits Main Street businesses, cultural institutions and small and organic farmers in the surrounding areas, but it means increased seasonal strain on infrastructure and unpredictable vulnerability during off season months and economic downturns. Proposed solutions for shared environmental degradation problems, shore erosion and pollution would also be undermined.

In the mid-19th century, the villages of Port Jefferson in the north and Patchogue in the south prospered as shipbuilding ports and remain Brookhaven Town's largest communities. Both subsequently suffered economic downturns but now, thanks to affordable housing and mixed-use projects, small businesses and cultural centers, they are once again becoming thriving communities. These regional projects on the two coasts are of critical importance to the economic success of the wider Town and



would thus benefit from remaining in the same Congressional District.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my request. Robert Wick robertwick@gmail.com Amagansett, NY 11930

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## RE: New York's 16th Congressional District

Max Yeston <max.yeston@gmail.com>

Tue 12/28/2021 1:02 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Max Yeston and I am a resident of New York City. I am concerned about the proposed map changes to New York's 16th Congressional District, represented by Congressman Jamaal Bowman. Under the proposed changes, Rep. Bowman's district would become approximately one-third more Republican and one-third less African American than the currently mapped district. In short, the electorate will be more right-leaning and less diverse. This could spell danger for the hard-won representation that so many low-income communities of color have fought for and secured with Rep. Jamaal's leadership. Please be aware that the changes you are contemplating are not mere lines on a map, but could tangibly reverse huge representational gains made by marginalized communities in the Bronx and Westchester County. Please retain Congressman Bowman's district as is.

Kind regards,  
Max Yeston

## Voting for FAIR maps on January 3

Sally Grubb <sally.grubb@gmail.com>

Tue 12/28/2021 1:09 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

I am writing to urge you to vote fairly and rationally and without political direction for maps that truly represent all people of this State regardless of their political affiliations. If you can not reach a fair, non-political, compromise on these maps, heaven help us all.

Sally Grubb  
co-President League of Women Voters Tompkins County  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
607 257-6017  
607 279-9189 cell

**GET INVOLVED....**

***The World is run by***

***Those who show up***

## Fwd: New York's 16th Congressional District

Miranda Goodwin Raab <goodwinraabm@nyirc.gov>

Tue 12/28/2021 1:13 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

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**From:** Karen Blatt <blattk@nyirc.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 28, 2021 1:00:32 PM

**To:** Ahsia Badi <badia@nyirc.gov>; Miranda Goodwin Raab <goodwinraabm@nyirc.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: New York's 16th Congressional District

This came in. No need to respond, just want you to be aware.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Max Yeston <max.yeston@gmail.com>

**Date:** December 28, 2021 at 12:40:56 PM EST

**To:** Karen Blatt <blattk@nyirc.gov>, Douglas Breakell <breakelld@nyirc.gov>

**Subject: RE: New York's 16th Congressional District**

Dear Ms. Blatt and Mr. Breakell:

My name is Max Yeston and I am a resident of New York City. I am concerned about the proposed map changes to New York's 16th Congressional District, represented by Congressman Jamaal Bowman. Under the proposed changes, Rep. Bowman's district would become approximately one-third more Republican and one-third less African American than the currently mapped district. In short, the electorate will be more right-leaning and less diverse. This could spell danger for the hard-won representation that so many low-income communities of color have fought for and secured with Rep. Jamaal's leadership. Please be aware that the changes you are contemplating are not mere lines on a map, but could tangibly reverse huge representational gains made by marginalized communities in the Bronx and Westchester County. Please retain Congressman Bowman's district as is.

Kind regards,  
Max Yeston

## Redistricting Maps

Mary Ann DiChristopher <mshope1948@gmail.com>

Tue 12/28/2021 2:32 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

**As a voter in NYS for the past 50 years, I expect this Commission to set aside your political differences and do what's right for the people of New York. We need consensus on one set of maps!**

# HELL'S KITCHEN NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION

## **BLOCK ASSOCIATIONS:**

29 STREET NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
WEST 36TH STREET BLOCK ASSOCIATION  
WEST 44TH STREET BETTER BLOCK ASSOCIATION  
WEST 47TH /48TH STREETS BLOCK ASSOCIATION  
HK 49-54TH BLOCK ALLIANCE  
WEST 55TH STREET BLOCK ASSOCIATION  
HELL'S KITCHEN BLOCK ASSOCIATION

## **ORGANIZATIONS:**

CLINTON HOUSING DEVELOPMENT COMPANY  
GARMENT DISTRICT ALLIANCE  
HARTLEY HOUSE  
HUDSON YARDS/HELL'S KITCHEN ALLIANCE  
MANHATTAN PLAZA TENANT ASSOCIATION  
PARC VENDÔME COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

## **CO-OPS & CONDO ASSOCIATIONS:**

455-7-9 WEST 35TH STREET HDFC  
DYLAN HOUSE COOPERATIVE, W 36TH ST.  
315 WEST 36TH STREET CONDO ASSOCIATION  
348 WEST 36TH STREET CO-OP  
360 OWNERS CORP CO-OP  
CROSS ROADS OWNERS CO-OP, W 36TH ST.

## **BUSINESSES:**

ELLIS BARBERSHOP INC, W 36TH ST  
ESPOSITO MEAT MARKET, 9TH AVE.  
HOUNDS TOOTH PUB, 8TH AVE.  
INTERNATIONAL GROCERY, 9TH AVE.  
HY-36 CROWNE PLAZA, W 36TH ST.  
LUCO INTERNATIONAL INC, W 39TH ST.  
MISS BLISS NAIL & SPA, W 36TH ST.  
SEA BREEZE FISH MARKET, 9TH AVE.  
STILE'S FARMERS MARKET, 9TH AVE.  
STITCH BAR & LOUNGE, W 37TH ST.  
TAVOLA, 9TH AVE.  
VITO'S SLICES & ICES, 9TH AVE.

December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22nd Floor  
New York, NY 10007

## **Re: Redistricting Maps**

Dear Chair and Commissioners:

The Hell's Kitchen Neighborhood Coalition represents the Block Associations and organizations in the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood of Manhattan, New York. We want to make the following observations and requests on the Committee's preliminary redistricting maps.

Our small and close-knit neighborhood is currently split in both the New York State Senate and Assembly maps, which has proven legislatively unproductive for neighborhood residents. As we understand, the Commission's wish to keep neighborhood areas intact within single districts when new district lines are drawn. We hope this will be rectified.

According to the latest redistricting maps, our Hell's Kitchen community is, once again, split between districts. We request for the community of Hell's Kitchen to be kept whole to easily coordinate with city agencies and our representatives on the provision of services within our boundaries – this request is not unreasonable considering our neighborhood is only 30 blocks north to south.

One other aspect of this map that is important is that the entirety of Hudson River Park north of West 14<sup>th</sup> Street is contained in a single Assembly district.

There is value and necessity in keeping our neighborhood lines cohesive and recognize Hell's Kitchen as a longstanding Community of Interest.

Thank you,

Hell's Kitchen Neighborhood Coalition

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 12/29/2021 5:00 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Diane
- **Last Name:** Chu
- **Email:** dianesmithchu@aol.com
- **Body:** Dear Commissioners, I hope you will consider keeping the Cortland and Ithaca communities within Legislative District 125. The Cortland-Tompkins County affiliations run deep and we have many common areas of concern: economic, social, educational, cultural and agricultural. Please consider the proposed map at the url indicated below: <https://districtr.org/plan/96769>

Additionally, I hope you will work to complete your map proposals by January 15th so there is ample time for primary candidates to file ahead of the April 4th deadline.

Thank you, Diane S. Chu

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## The new district maps

PaulaB <paulawblum@aol.com>

Wed 12/29/2021 5:43 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Please do not let politics get in the way of making the right decision for the citizens of NY.

Partisan politics should not factor into this decision - the people, not the parties should be considered first.

You accepted the responsibility to make the decisions necessary, you have heard from the public.

Please give the Legislature maps that are fair with districts that are contiguous, compact and representative

of communities of interest when possible. We the people of NYS are counting on you.

Paula Blum

Wantagh NY



## Approval of Redistricting Maps

Linda Allen <lindaallen@alumni.iu.edu>

Wed 12/29/2021 10:19 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Dear IRC,

You had just one job to do and that was to develop a set of redistricting maps that reflect a consensus for the residents of the state and it seems you are incapable of fulfilling this one task. As a taxpaying resident of the state, I expect you to put your partisan bickering aside and work with each other to develop the maps. Cut the crap and get the job done.

Linda Allen

## Want fair redistricting

Virginia Gajewski <vwgajewski@mac.com>

Wed 12/29/2021 10:44 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Dear Commissioners:

Please approve a plan for drawing fair legislative districts. Do your duty. Your job is to come up with a plan. **By whatever means the process develops**, New York deserves that the maps the legislature approves be fair and not politically motivated. For months, we have been working to ensure that the legislature does not approve the districts without considering public input.

Sincerely,  
Virginia W. Gajewski  
166 Jordan Blvd.  
Delmar, NY 12054

## Non-partisan redistricting maps

Ricardo Lopez-Torrijos <lopeztorrijos.ricardo@gmail.com>

Thu 12/30/2021 9:47 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Cc: FahyP@nyassembly.gov <FahyP@nyassembly.gov>; info@hincheyforny.com <info@hincheyforny.com>

Sirs and Madams at the Independent Redistricting Commission,

I'll be closely watching your votes on congressional, senate and assembly redistricting maps on January 3rd. We, citizens of New York, asked you to be part of an INDEPENDENT commission to create non-partisan, fair electoral districts. That's exactly what I expect you to do: work for all of us in New York, NOT for your political party.

Respectfully,

Ricardo Lopez-Torrijos  
12 Providence Street  
Albany, NY 12203

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 12/30/2021 10:38 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Donald
- **Last Name:** Chu
- **Email:** donaldchu@aol.com
- **Body:** I hope the Independent Redistricting Commission and NYS Legislature will work with a sense of urgency to finalize and approve district boundaries well in advance of the April 4th filing deadline for primary candidates.  
The current redistricting deadlines are incompatible with the new June combined state and federal primary date. Those deadlines need to be moved up. Failing to do so would compromise participation in the political process. Thank you.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Central New York

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## Creation of new voting district maps by the Independent Redistricting Commission

David Esmond <david.esmond1@gmail.com>

Thu 12/30/2021 2:59 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

The purpose for the existence of the Commission, and its approval by New York State voters, was to create an independent, nonpartisan process for determining New York State voting districts. I understand that coming to agreement on revised election district boundaries is a complex process. However it is important that the Commission understand that that is what the voters expect them to do. Failure to come to agreement (requiring the ascent of 7 Commission members) will further diminish the public's perception of the fairness and competence of the State's political system.

Each member of the political parties involved in this process (Democratic and Republican) may think it is in the interest of their party to avoid the inevitable compromises necessary to achieve this outcome. But that is manifestly not the case. Failure to perform the function for which the voters approved the Commission, will feed the increasing cynicism which the public has for the political process in New York State. It will further alienate existing party members from continuing to support either political party, which will continue the fragmentation and increasing incompetence of the State's political system. It is in the interest of all New Yorkers of whatever political persuasion, to have an electoral system which is geared to expressing the will of the people, not keyed toward promoting the ascendance of a particular political party.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to reach an agreement on fair electoral maps, for the benefit of all New York State citizens.

David Esmond

## Release only one set of maps for each legislative entity

bkoeppicust@gmail.com <bkoeppicust@gmail.com>

Fri 12/31/2021 12:01 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Members and staff of the Independent Redistricting Commission:

I implore you to do the right thing: Incorporate the comments you have received regarding the last maps you already released and come up with one set of maps for each legislative entity that you are charged with developing maps. for.

My own particular concerns are

1. that Saratoga County, and especially, Saratoga Springs, be included in a Congressional District that also includes the Capital District.
2. That Saratoga County have as few Senate and Assembly Districts as possible.
3. That the Hamilton County Town of Inlet and the Herkimer County Town of Webb (which have combined School Districts and Police Departments) be included in the same Assembly, Senate, and Congressional Districts.

Barbara Thomas  
PO Box 964  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866  
518-681-7530  
bkoeppicust@gmail.com

## Disappointed

Rita Edwards <edwards@adelphi.edu>

Fri 12/31/2021 12:34 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

I voted to have an independent commission compose the State Senate and Assembly and Congressional maps for New York State for the next 10 years. However you "leaders" have been a sad disappointment. Your politicization has won out against good government. You should be ashamed.

Rita Edwards

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 12/31/2021 12:51 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Lewellyne
- **Last Name:** Blanchard
- **Email:** mamablanchard360@gmail.com
- **Body:** As a citizen of the USA and New York State, my right to vote and have an equal voice with all other citizens is a right I hold dear and a right that is an essential component of democracy. In light of this I also have a responsibility to be an informed voter. As my representative on the "Independent Redistricting Committee" I feel you have a responsibility to put aside partisan politics and draw district lines on the basis of population and common sense. If you are truly independent then you will be amenable to ensuring each person's voice has equal status under the law. I trust that you will act with an eye to this when drawing up district maps and that you will put ego and party affiliation aside. Please do not disappoint me.  
Sincerely- Lewellyne Blanchard
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Central New York

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## NYS Redistricting

Paula Brewer <p.blizniak@gmail.com>

Fri 12/31/2021 2:26 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

As a registered voter in NYS, I am writing to urge that the IRC approve a single set of maps that are fair and not politically motivated. This is the task that the commission was charged with and the two sets of maps do not meet the IRC's constitutional charge.

Thank you,

Paula Brewer (she/her)

518-944-9079

## Redistricting

Mary Bonczar <bonczar46@gmail.com>

Sat 1/1/2022 2:39 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

I hope you will be able to set political differences aside and have the interests of your constituents as your primary focus. The IRC needs to approve a single set of maps that reflect fair mapping and not how the maps will assist a political party. We need to be better than this to preserve our democracy which is taking a beating right now.

Again, please place the country above political party.

## redistricting

Joyce Edward <joyceed11@gmail.com>

Sun 1/2/2022 9:04 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

I urge you to put aside political differences and approve a single set of maps that reflect fair mapping, Do what is right for the people of New York.

Joyce Edward

1 Jeffersons Ferry Drive

South Setauket, N.Y.11720

Tel 631 650 3015

## Redistricting Maps

tabakman@aol.com <tabakman@aol.com>

Sun 1/2/2022 4:28 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To all concerned,

We are living in a time when everything seems to be politicized. Though we all live, work, raise families and need to coexist in one town, one state and one country, it is a fact that political and social media interests are working feverishly to divide us.

I beseech you to start to put a stop to this trend. Each voter should be confident that his/her vote counts. Efforts to arrange districts for the benefit of one political party over another must stop. District maps must be drawn up fairly, and with no bias towards one political party or another. Let the people speak by allowing all votes to count equally. Please, let's do what's best for our communities by advocating for fairness.

Thank you for your attention,

Shelley Tabakman

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sun 1/2/2022 10:38 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Mark
- **Last Name:** Hergott
- **Email:** m.hergott87@gmail.com
- **Body:** Here is my map proposal. It adds a heavily Asian district in Brooklyn. Additionally, 10 of 26 districts are in the competitive zone with a PVI under 5.

Map draft: <https://davesredistricting.org/join/d3aad641-29f5-4ede-9257-c9487e9d1faa>

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Mid-Hudson

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## Redistricting

Silvia <ragtopsil@yahoo.com>

Mon 1/3/2022 12:40 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

How can 26 seats represent 20,201,249 people? They can't. It's impossible. It would take tens of thousands of representatives to represent the will of the people. Even then, there'd be no actual consent from the people to anything since there'd be no agreement on much of anything. It doesn't scale. If it weren't so stupid, it would be funny.

What SHOULD be done is an up/down vote EVERY election, EVERY time, EVERY DISTRICT, asking whether the people wish to remain in the union. And in order to remain in this supposed "voluntary union of the several states" the outcome would require at least a 75% majority vote TO REMAIN. AND, for every election, in every district, there should appear on the ballot an up/down vote as to whether all the laws currently on the books should be SUNSET given that people do NOT agree with most laws on the books.

Your project will not provide any real solutions to anything.

Silvia Lombardi  
Long Island

## ViSiON FOR CHANGE

Doyin Adeeko <doyndeeko@yahoo.com>

Mon 1/3/2022 6:06 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

My testimony is vision for change ,There is Dignity in silence and Democracy is to be treated with dignity and integrity

My questions is, think of what you can do for your nation if you 're oppertune to rule?

As a common sense of empathy I will do my best and fulfill all it takes to understand and share the feelings for another

By showing interest encouragement and supportive

In any nation,public safety and human dignity should be the forefront of this progress

Partnership with the Government and the community leaders to continued advancement of equal justice

Transformative change towards the qualities of life

Accountability of services

Mission and vision are priorities

It is essential to recognizes the importance of the African in Diaspora and their worth in terms of cultural

Sensitivity and the capacity.

Engagement of the African in the Diaspora enhance production quality at effective operating cost

In a timely manner,balance the competitive demands in the Labour market.

They will give the value for their investment within the expected quality standard with the reputation of high standard

The organization integrity in any nation is to give encouragement and involvement in the community and the state of

New York . let the system promote Equality resiliency cultural institutions in a confederation of people in a Democracy

Also,build together a safer community services as a bridge to employment education humanitarian and developmental aid

To eradicate the social economic violence

Social Economic issues are factors that have a negative influence on an individuals and are lack of education feeding cultural and

Religious discrimination community safety

As an advocate for vision for change,I advocate and support expanded and proven development in the state government and

Progressive institutions.Employment provides income,and incomes shapes choices about housing Education medical care feeding child care

And more impressive in academic success and the opportunity for advancement in the industry and the government

Thanks for the educative and useful concept and great ideals of how to access our transformative services in business and

Social justice

Adedoyin Adeeko

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android



## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 1/3/2022 10:31 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** leonor
- **Last Name:** cordova
- **Email:** farrocklee@gmail.com
- **Body:** I live in Far Rockaway and our district should NOT be further redistricted. We have to learn from history. Germans used redistricting against Jewish people where they redistricted communities and created ghettos with lack of amenities and the only ones who benefited from the redistricting were the Kapos (the Administrators) that the Germans used. Kapos were fellow Jewish people who were used to keep their own people down. The more they kept their people down the higher they rose. Allowing the redistricting is continuing this barbaric history with a different population. The East side of Far Rockaway is lumped with low income neighborhoods and the West End is with affluent neighborhoods. Now you further want exclude affluent neighborhoods from the Rockaways We cant lump poor with poor. We shouldn't even have 2 districts we need one district. The only one benefitting from redistricting are Politicians who only care about rising up while keeping the masses down. The East end has little amenities and we can't let the ROCKAWAYS further deteriorate by having it redistricting with Brooklyn and Nassau County. That is not benefitting the people. Instead of redistricting voter need to vote people out of their Congressional district and hold them accountable
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Queens

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 1/3/2022 5:28 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Roxanne
- **Last Name:** Mustafa
- **Email:** roxanne@siwwm.org
- **Body:** I would split staten island in 2. We deserve to have diverse representation that is more in line with our race, demographics and political affiliations. Splitting Staten island along the SI "mason Dixon Line" - Route 278 - would free the moderate north shore from the conservative and extreme south shore.

Along with the north shore of Staten Island and all the communities north of the expressway, I would pair the North Shore with Bay Ridge, Fort Hamilton, Bensonhurst, as well as, in the other direction, Sunset Park, red hook, and parts of Park Slope, assuming this number gets us to the required ~750k representation. These communities have similar working class values, housing densities, waterfront issues, and rich political demographics that wouldn't be categorized as extreme.

For the south shore communities south of 278, I would pair the communities on Staten Island from Midland Beach (maybe South Beach otherwise it can go to the North Shore if needed), with seagate, Coney Island and Gerritsen Beach. Ideally I would love to pair Coney Island with the North Shore as there are so many analogous issues with neglected areas and dilapidated waterfront and development, but maybe diverse representation can help both, as being in the same senate representation has not helped the Stapelton and St George waterfront not the Coney Island waterfront.

Additionally, if needed we should go into the areas of battery city and lower Manhattan. As this may not seem obvious to some, The North Shore of Staten Island, as well as a lot of greater Staten Island, works in the lower FiDi community. There is a synchronicity there and the commuter culture of many communities in the North Shore fits nicely with the interests of lower Manhattan.

Finally, I think it is important to weigh the Unity Coalitions Maps Studies heavily in this assessment.

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Staten Island

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## District lines

Randy Spafford <spence22000@yahoo.com>

Mon 1/3/2022 5:35 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

As a citizen of central NY, I feel that drawing our districts into puzzle pieces, does not help a county out as a whole. Following county lines or make boxed out district or both, would be a better choice. Political affiliation should not come into play. Maybe an outside commission would be a better fit. Remember this is for the citizens not the party.

## Congressional Map--Please do not divide Westchester county

Miriam Arond <miriam.arond@gmail.com>

Thu 1/6/2022 6:46 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Cc: Cc: 'info@latfor.state.ny.us' <info@latfor.state.ny.us>; biaggi@nysenate.gov <biaggi@nysenate.gov>; senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov <senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov>; smayer@nysenate.gov <smayer@nysenate.gov>; scousins@nysenate.gov <scousins@nysenate.gov>; reichlin@nysenate.gov <reichlin@nysenate.gov>; harckham@nysenate.gov <harckham@nysenate.gov>; PaulinA@nyassembly.gov <PaulinA@nyassembly.gov>; PretloJ@nyassembly.gov <PretloJ@nyassembly.gov>; SayeghN@nyassembly.gov <SayeghN@nyassembly.gov>; OtisS@nyassembly.gov <OtisS@nyassembly.gov>; AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov <AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov>; BurdickC@nyassembly.gov <BurdickC@nyassembly.gov>; ByrneK@nyassembly.gov <ByrneK@nyassembly.gov>; GalefS@nyassembly.gov <GalefS@nyassembly.gov>

To: Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission

As a resident of Westchester County, I urge you to recognize the importance of maintaining Westchester's independent voice and not having it split apart and diluted by surrounding areas of New York City.

As you know, New York City is a unique and distinct urban center with an infrastructure of its own, and a set of issues and concerns that are wholly distinct from suburban communities like Westchester. If the Commission is given the opportunity to propose a second set of maps, it should use that opportunity to **unite areas of Westchester County**.

It appears that both maps under consideration would continue to artificially link portions of the north Bronx with portions of Westchester in one district, while drawing another district that would link Westchester with portions of both the Bronx and Queens. **These maps are fundamentally flawed** because they dilute the voice of both the suburban community in Westchester (and Putnam counties) and the New York City community in the Bronx and Queens.

Linking Westchester with the Bronx and Queens is particularly unfair and unacceptable because it divides communities in **three counties, limiting the ability of residents in each part of the district to have an elected official who can effectively represent their interests.**

During last year's public hearings, when residents of New Rochelle testified before the Independent Redistricting Commission, several were asked by Commissioners whether they would want a district connecting New Rochelle to Queens. **None said yes, yet the**

**Commission still drew a Queens to New Rochelle district in both of its proposals.**

Rather than having District 14 be contained entirely in New York City and District 16 be the only district to cross the Westchester/Bronx border, as was proposed in the earlier Names and Letters draft plans, the Commission inexplicably decided to cross the county border twice. This decision divides communities throughout the region and would especially dilute the voice of the community of southern Westchester centered around Scarsdale and northern New Rochelle. This area has shared infrastructure and institutions, and both proposals would split this community into not two but three different Congressional Districts.

When the lines were last redrawn, New Rochelle, Scarsdale and other parts of Westchester were joined with the Bronx. Now, ten years later, the Commission's proposals would further dilute Westchester's voice. **I urge you to reassess the Congressional map and take action to ensure that Westchester County is not unduly divided.**

Sincerely,

Miriam Arond

116 Tewkesbury Road

Scarsdale, NY 10583

## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/7/2022 12:38 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Uri
- **Last Name:** Hoch
- **Email:** urimaxx@gmail.com
- **Description:** Proposed Congressional Map of New York contains precinct assignments and a picture of the map on the second sheet. Good compactness score Creates 12 highly competitive districts. States across the country have been erasing competitive districts we should be creating more. Populations are within the very tight window of variation from ideal population, size not off by more than 350 people per district. Maintains majority minority districts: 3 Black and 3 Hispanic majorities and 1 near Asian majority like in the last map Districts are not perfect, some minor tweaks could be made on the edges. Overall map is highly effective.
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Long Island, Mid-Hudson, North Country/ Mohawk Valley, Southern Tier, Central New York, Finger Lakes, Western New York, Bronx, Staten Island, Capital Region

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## Preserving Westchester's Voice in NY's Congressional, State and Assembly Maps

Rochelle Sherman <rsherm@optonline.net>

Fri 1/7/2022 7:06 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

It is vital to the democratic interests of all Westchester Residents that Westchester, which is not within the New York City boundaries and subject to different rules and taxation, have its own representation in government. Splitting the Congressional district dilutes and undermines the democratic representation of Westchester residents. Last year's public hearings demonstrated that residents of New Rochelle were not supportive of linking New Rochelle and Queens. The gerrymandering that ties Westchester to The Bronx and Queens undermines the democratic process for Westchester residents. The interests of Westchester residents differ from residents within the Bronx and Queens. Linking our interests effectively cancels out the representation of all Westchester Residents.

I own properties in both New Rochelle and Queens and I will assert that the two areas have little in common other than being in New York State.

I urge you to take action to ensure that Westchester County not be unduly divided.

Yours truly,

Rochelle Sherman  
149 Wykagyl Terrace  
New Rochelle, NY 10804

## FW: Preserving Westchester's Voice in NY's Congressional, State and Assembly Maps

Rochelle Sherman <rsherm@optonline.net>

Fri 1/7/2022 7:21 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Cc: biaggi@nysenate.gov <biaggi@nysenate.gov>; senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov <senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov>; smayer@nysenate.gov <smayer@nysenate.gov>; scousins@nysenate.gov <scousins@nysenate.gov>; reichlin@nysenate.gov <reichlin@nysenate.gov>; harckham@nysenate.gov <harckham@nysenate.gov>; PaulinA@nyassembly.gov <PaulinA@nyassembly.gov>; Pretlo@nyassembly.gov <Pretlo@nyassembly.gov>; SayeghN@nyassembly.gov <SayeghN@nyassembly.gov>; OtisS@nyassembly.gov <OtisS@nyassembly.gov>; AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov <AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov>; BurdickC@nyassembly.gov <BurdickC@nyassembly.gov>; ByrneK@nyassembly.gov <ByrneK@nyassembly.gov>; GalefS@nyassembly.gov <GalefS@nyassembly.gov>

**From:** Rochelle Sherman <rsherm@optonline.net>

**Sent:** Friday, January 7, 2022 7:06 AM

**To:** 'submissions@nyirc.gov' <submissions@nyirc.gov>

**Subject:** Preserving Westchester's Voice in NY's Congressional, State and Assembly Maps

It is vital to the democratic interests of all Westchester Residents that Westchester, which is not within the New York City boundaries and subject to different rules and taxation, have its own representation in government. Splitting the Congressional district dilutes and undermines the democratic representation of Westchester residents. Last year's public hearings demonstrated that residents of New Rochelle were not supportive of linking New Rochelle and Queens. The gerrymandering that ties Westchester to The Bronx and Queens undermines the democratic process for Westchester residents. The interests of Westchester residents differ from residents within the Bronx and Queens. Linking our interests effectively cancels out the representation of all Westchester Residents.

I own properties in both New Rochelle and Queens and I will assert that the two areas have little in common other than being in New York State.

I urge you to take action to ensure that Westchester County not be unduly divided.

Yours truly,

Rochelle Sherman  
149 Wykagyl Terrace  
New Rochelle, NY 10804

## Columbia County Redistricting

Stephanie Sussman <stephitwo@gmail.com>

Fri 1/7/2022 10:23 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Commissioners:

As final redistricting plans are being made, please keep Columbia County whole. Dividing our County will dilute our representation and undermine our ability to advocate for our County's needs. We are stronger and better together.

Thank you for your consideration.

Stephanie Sussman

Resident of Claverack, Columbia County, NY

## **Columbia County Redistricting**

Stephanie Sussman <stephitwo@gmail.com>

Fri 1/7/2022 10:25 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

To the Commissioners:

Columbia County should be part of a contiguous Congressional district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties when redistricted. We are neither urban nor suburban--we belong as a unified Columbia County community with neighboring counties--Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster and Greene.

Thank you for your consideration.

Stephanie Sussman

Resident of Claverack, Columbia County, NY

## Columbia County Redistricting

Stephanie Sussman <stephitwo@gmail.com>

Fri 1/7/2022 10:27 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Dear Commissioners:

Please preserve Columbia County as a unified community of interest with our neighboring counties. We share similar agricultural, historic, artistic and economic challenges and opportunities with Dutchess, Ulster, Rensselaer, and Greene Counties as part of a Mid-Hudson Valley Region. Dividing Columbia County or separating us from this region would impact the residents who want to share our rich heritage and build for the future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Stephanie Sussman

Resident of Claverack, Columbia County, NY

## New Congressional, State and Assembly Maps -- Westchester's position

Steven Smith <stevenjsmith@yahoo.com>

Fri 1/7/2022 1:08 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Cc: info@latfor.state.ny.us <info@latfor.state.ny.us>; biaggi@nysenate.gov <biaggi@nysenate.gov>; senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov <senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov>; smayer@nysenate.gov <smayer@nysenate.gov>; scousins@nysenate.gov <scousins@nysenate.gov>; reichlin@nysenate.gov <reichlin@nysenate.gov>; harckham@nysenate.gov <harckham@nysenate.gov>; PaulinA@nyassembly.gov <PaulinA@nyassembly.gov>; PretloJ@nyassembly.gov <PretloJ@nyassembly.gov>; SayeghN@nyassembly.gov <SayeghN@nyassembly.gov>; OtisS@nyassembly.gov <OtisS@nyassembly.gov>; AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov <AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov>; BurdickC@nyassembly.gov <BurdickC@nyassembly.gov>; ByrneK@nyassembly.gov <ByrneK@nyassembly.gov>; GalefS@nyassembly.gov <GalefS@nyassembly.gov>

Dear Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission:

It is my understanding that the Commission charged with redistricting has deadlocked and has not made a bi-partisan recommendation to the Legislature. It is also my understanding that both maps voted on by the Commission would have denied Westchester residents a voice because they combined the County with parts of the Bronx and/or Queens.

You now have the opportunity to remedy the situation and give Westchester a voice by including it in an all-suburban district (standalone or with Putnam County).

What's more, you have an opportunity to listen to the many constituents whose voice was not heard when they attempted to participate in the process: The Commission asked Westchester residents what they thought about being subsumed in a district with the Bronx or Queens and the response was unanimous that such a district would be highly undesirable.

I look to you to devise and approve a map that recognizes that the concerns and needs of Westchester residents are different than those of NYC residents.

The Bronx and Queens — integral parts of New York City — have a unique character, infrastructure and needs compared to Westchester. These very different geographies can not be represented by one person.

The top 5 or 10 concerns of my fellow Westchester residents, and our needs on common issues are different than those of people who live in the Bronx or Queens. The terms housing, infrastructure, and mass transit, for example, have a very different meaning to people in Westchester than they do for people in the Bronx and Queens. (This difference priorities and needs was evident in the past year as Congressman Bowman, my Congressional Representative, seems to have done a good job on issues important to people in the Bronx while mis-representing me on many issues.)

I would be happy to discuss this ... and I hop your decision brings back representation to Westchester resident.

Thank you,

Steve Smith

335 Daisy Farms Drive  
Scarsdale, NY 10583

## Fwd: Plan Proposal Letter

Ahsia Badi <badia@nyirc.gov>

Mon 1/10/2022 9:31 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

 1 attachments (495 KB)

Redistricting Commission Letter.pdf;

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Douglas Breakell <breakelld@nyirc.gov>  
**Date:** January 7, 2022 at 11:45:43 AM EST  
**To:** Ahsia Badi <badia@nyirc.gov>, Danielle Futia <futiad@nyirc.gov>  
**Subject: FW: Plan Proposal Letter**

Sent from Mail for Windows

**From:** Joseph, Nick  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 6, 2022 3:13 PM  
**To:** Douglas Breakell; Karen Blatt  
**Subject:** Plan Proposal Letter

Please see the attached letter from the Leadership of the Dutchess County Legislature.

**Nick Joseph**

Assistant to the Chairman  
Dutchess County Legislature  
22 Market Street  
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601  
(845) 486-2103



*Dutchess County Legislature*  
22 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

January 6, 2022

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission  
David Imamura, Chair  
Jack Martins, Vice Chair

Dear Chair Imamura and Vice Chair Martins:

We are writing today to address Plan A for Congressional, State Senate, and State Assembly and the districts contained therein as they relate to the County of Dutchess.

In Congressional Plan A, 95% (273,750 people) of Dutchess is in one Congressional District and only 5% (17,500 people) is included in a separate district. Dutchess can be kept whole in one Congressional District within the legally allowed deviation. Removing only two towns from the rest of Dutchess would adversely harm those residents by dividing our community and having separate Congressional representatives.

Dutchess has 290,583 residents (adjusted by incarcerated persons) and the average Senate District is roughly 317,000 persons. In State Senate Plan A, despite having enough population for 91% of a Senate District, Dutchess is sliced into three separate districts. Currently, two Senate Districts cover parts of Dutchess and the proposed map unnecessarily adds a third. One proposed district would include the majority of Dutchess residents in a district with four other counties. Additionally, District 51 as proposed is non-contiguous as it is not connected via roadway. This is a blatant attempt at subverting good government practices.


In State Assembly Plan A, District 106 inexplicitly is non-contiguous and does so only to include 10,000 people. A representative must not leave their district in order to reach another part of their district.


All three proposed plans represent a stunning lack of understanding of the local communities of interest, geography, and good government practices.

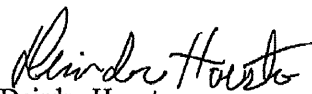
The County of Dutchess must remain whole in Congressional and State Senate districts and divisions should be minimized in State Assembly districts.

We look forward to seeing these issues corrected. Thank you for your time and understanding.

Sincerely,

  
Gregg Pulver  
Chairman of the Legislature  
Pine Plains, Stanford, Milan, North East

  
William Truitt  
Majority Leader  
Hyde Park and Town of Poughkeepsie

  
Deirdre Houston  
Assistant Majority Leader  
Washington, Amenia, Pleasant Valley

COUNTY OF DUTCHESS  
STATE OF NEW YORK

**FW: NYS Independent Redistricting Commission Letter**

Ahsia Badi <badia@nyirc.gov>

Mon 1/10/2022 9:49 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

**From:** Douglas Breakell <breakell@nyirc.gov>

**Sent:** Friday, January 7, 2022 11:45 AM

**To:** Danielle Futia <futia@nyirc.gov>; Ahsia Badi <badia@nyirc.gov>

**Cc:** Karen Blatt <blatt@nyirc.gov>

**Subject:** FW: NYS Independent Redistricting Commission Letter

Sent from Mail for Windows

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**From:** Joyce Longi

**Sent:** Friday, January 7, 2022 10:52 AM

**To:** Douglas Breakell

**Subject:** NYS Independent Redistricting Commission Letter

Good Morning,

Town of Poughkeepsie Supervisor, Jon J. Baisley requested me to send you the attached letter for your consideration.

Thank you.

Regards,

*Joyce Longi*

Joyce Longi

Assistant to Supervisor

Town of Poughkeepsie

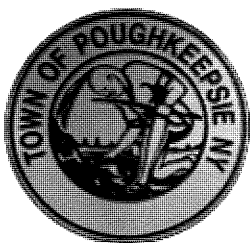
One Overocker Road

Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

[jlongi@townofpoughkeepsie-ny.gov](mailto:jlongi@townofpoughkeepsie-ny.gov)

845-485-3607

845-485-3701 fax





# Town of Poughkeepsie

Supervisor Jon J. Baisley

[jbaisley@townofpoughkeepsie-ny.gov](mailto:jbaisley@townofpoughkeepsie-ny.gov)

1 Overocker Road  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

845-485-3607 Phone  
845-485-3701 Fax

**January 7, 2022**

**New York State Independent Redistricting Commission  
Douglas Breakell, Co-Executive Director**

Dear Redistricting Commission:

My name is Jon J. Baisley and I am the Supervisor of the Town of Poughkeepsie in Dutchess County. I am elected to this seat representing the voters of the 41<sup>st</sup> Senate District.

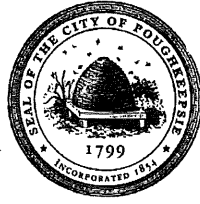
Dutchess County is a community that functions successfully given its unique demographic, cultural diversity and economically driven citizens.

I appreciate the Commission's willingness to accept my comments and recommendations regarding re-districting.

The Town of Poughkeepsie is the largest municipality in Dutchess County. The leaders of the Town of Poughkeepsie believe that it is in the best interest of its citizens to have Dutchess County remain consistent, whole and held together. Municipalities on the East side of the Hudson River are distinctly different than those on the West side. Our statistical data and the particular groups of citizens' within it, example a thriving and progressive community. Dutchess County's needs are best met in keeping the East side of the river faction intact. Several municipalities in Dutchess County share services, working seamlessly as an undivided group, jointly sharing community values, goals, economies and interests.

Best Regards,

Jon J. Baisley  
Supervisor, Town of Poughkeepsie



# The City of Poughkeepsie

New York

Robert G. Rolison  
Mayor

Marc S. Nelson  
City Administrator

January 10, 2022

Dear New York State Independent Redistricting Commission,

I am writing to you today in regard to your important work and as the elected City of Poughkeepsie Mayor in the 41<sup>st</sup> Senate District.

I recognize the complex choices you are all facing in your endeavors, and I want to express how critically important I believe it is to keep the City of Poughkeepsie -- the Dutchess County seat of government -- with the other municipalities in Dutchess County as you make decisions on Senate districts.

The public is often confused by the various levels of government and, at times, understandably expresses frustration with why representative lines are not more in sync with geographical ones or with other government boundaries.

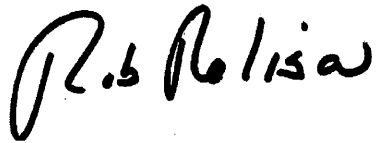
Undoubtedly, having all layers of government working more effectively to deliver services through unified, rather than patchwork, efforts should be of paramount concern and interest for the public good.

For these reasons, I ask you not to sever the county into different Senate districts, and I surely believe the county seat should, at the very least, be located in the Senate district containing the majority of municipalities in Dutchess County.

Any other decision would defy common sense, needlessly cause public confusion and make it more difficult and cumbersome for state representatives to coordinate efforts with county and municipal leaders on the ground.

I trust you will take these points into consideration. Please feel free to contact me at (845) 451-4073 or [mayor@cityofpoughkeepsie.com](mailto:mayor@cityofpoughkeepsie.com) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R.G. Rolison". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mayor Robert G. Rolison

**Unfair**

Josephia Futran <josey423@optonline.net>

Mon 1/10/2022 9:35 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Dear Members of the Independent  
Redistricting Commission:

Now that the Commission has failed to propose a single set of maps endorsed by the requisite majority of its members, the New York State Legislature is likely to reject the Commission's first proposals. As a concerned resident of Westchester County, I urge you to recognize the importance of maintaining Westchester's independent voice and not having it split apart and diluted by surrounding areas of New York City. The City of New York is a unique urban center with an infrastructure of its own, like none other in the state, and a set of issues and concerns that are wholly distinct from suburban communities like Westchester. If the Commission is given the opportunity to propose a second set of maps, it should use that opportunity to unite areas of Westchester County.

It appears that both maps under consideration would continue to artificially link portions of the north Bronx with portions of Westchester in one district, while drawing another district that would link Westchester with portions of both the Bronx and Queens. These maps are fundamentally flawed because they dilute the voice of both the suburban community in Westchester (and Putnam counties) and the New York City community in the Bronx and Queens. The district linking Westchester with both the Bronx and Queens is particularly unfair and unacceptable because it divides communities in three counties, limiting the

residents of New Rochelle testified before the Independent Redistricting Commission, several were asked by Commissioners whether they would want a district connecting New Rochelle to Queens. None said yes, yet the Commission still drew a Queens to New Rochelle district in both of its proposals. Rather than having District 14 be contained entirely in New York City and District 16 be the only district to cross the Westchester/Bronx border, as was proposed in the earlier Names and Letters draft plans, the Commission inexplicably decided to cross the county border twice. This decision divides communities throughout the region and would especially dilute the voice of the community of southern Westchester centered around Scarsdale and northern New Rochelle. This area has shared infrastructure and institutions, and both proposals would split this community into not two but three different Congressional Districts.

When the lines were last redrawn, New Rochelle, Scarsdale and other parts of Westchester were joined with the Bronx. Now, ten years later, the Commission's proposals would further dilute Westchester's voice. I urge you to reassess the Congressional map and take action to ensure that Westchester County is not unduly divided.

Thank you.



# DEMOCRACY MATTERS

January 11, 2022

To the New York State Independent Redistricting Commission,

I am writing to you in my capacity as Executive Director of Democracy Matters, a non-partisan, non-profit organization with active chapters in both Dutchess and Ulster Counties. I am aware that the New York State legislature voted on January 10<sup>th</sup> to reject the most recent maps proposed by this commission. Because of that I am submitting this public comment that I hope will inform your future redistricting proposals.

I want to express my strong concerns about the problematic implications of previous maps you have proposed affecting the 19<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of New York. Previous maps have violated the very strong community of interest that exists among the Mid-Hudson Valley communities on the Hudson River.

The election integrity of residents in these communities must be protected in your proposals for redistricting. First, the Ulster County river communities that are now included in New York's 19<sup>th</sup> Congressional District must not be divided. The division of Ulster County river communities in previous maps ignored the clear evidence that people living in these towns constitute a single community. In addition and just as important, any proposed map must recognize the strong ties between Ulster river towns and their sister communities on the Dutchess County side of the river. A long-standing community of interest exists between Ulster and Dutchess river communities.

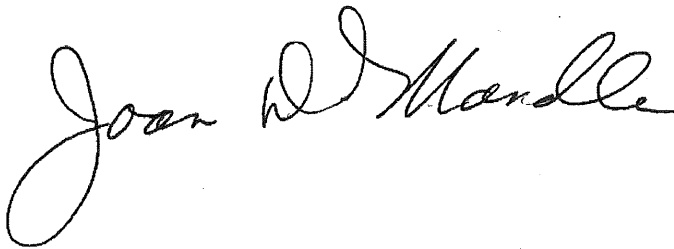
In short, I urge you to ensure that the Ulster river communities remain intact, together in one Congressional district as they are at present, and that that district also include the Dutchess communities across the river, including the cities of Poughkeepsie and Beacon.

I urge the Independent Redistricting Commission to honor the common interests and multiple connections among these Hudson river communities

by proposed redistricting maps that unify these citizens' Congressional representation in a single district. Democracy demands that the Mid-Hudson river communities on both sides of the Hudson River be part of a single Congressional district.

Thank you for your consideration and your action to ensure democratic representation for people in the Mid-Hudson Valley.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan D. Mandle". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the "Sincerely yours," text.

Joan D. Mandle, Ph.D.  
Executive Director, Democracy Matters  
201 Riverview Drive Poughkeepsie NY 12601

## Attached Seen Cousins et al

tzipporah batami <tzipporahbatami@gmail.com>

Tue 1/11/2022 2:00 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

I also a registered voter in New Rochelle and I want this district left intact as a suburb because I live in Westchester Cty NOT NYC. Thanks so much

Faye Teichman

## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 1/11/2022 5:22 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Uri
- **Last Name:** Hoch
- **Email:** urimaxx@gmail.com
- **Description:** Proposed Congressional Map of New York *shapefile*
  - Good compactness score • Good minority score. Maintains number of majority minority districts from last census map: 3 black and 3 hispanic majorities and 1 very strong asian plurality • Good splitting score with many counties kept intact • Creates 12 competitive districts, 5 of which are highly competitive. • Populations do not deviate from ideal population by more than .06%.
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Long Island, Mid-Hudson, North Country/ Mohawk Valley, Southern Tier, Central New York, Finger Lakes, Western New York, Bronx, Staten Island, Capital Region

This e-mail has been automatically generated

Date: November 29, 2021

To: New York State Independent Redistricting Commission  
David Imamura, Chair and Jack Martins, Vice Chair

From: Mid Hudson Citizens, John Brigham and Susan Ball

Re: Defending the Mid Hudson Valley as a Community

My wife and I work with a group of citizens who live between Albany and Poughkeepsie. The Mid Hudson Valley is our home. This place has been in New York's 19th Congressional district for the last ten years. We know the district will change, but we want the Redistricting Commission to recognize our distinctive region with its cultural institutions, local agriculture, and our historic ex-urban character.

**Agriculture:** Some of us farm and all of us love what we get from our local farms. We care about local agriculture and believe that our agriculture, while mostly made up of small farms, is innovative, and leads the nation in "biodynamic" methods. And, because we have major population centers nearby we have many teaching farms like Katchkie Farm in Kinderhook and Churchtown Dairy near Hudson. In these and other respects, our farmers are our neighbors. We want their food in our schools and we love living surrounded by these sources of life.

**Cultural/Historical.** The Mid Hudson Valley is a particularly rich cultural environment. It is the center of the first great American art movement, the Hudson River School. Thomas Cole started it in Catskill and Frederick Church developed it beautifully across the river. These and other artists have treasured the distinctive character of our region while making it an important tourist destination. The region has been home to stately residences of notable New Yorkers such as Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and our only non native English speaking President, Martin Van Buren. Culture and history abounds from Woodstock and the Catskills on one side of the river to Edna St. Vincent Millay's Steepletop and Bard College on the other. Bard marks the center of our region while RPI, Vassar and Marist anchor the borders to the North and South.

**Ex/Mini Urban:** We are a land of small, largely owner operated businesses, that is close to countryside, the mountains, and our magnificent river. Hence, as you will understand well, we are, geographically, a large district. And, we are aware that neither our art nor our farms would exist as they do without proximity to the city, but we are not "the City." We have small urban areas. Their character is different from the cities and suburbs to our North and South. This is because our cities are small, distinctive, and close to the land.

So, we are not in or of the "Capital District," though in the North we can see its spires. And, we are not a suburb of New York City, though in the South, the suburbs are not far away. As our life since the pandemic shows, we are a distinctive place of towns between the City and the North Country and we do not want to be overwhelmed by the vastness that threatens our distinctive character.

Sincerely,

John Brigham and Susan Ball  
Concerned Citizens of the Mid Hudson Valley

cc: Karen Blatt [blattk@nyirc.gov](mailto:blattk@nyirc.gov) and Douglas Breakell [breakelld@nyirc.gov](mailto:breakelld@nyirc.gov)  
Co-Executive Directors

Prof. Ivelisse Cuevas-Molina, Member of the Commission

## Redistricting

Mike Spano <mike.spano@yonkersny.gov>

Wed 1/12/2022 2:29 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Cc: 'info@latfor.state.ny.us' <info@latfor.state.ny.us>; 'biaggi@nysenate.gov' <biaggi@nysenate.gov>; 'senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov' <senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov>; 'smayer@nysenate.gov' <smayer@nysenate.gov>; 'scousins@nysenate.gov' <scousins@nysenate.gov>; 'reichlin@nysenate.gov' <reichlin@nysenate.gov>; 'harckham@nysenate.gov' <harckham@nysenate.gov>; 'PaulinA@nyassembly.gov' <PaulinA@nyassembly.gov>; 'PretloJ@nyassembly.gov' <PretloJ@nyassembly.gov>; 'SayeghN@nyassembly.gov' <SayeghN@nyassembly.gov>; 'OtisS@nyassembly.gov' <OtisS@nyassembly.gov>; 'AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov' <AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov>; 'BurdickC@nyassembly.gov' <BurdickC@nyassembly.gov>; 'ByrneK@nyassembly.gov' <ByrneK@nyassembly.gov>; 'GalefS@nyassembly.gov' <GalefS@nyassembly.gov>

Members of the Commission and Members of the Westchester Delegation:

I recall when I was a member of the State Assembly we were faced with the possibility of dividing Yonkers into several Assembly districts such that there would not be a single district wholly contained within the City. With the help of many members, including some of those receiving this message now, we succeeded in rejecting that plan in favor of one that kept at least one district wholly within the City. We believed it was essential that the City would have at least one representative who would represent the interests of the City only, and that the City's voice would not be diminished.

Now, as you consider Congressional redistricting, the same can be said for Westchester County. There should be at least one Congressional District that is wholly within the borders of Westchester County. New York City has many members who represent portions of that City, and that City only. Fairness demands that Westchester have a least one member who represents the County, and the County only.

Notwithstanding the efforts of those members of Congress who have represented portions of Westchester for the past ten years, our voice has been diminished simply due to the nature of the districts. Now there is an opportunity to redress the balance and make things right.

I urge that the State Legislature adopt a map that has at least one Congressional District wholly within Westchester. It is entirely possible to accomplish this, and now is the time to do so. Although Westchester shares much in common with our neighbors to the south, north and west, we also have many unique needs and characteristics. Those needs can best be met by having a representative who answers to Westchester County, and who must not be expected to straddle the needs of both Westchester and the nation's biggest city to our south.

Sincerely,

**MIKE SPANO**  
Mayor, City of Yonkers

## Fwd: Proposed redistricting of Westchester County

Miranda Goodwin Raab <goodwinraabm@nyirc.gov>

Wed 1/12/2022 10:51 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Karen Blatt <blattk@nyirc.gov>

**Date:** January 12, 2022 at 10:43:59 AM EST

**To:** Ahsia Badi <badia@nyirc.gov>, Patrick Cameron <cameronp@nyirc.gov>, Danielle Futia <futiad@nyirc.gov>, Miranda Goodwin Raab <goodwinraabm@nyirc.gov>

**Cc:** Douglas Breakell <breakelld@nyirc.gov>

**Subject: FW: Proposed redistricting of Westchester County**

**From:** Deborah Zwany <deborah.zwany@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 2:13 PM

**To:** Karen Blatt <blattk@nyirc.gov>

**Subject:** Proposed redistricting of Westchester County

Dear Co-Executive Director of the  
Independent Redistricting Commission Blatt:

The office of my State Senator, Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, suggested I contact you with my views and concerns about the proposed redistricting of Westchester County. The proposal to break up Westchester and combine different parts of Westchester with parts of New York City Counties will not be representative of the needs of Westchester or the different counties of New York City.

Now that the Commission has failed to propose a single set of maps endorsed by the requisite majority of its members, the New York State Legislature is likely to reject the Commission's first proposals. As a concerned resident of Westchester County, I urge you to recognize the importance of maintaining Westchester's independent voice and not having it split apart and diluted by surrounding areas of New York City. The City of New York is a unique urban center with an infrastructure of its own, like none other in the state, and a set of issues and concerns that are wholly distinct from suburban communities like Westchester. If the Commission is given the opportunity to propose a second set of maps, it should use that opportunity to unite areas of Westchester County.

It appears that both maps under consideration would continue to artificially link portions of the north Bronx with portions of Westchester in one district, while drawing another district that would link Westchester with portions of both the Bronx and Queens. These maps are fundamentally flawed because they dilute the voice of both the suburban community in Westchester (and Putnam counties) and the New York City community in the Bronx and Queens. The district linking Westchester with both the Bronx and Queens is particularly unfair



and unacceptable because it divides communities in **three** counties, limiting the ability of residents in each part of the district to have an elected official who can effectively represent their interests.

During last year's public hearings, when residents of New Rochelle testified before the Independent Redistricting Commission, several were asked by Commissioners whether they would want a district connecting New Rochelle to Queens. None said yes, yet the Commission still drew a Queens to New Rochelle district in both of its proposals. Rather than having District 14 be contained entirely in New York City and District 16 be the only district to cross the Westchester/Bronx border, as was proposed in the earlier Names and Letters draft plans, the Commission inexplicably decided to cross the county border twice. This decision divides communities throughout the region and would especially dilute the voice of the community of southern Westchester centered around Scarsdale and northern New Rochelle. This area has shared infrastructure and institutions, and both proposals would split this community into not two but three different Congressional Districts.

When the lines were last redrawn, New Rochelle, Scarsdale and other parts of Westchester were joined with the Bronx. Now, ten years later, the Commission's proposals would further dilute Westchester's voice. I urge you to reassess the Congressional map and take action to ensure that Westchester County is not unduly divided.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Respectfully,

Deborah B. Zwany  
45 Wykagyl Terrace  
New Rochelle, NY 10804

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 1/12/2022 5:47 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Mary
- **Last Name:** Coffey
- **Email:** marycoffey0@gmail.com
- **Body:** North Winton Village, in the City of Rochester, is an inclusive neighborhood for all including :cultural, ethnic ,racial , age, gender , sexual orientation, religious beliefs and many different economic levels. We are all volunteers and have worked hard , for many years to raise the quality of life for all the citizens of North Winton Village.

Our boundaries extend North to East Irondequoit, South to University Ave., East to Winton Road, and West to Culver Rd. The Board of North Winton Village stands firm that we will not be divided especially by government. We want to stay as a whole in Assembly District 138.

We thank you for looking at and correcting this oversight which divides our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

The Board of North Winton Village Our North boundary line is E. Irondequoit

Mary Coffey - 585 259 5529 " government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth" , Abraham Lincoln

- **Categories Selected:** Finger Lakes, Western New York


This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Fwd: congressional seat Ruach

David Blumenthal <blumentd@gmail.com>

Wed 1/12/2022 9:49 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

 1 attachments (57 KB)

Petition re redistricting.PDF;

I am resending this to you as I didn't include this email address on the original email.

Thank you,

David Blumenthal

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **David Blumenthal** <blumentd@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 9:45 PM

Subject: Fwd: congressional seat Ruach

To: <submissions@nycirc.gov>

Cc: <biaggi@nysenate.gov>, <senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov>, <smayer@nysenate.gov>, <scousins@nysenate.gov>, <reichlin@nysenate.gov>, <harckham@nysenate.gov>, <PaulinA@nyassembly.gov>, <PretloJ@nyassembly.gov>, <SayeghN@nyassembly.gov>, <OtisS@nyassembly.gov>, <AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov>, <BurdickC@nyassembly.gov>, <ByrneK@nyassembly.gov>, <GalefS@nyassembly.gov>, <info@latfor.state.ny.us>

I was given the attached petition to submit to you regarding the ongoing redistricting discussion. The signators are senior citizens who live in my neighborhood. Thanks for all that you do on our behalf.

Respectfully,

David Blumenthal  
New Rochelle (10804)

We the undersigned, concur with the following document and we feel strongly that the redistricting that is occurring allows our area to be included in a Westchester centric one where our collective voices and interests are heard and represented.

Dear Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission:

Now that the Commission has failed to propose a single set of maps endorsed by the requisite majority of its members, the New York State Legislature is likely to reject the Commission's first proposals. As a concerned resident of Westchester County, I urge you to recognize the importance of maintaining Westchester's independent voice and not having it split apart and diluted by surrounding areas of New York City. The City of New York is a unique urban center with an infrastructure of its own, like none other in the state, and a set of issues and concerns that are wholly distinct from suburban communities like Westchester. If the Commission is given the opportunity to propose a second set of maps, it should use that opportunity to unite areas of Westchester County.

It appears that both maps under consideration would continue to artificially link portions of the north Bronx with portions of Westchester in one district, while drawing another district that would link Westchester with portions of both the Bronx and Queens. These maps are fundamentally flawed because they dilute the voice of both the suburban community in Westchester (and Putnam counties) and the New York City community in the Bronx and Queens. The district linking Westchester with both the Bronx and Queens is particularly unfair and unacceptable because it divides communities in three counties, limiting the ability of residents in each part of the district to have an elected official who can effectively represent their interests.

During last year's public hearings, when residents of New Rochelle testified before the Independent Redistricting Commission, several were asked by Commissioners whether they would want a district connecting New Rochelle to Queens. None said yes, yet the Commission still drew a Queens to New Rochelle district in both of its proposals. Rather than having District 14 be contained entirely in New York City and District 16 be the only district to cross the Westchester/Bronx border, as was proposed in the earlier Names and Letters draft plans, the Commission inexplicably decided to cross the county border twice. This decision divides communities throughout the region and would especially dilute the voice of the community of southern Westchester centered around Scarsdale and northern New Rochelle. This area has shared infrastructure and institutions, and both proposals would split this community into not two but three different Congressional Districts.

When the lines were last redrawn, New Rochelle, Scarsdale and other parts of Westchester were joined with the Bronx. Now, ten years later, the Commission's proposals would further dilute Westchester's voice. I urge you to reassess the Congressional map and take action to ensure that Westchester County is not unduly divided.

Name:                      Address:                      Telephone Number:                      Email Address

- 1) Uwona Koppel 34 BERTIAN Rd New Rochelle NY  
914 636-5794 SOUTH EUN MANSIONS@aol.com
- 2) A. I. ANDREEN 1279 North Ave, NR 10804, 646-245-3790 aandreen@  
JUDY SCHWARTZ 1255 North Ave A3D NY 10804  
judyschwartz@aol.com
- 3) JUDITH SCHWARTZ 1255 North Ave A3D NY 10804
- 4) SHARON KOUTCHER 914-325-4123 szkoutcher@gmail.com
- 5) Helen Nyer
- 6) Sue Moskovich 340 Oxford Rd.
- 7) ANITA ANITAL 954-1118 - ANITAANITAL  
COGMA, I
- 8) Ruth Freeman 914-235-2689 rfreeman@montesiano.org
- 9) EUGENE WILK 12 DISBROW LANE (914) 268-5968 eugwilk@aol.com
- 10) DEBORAH WILK 12 DISBROW LANE (914) 652-3957 debwilk18@AOL.COM
- 11) Abraham Beer 340 North Avenue New Rochelle  
914-576-3996

12. Susan Allif To Berrian Rd 914 576-1327 Susan@ADL.com

13. Scottie Vogel 171 TRENOR DR. N.R. 10804

14. Steven + Lisa Solinga 44 Rose Hill Ave. New Rochelle, NY 10804

15. TRIPPIA STEINMETZ 914 632-1155 12-13 HORTON RD NYC

16. MARJORI SODDEN 1250 N. AVE NEW ROCHELLE 10804

17. Aviva Halpert 83 Secord Rd New Rochelle 10804

18. JONATHAN HARPERT 83 Secord Rd New Rochelle 10804

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**ULSTER COUNTY EXECUTIVE**  
244 Fair St., P.O. Box 1800, Kingston, New York 12402  
Telephone: 845-340-3800  
Fax: 845-334-5724

**PATRICK K. RYAN**  
*County Executive*

**CHRISTOPHER KELLY**  
*Deputy County Executive*



**MARC RIDER**  
*Deputy County Executive*

**JOHANNA CONTRERAS**  
*Deputy County Executive*

Dear New York State Independent Redistricting Commission:

I have the honor of serving as the Executive of Ulster County, a place that my family has called home for five generations. I am writing to you today to discuss the county in relation to redistricting. As you are aware, the New York State Legislature voted on January 10<sup>th</sup> to reject the redistricting maps as proposed by the commission. I am deeply concerned about the prospect of Ulster County being split between Congressional Districts as proposed in your previous drafts.

Since 1840, Ulster County has remained in a single Congressional District in all but one round of redistricting. Undoubtedly, this has consistently happened because previous State Legislatures and State Courts have acknowledged the uniqueness and interconnectedness of the community and the importance of it remaining within a single district.

Splitting Ulster County, which has consistently and clearly been identified as a community of interest, would have a multitude of negative impacts in representation, drawing arbitrary and harmful divisions between communities that currently share school districts, businesses and economic zones, water and sewer districts, fire and emergency services, roads and other infrastructure, drinking water, and much more.

I am particularly concerned that our critical efforts to recover and rebuild after the COVID-19 pandemic will be negatively impacted if the county were to be split across districts. For example, we have finalized plans to utilize \$34 million in federal relief funds that were allocated directly to the county, enabling us to rebuild our economy, provide quality housing for all residents, and address major gaps in our mental health and addiction recovery systems. The federal government's decision to provide these funds directly to the county further reinforces the centrality of the county as an important and single community of interest. Splitting Ulster County across two districts would clearly undercut and harm these efforts.

This dynamic is similar across a myriad of vital programs and services — many of them fully or partially federally-funded — that are administered at the county level. Splitting the county across multiple Congressional Districts would negatively impact the quality and accessibility of a wide range of services for hundreds of thousands of people, from healthcare (e.g. Medicaid) to workforce development (e.g. WIOA programs) to housing and economic development (e.g. CDBG). In particular, the proposal to split Kingston and Ellenville — the two municipalities in



the county with the highest proportion of Black and Latino residents, and also the highest levels of poverty — would significantly harm our coordinated efforts to serve these often underrepresented and underserved communities.

In addition, I am very concerned about the prospect of splitting the Hudson River towns on both sides of the river (especially the river towns in Ulster and Dutchess counties), which have a centuries-long tradition of connectivity and unique characteristics that require unified representation. From our shared economies and universities, to the two major bridges (and the Walkway Over the Hudson) directly linking the counties, to the “Hudson 7” communities that collectively draw drinking water for more than 100,000 people from the Hudson River, these towns clearly constitute a community of interest.

In summary, any future Congressional Districts must maintain the integrity of the community of interest in Ulster County, and must make every effort to also incorporate the river towns on the eastern side of the Hudson River in Dutchess County. Dividing Kingston from Esopus, Highland from Poughkeepsie, and Ellenville from Rochester would ignore the clear reality on the ground in the everyday lives of residents, have negative impacts on the quality of service delivery for hundreds of thousands of people in the region, and run contrary to our democratic principles of fair and equal representation.

In conclusion, I strongly urge the New York State Independent Redistricting Commission to recognize nearly two centuries of historical precedent along with uniquely important community characteristic needs in keeping Ulster County intact when it adapts new Congressional Districts. I appreciate your consideration in this matter and I offer myself or my office if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'PK Ryan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patrick K. Ryan  
Ulster County Executive

**FW: redistricting**

Ahsia Badi <badia@nyirc.gov>

Thu 1/13/2022 7:57 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

**From:** Mary Coffey <marycoffey0@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 6:04 PM

**To:** Ahsia Badi <badia@nyirc.gov>

**Subject:** redistricting

North Winton Village, in the City of Rochester, is an inclusive neighborhood for all including :cultural, ethnic ,racial , age, gender , sexual orientation, religious beliefs and many different economic levels. We are all volunteers and have worked hard , for many years to raise the quality of life for all the citizens of North Winton Village.

Our boundaries extend north to East Irondequicit, south to University Ave., east to Winton Road, and west to Culver Rd. The Board of North Winton Village stands firm that we will not be divided especially by government. We want to stay as a whole in our District .

We thank you for looking at and correcting this oversight which divides our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

**The Board of North Winton Village**

***“ government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth” , Abraham Lincoln***

**Mary Coffey- 585-259-5529**

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

REV. MARK E. BLUE  
President  
Buffalo, New York Branch Chartered



395 E. Ferry Street  
Buffalo, New York  
14208-1504

Phone (716) 884-7242  
Fax (716) 884-7243

1915

January 11, 2022

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

**RE: CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING FOR BUFFALO/NIAGARA REGION**

Honorable Commissioners:

As you know, many community organizations and government leaders reached out to your commission in the wake of your release last year of preliminary congressional maps. In the Buffalo-Niagara region, much of the attention was focused in a few distinct areas:

1. Strong opposition to any re-establishment of a district connecting any municipality within the Buffalo/Niagara Region to the city of Rochester and/or its surrounding communities (known in its 2003-2012 iteration as the "Earmuff" district); and
2. Strong support for the city of Buffalo to remain united in one single congressional district along with immediately surrounding suburban communities; and
3. Strong support for Niagara Falls to remain included within a district with the city of Buffalo.

On behalf of the Buffalo NAACP, I would like to offer my sincere thanks to commission members for listening to community input from Western New York. Despite not reaching agreement on a single set of maps, commissioners from both political parties proposed a map for the 26<sup>th</sup> Congressional District which met the above criteria.

As you know, the best congressional districts are compact and contiguous, combining residents of shared interests and communities of concern. The maps released on January 3, 2022, meet this objective very well for the 26<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. Moreover, these maps, by maintaining inclusion of the city of Niagara Falls as well as the entirety of the cities of Buffalo and Lackawanna along with other first-ring Buffalo suburbs, ensure the maximum voting strength of persons of color.

Following this week's rejection of the January 3 maps by the State Legislature, we know that your commission will have another opportunity to draw maps for further legislative consideration. The Buffalo NAACP implores you to draw a map once again for the 26<sup>th</sup> Congressional District that meets the three objectives numbered above, maintaining one compact, densely urban/suburban district that combines Niagara Falls and Buffalo, and does not connect the Buffalo/Niagara region to any areas in Monroe County. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Mark Blue*

President, Buffalo NAACP

cc: Hon. Carl Heastie, Speaker, NYS Assembly (NYS Capitol, Albany, NY 12248)  
Hon. Andrea Stewart Cousins, Maj Leader, NYS Senate (NYS Capitol, Albany, NY 12248)  
Legislative Task Force on Redistricting, (250 Broadway, Ste. 2100, New York, NY 10007)



## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 1/13/2022 1:03 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Joseph
- **Last Name:** Anderson
- **Email:** Famijos@icloud.com
- **Description:** Has 8 Even Districts, 18 Democratic (in combined 2016/2020 PVI mode) 13 Majority-Minority Districts, according to districtbuilder.org (where I made it). Has a Population deviation tolerance of 5%.
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Manhattan

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 2:25 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Curtis
- **Last Name:** Eckley
- **Email:** curtiseckley@gmail.com
- **Body:** Either Beacon or Poughkeepsie should be in the 105th Assembly District. Currently, they are clumped together with Newburgh, across the Hudson River in another county, as their own district in the 104th Assembly District. This is a clearly case of gerrymandering, where the largest concentrations of Black voters in the Mid-Hudson region are grouped as one district, despite being in different counties.
- **Categories Selected:** State Assembly, Mid-Hudson

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**HISPANIC  
HERITAGE  
COUNCIL**  
of Western New York, Inc.

*Dedicated to preserving  
the history of Hispanics  
in Western New York for  
future generations.*

P.O. Box 361 | Buffalo, NY 14201 | 716-409-1111 (1449)

January 13, 2022

**Board of Directors**

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Ricardo Saeb, DMA

John Sanabria

**Legal Counsel**  
Arnold N. Zelman

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

**RE: CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING FOR BUFFALO/NIAGARA REGION**

Honorable Commissioners:

As you know, many community organizations and government leaders reached out to your commission in the wake of your release last year of preliminary congressional maps. In the Buffalo-Niagara region, much of the attention was focused in a few distinct areas:

1. Strong opposition to any re-establishment of a district connecting any municipality within the Buffalo/Niagara Region to the city of Rochester and/or its surrounding communities (known in its 2003-2012 iteration as the "Earmuff" district); and
2. Strong support for the city of Buffalo to remain united in one single congressional district along with immediately surrounding suburban communities; and
3. Strong support for Niagara Falls to remain included within a district with the city of Buffalo.

On behalf of the Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York Inc., I would like to offer my sincere thanks to commission members for listening to community input from Western New York. Despite not reaching agreement on a single set of maps, commissioners from both political parties proposed a map for the 26<sup>th</sup> Congressional District which met the above criteria.

As you know, the best congressional districts are compact and contiguous, combining residents of shared interests and communities of concern. The maps released on January 3, 2022 meet this objective very well for the 26<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. Moreover, these districts, by maintaining inclusion of the city of Niagara Falls as well as the entirety of the cities of Buffalo and Lackawanna along with other first-ring Buffalo suburbs, ensure the maximum voting strength of persons of color.

Following this week's rejection of the January 3 maps by the State Legislature, we know that your commission will have another opportunity to draw maps for further legislative consideration. The Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York Inc., strongly encourages you to draw a map once again for the 26<sup>th</sup> Congressional District that meets the three objectives numbered above, maintaining one compact, densely urban/suburban district that combines Niagara Falls and Buffalo, and does not connect the Buffalo/Niagara region to any areas in Monroe County. Thank you.

Sincerely,

President  
Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York Inc.

cc: Hon. Carl Heastie, Speaker, NYS Assembly (NYS Capitol, Albany, NY 12248)  
Hon. Andrea Stewart Cousins, Maj Leader, NYS Senate (NYS Capitol, Albany, NY 12248)  
Legislative Task Force on Redistricting, (250 Broadway, Ste. 2100, New York, NY 10007)

Please Note: We have registered with the New York State Attorney General's Charities Bureau (Reg. No. 42-75-45).  
Our annual CHAR500 was filed with the New York State Attorney General's Charities Bureau before its due date.  
You may obtain a copy of such annual report upon request from us by mail addressed to P.O. Box 361, Buffalo, NY 14201.  
You may also request a copy of such annual report from the Attorney General's Charities Bureau, 28 Liberty Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10271.

**Comment has been submitted**

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 11:36 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

**New York State Independent Redistricting Commission**

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Lisa
- **Last Name:** Copeland
- **Email:** lwcopeland@me.com
- **Body:** Dear Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission and New York State Legislature:

I am a concerned citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. I do not believe that a single Representative can adequately represent the diverse interests of three counties in a conglomeration of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14. I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission and continues to be, but I do not want the Commission to dilute any Westchester votes in this manner, and for the next ten years. This same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing.

Thank you. Lisa Copeland

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated



**Comment has been submitted**

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 12:12 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

**New York State Independent Redistricting Commission**

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Kate
- **Last Name:** Permut
- **Email:** katepermut@gmail.com
- **Body:** Dear IRC:

I am a citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens.

I do not believe that a single Representative can represent the diverse interests of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14.

I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission but I do not want the Commission to dilute Westchester votes in this manner for the next ten years.

Please note that this same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing. It is important that Westchester speak with one voice and our maps need to reflect that.

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Southern Tier

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 12:26 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Michael
- **Last Name:** Turek
- **Email:** michaelturek@gmail.com
- **Body:** Now that the Commission has failed to propose a single set of maps endorsed by the requisite majority of its members, the New York State Legislature is likely to reject the Commission's first proposals. As a concerned resident of Westchester County, I urge you to recognize the importance of maintaining Westchester's independent voice and not having it split apart and diluted by surrounding areas of New York City. The City of New York is a unique urban center with an infrastructure of its own, like none other in the state, and a set of issues and concerns that are wholly distinct from suburban communities like Westchester. If the Commission is given the opportunity to propose a second set of maps, it should use that opportunity to unite areas of Westchester County. It appears that both maps under consideration would continue to artificially link portions of the north Bronx with portions of Westchester in one district, while drawing another district that would link Westchester with portions of both the Bronx and Queens. These maps are fundamentally flawed because they dilute the voice of both the suburban community in Westchester (and Putnam counties) and the New York City community in the Bronx and Queens. The district linking Westchester with both the Bronx and Queens is particularly unfair and unacceptable because it divides communities in three counties, limiting the ability of residents in each part of the district to have an elected official who can effectively represent their interests.  
During last year's public hearings, when residents of New Rochelle testified before the Independent Redistricting Commission, several were asked by Commissioners whether they

would want a district connecting New Rochelle to Queens. None said yes, yet the Commission still drew a Queens to New Rochelle district in both of its proposals. Rather than having District 14 be contained entirely in New York City and District 16 be the only district to cross the Westchester/Bronx border, as was proposed in the earlier Names and Letters draft plans, the Commission inexplicably decided to cross the county border twice. This decision divides communities throughout the region and would especially dilute the voice of the community of southern Westchester centered around Scarsdale and northern New Rochelle. This area has shared infrastructure and institutions, and both proposals would split this community into not two but three different Congressional Districts. When the lines were last redrawn, New Rochelle, Scarsdale and other parts of Westchester were joined with the Bronx. Now, ten years later, the Commission's proposals would further dilute Westchester's voice. I urge you to reassess the Congressional map and take action to ensure that Westchester County is not unduly divided.

Respectfully yours,

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 12:33 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Leona
- **Last Name:** Newman
- **Email:** lollyjn@aol.com
- **Body:** Dear Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission and New York State Legislature:

I am a concerned citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. I do not believe that a single Representative can adequately represent the diverse interests of three counties in a conglomeration of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14.

I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission and continues to be, but I do not want the Commission to dilute any Westchester votes in this manner, and for the next ten years. This same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing.

Thank you.

Leona Newman 68 Sara Lane New Rochelle, NY 10804  
914-235-3553 lollyjn@aol.com

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 1:01 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Alice
- **Last Name:** Hooper
- **Email:** alicefhooper@gmail.com
- **Body:** As an American who strongly believes that our democracy works because of two strong political parties balancing each other; the only appropriate redistricting map must be created by looking at the registration of voters in certain areas and drawing lines that represent a balance between democratic and republican voters. Anything less would create an imbalance of power and have disastrous results for the continued function and survival of our democracy. Both political parties should be working for what makes our democracy work and not for individual gain.
- **Categories Selected:** Finger Lakes

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**(No subject)**

dsmerling <dsmerling@yahoo.com>

Fri 1/14/2022 1:16 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone



## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 12:33 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Leona
- **Last Name:** Newman
- **Email:** lollyjn@aol.com
- **Body:** Dear Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission and New York State Legislature:

I am a concerned citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. I do not believe that a single Representative can adequately represent the diverse interests of three counties in a conglomeration of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14.

I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission and continues to be, but I do not want the Commission to dilute any Westchester votes in this manner, and for the next ten years. This same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing.

Thank you.

Leona Newman 68 Sara Lane New Rochelle, NY 10804  
914-235-3553 lollyjn@aol.com

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 1:01 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Alice
- **Last Name:** Hooper
- **Email:** alicefhooper@gmail.com
- **Body:** As an American who strongly believes that our democracy works because of two strong political parties balancing each other; the only appropriate redistricting map must be created by looking at the registration of voters in certain areas and drawing lines that represent a balance between democratic and republican voters. Anything less would create an imbalance of power and have disastrous results for the continued function and survival of our democracy. Both political parties should be working for what makes our democracy work and not for individual gain.
- **Categories Selected:** Finger Lakes

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 2:32 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Margaret
- **Last Name:** Fountain Coleman
- **Email:** mdcoleman46@aol.com
- **Body:** Dear Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission and New York State Legislature:

I am a concerned citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. I do not believe that a single Representative can adequately represent the diverse interests of three counties in a conglomeration of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14. I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission and continues to be, but I do not want the Commission to dilute any Westchester votes in this manner, and for the next ten years. This same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing.

Thank you. Margaret Fountain Coleman Yonkers NY

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 2:52 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Lauren
- **Last Name:** Brois
- **Email:** laurenbrois@gmail.com
- **Body:** Letter: Dear Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission and New York State Legislature:

I am a concerned citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. I do not believe that a single Representative can adequately represent the diverse interests of three counties in a conglomeration of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14. I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission and continues to be, but I do not want the Commission to dilute any Westchester votes in this manner, and for the next ten years. This same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing.

Thank you. Lauren Brois

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Mid-Hudson

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 3:09 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Maura
- **Last Name:** Carlin
- **Email:** carlign@aol.com
- **Body:** Splitting the Larchmont Mamaroneck community makes no sense. There are multiple tri and bi- municipal arrangements as well as a shared school district. Furthermore, especially with respect to the congressional district, this Westchester community has very different interests/concerns from the urban westchester cities and the Bronx included in the districting proposals. We already feel unrepresentative.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 3:14 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Alice
- **Last Name:** Hooper
- **Email:** alicefhooper@gmail.com
- **Body:** As an American who strongly believes that our democracy works because of two strong political parties balancing each other, the only appropriate redistricting map must be created by looking at the registration of voters in certain areas and drawing lines that represent a balance between democratic and republican voters. Anything less would create an imbalance of power and have disastrous results for the continued function and survival of our democracy.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Finger Lakes

This e-mail has been automatically generated



## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 4:07 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** clifford
- **Last Name:** seltzer
- **Email:** seltzerhouse@gmail.com
- **Body:** I STRONGLY disagree with the proposed redistricting maps for Westchester County. Why would anyone think incorporating part of lower westchester with Queens makes any sense.

I am all for redistricting the two districts in Westchester based on census changes, but moving to three districts completely removes Westchester from having any impact in DC.

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Southern Tier

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 4:11 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Joseph
- **Last Name:** Kaufman
- **Email:** jkaufman@post.harvard.edu
- **Body:** Members of the Commission: I am a citizen of Westchester County and, while an active voter, am not affiliated with any political party. I believe that it is important that the state's next Congressional District map not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. These areas diverge in their concerns and needs and I do not believe that a single representative can adequately represent them. The concerns of Westchester County residents need to be effectively represented in the US Congress. I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission, but I urge the members of the Commission to set aside partisanship and do what is best for the citizens of this great state, including those like me who live in Westchester County. Respectfully, Joseph Kaufman
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/14/2022 4:30 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Marlowe
- **Last Name:** Burke
- **Email:** marloweburke@gmail.com
- **Body:** Dear Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission and New York State Legislature:

I am a concerned citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. I do not believe that a single Representative can adequately represent the diverse interests of three counties in a conglomeration of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14. I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission and continues to be, but I do not want the Commission to dilute any Westchester votes in this manner, and for the next ten years. This same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing.

Thank you.

Marlowe Burke Tarrytown, NY 10591

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Southern Tier

## Testimony Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sat 1/15/2022 8:17 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Testimony

- **First Name:** Jenny
- **Last Name:** Geer
- **Email:** jennygeer77@gmail.com
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## **Comments on Congressional Maps in Southern Westchester/Sound Shore - Jan 15, 2021**

- **The proposed maps split both the Village and Town of Mamaroneck into two pieces.** As a resident of the Town of Mamaroneck, under the current proposal I would be separated from my Town and stuck in the no-mans-land that connects the Northern Sound Shore with Yonkers. The shape of this map is a telltale sign of gerrymandering and violates the Commission's stated principle of keeping communities of interest and municipalities together.
- **The division of the Sound Shore community into two pieces** will make it extremely difficult to get attention for Sound Shore environmental and other concerns because of the divided attention of two representatives instead of one, and the smaller portion we will represent in the district of each.
- **The map also splits off 4 communities (Larchmont, Mamaroneck, Pelham and a sizable part of New Rochelle)** into a district with the Bronx and Queens and separate from Westchester County. This virtually ensures that the needs of the small Westchester portion of the district will not be met. Westchester and NYC have more differences than similarities (schools, transportation, government), including in those communities, and that's why my earlier testimony to the Commission included a request that the two regions be kept separate.
- **Westchester County would be divided among 3 districts instead of two,** which will fracture the attention of our reps and reduce the political clout of our county in D.C.

Please redraw this portion of the maps to do the following:

- **Keep Larchmont/Mamaroneck together, including Town and Villages**
- **Keep the Sound Shore together especially for environmental reasons**
- **Keep our small Sound Shore communities separate from a huge NYC area where we will get little attention**
- **Reduce the number of Westchester districts to 2 not 3**

Thank you.

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sat 1/15/2022 9:05 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Laurie
- **Last Name:** Bartels
- **Email:** laurie.bartels@gmail.com
- **Body:** To the Redistricting Committee,

We have been residents in the Village of Mamaroneck for the past 37 1/2 years. We have lived in two homes in two distinct neighborhoods of the Village.

Regardless of where we lived, we always felt part of the Village, which we see as a cohesive entity with a diverse population. It is this diversity of people that make the Village a more humane place to live. It is the ability of the constituents to elect, over the years, both Democrats and Republicans as Mayor, thus making this a functional Village, keeping representation more or less balanced over the years.

Due to its geography, the Village has distinct needs, particularly in the realm of water management of its rivers and streams. Flood mitigation is a major area of concern.

We respectfully request that you put strong efforts into keeping the Village of Mamaroneck as one district. Given the desire to have representation in the State that is clear and unambiguous, it does not make sense to split the Village into two districts with two different representatives.

Thank you.

Cordially, Fred and Laurie Bartels Village of Mamaroneck,  
Westchester County (This was also sent to our State  
representatives, Assemblyman Otis and Senator Mayer.)

- **Categories Selected:** State Assembly, State Senate

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sat 1/15/2022 2:16 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Louise
- **Last Name:** Perez
- **Email:** louiseeperez@gmail.com
- **Body:** Larchmont and Mamaroneck's Congressional representation would be sorely handicapped by splitting our communities between CD 16 & 14. As I said in my testimony we consider ourselves as one community - including the Rye Neck part of the Village of Mamaroneck that lies in the Town of Rye. We are a cohesive community that has strong residential participation and caring for all our residents. We care strongly about environmental issues and Long Island Sound and its watershed that extends through Westchester to the Bronx River in White Plains and up to the Kensico Reservoir. We also share a lot of issues with our Westchester neighbors. The Counties of the Bronx and Queens have little in common with our suburban issues and it would be a disservice to all its future constituents in your proposed District 14. Please reconsider in drawing your new maps and do not split Larchmont, the Town of Mamaroneck and the Village of Mamaroneck into two
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional

This e-mail has been automatically generated



## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sat 1/15/2022 2:22 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Louise
- **Last Name:** Perez
- **Email:** louiseeperez@gmail.com
- **Body:** The Long Island Sound Shore communities in Westchester should be included in one district for the best representation. Our issues with flooding from Hurricane Ida are a case in point . Flooding has been a persistent problem for us and we need to work and coordinate Federal work and funds with our fellow Westchester communities - upstream as well as along the Sound.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sat 1/15/2022 7:10 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Penny
- **Last Name:** Onerg
- **Email:** penny.oberg@gmail.com
- **Body:** I live in Southern Westchester . While I have admiration and in some cases sympathy for residents of NY boroughs our issues are not the same. Your plan to redistrict makes no sense . I enjoy the personal contact with Steve Otis and before him, George Latimer. They know the territory and represent us . So please do the job you were appointed to do.
- **Categories Selected:** State Assembly, State Senate, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sun 1/16/2022 9:20 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Nancy
- **Last Name:** Lamb
- **Email:** Nralamb@aol.com
- **Body:** Please work urgently to retain a single district for Mamaroneck and Larchmont in the restricting, the only sensible arrangement for representation what is a single community in every way. Thank you.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Southern Tier

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sun 1/16/2022 12:12 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Mark
- **Last Name:** Stein
- **Email:** markandrewstein@gmail.com
- **Body:** Proposed congressional redistricting maps split towns and villages along the Sound shore in Westchester count. Please keep these communities in one district. We are trying to deal with many problems, not least of which is flood control, and requiring local leaders and citizens to lobby two representatives for federal aid from will double our work while diluting our impact. Please show Westchester more respect. (Your "Location" options in this form are telling: Staten Island is a separate choice but Westchester, which has twice as many residents, is not. I have no idea if my county is considered "Southern Tier," "Mid-Hudson" or what.)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sun 1/16/2022 12:41 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** CLAIRE
- **Last Name:** WOLKOFF
- **Email:** CLWOLKOFF@VERIZON.NET
- **Body:** I'm concerned about the proposed Congressional districts for the Village of Mamaroneck in Westchester County. The Village of Mamaroneck is a relatively small village (about 19,000 residents) and it is vital that we remain in one Congressional district, not split into two districts. Splitting the Village into two districts would dilute our voices and make the issues that matter specifically to our community, like flooding, easier to ignore. It would also create confusion and difficulty with residents who need constituent services from a Congressperson. Claire L. Wolkoff 890 Pirates Cove Mamaroneck, NY 10543-4717
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sun 1/16/2022 1:50 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Kathrine
- **Last Name:** Varnes
- **Email:** kv@kathrinevarnes.com
- **Body:** Dear Redistricting Committee,

I am writing as a resident of the unincorporated portion of the Town of Mamaroneck (Larchmont PO), between the Village of Larchmont and the Village of Mamaroneck.

Recently, I was upset to see that the town of Mamaroneck is split in half in both of the proposed redistricting plans after the recent census, which means that the town will effectively have a weaker voice when it comes to issues affecting us. Larchmont and Mamaroneck are very close villages that share the same high school. Most residents think of them as a left and right hand belonging to the same body. My son regularly walks to visit friends in both villages.

Please reconsider these plans so that we may keep the town and its associated Sound Shore communities whole.

with thanks, Kathrine Varnes

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Southern Tier



SAVING THE LAND THAT MATTERS MOST

**Scenic Hudson, Inc.**  
One Civic Center Plaza  
Suite 200  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-3157  
Tel: 845 473 4440  
Fax: 845 473 2648  
info@scenichudson.org  
www.scenichudson.org

January 15, 2022

Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chairman Imamura, Vice Chairman Martins, Members of the Commission, and Co-Executive Directors Blatt and Breakell,

I am writing to you today to share Scenic Hudson's perspective on the recently proposed Congressional District and State Legislative maps drafted by the New York State Independent Redistricting Commission. As you are aware, there are active discussion that propose reorganization of the electoral map in the Hudson Valley.

Scenic Hudson preserves land and farms and creates parks that connect people with the inspirational power of the Hudson River, while fighting threats to the river and climate change. Our work brings together people and organizations to protect the natural resources at the heart of the Hudson Valley's health and prosperity. Founded in 1963, we are the largest environmental organization addressing the needs of our region.

The Hudson Valley is home to several major social and ecological communities that share unique identities and are worthy of consistent, focused attention by US Congress and the NY State Legislature. Scenic Hudson is concerned by proposals that would unduly complicate representation and management of the region's environment and natural resource based economy, and challenge our collective ability to address climate change and organize federal and state support to help achieve the goals of New York State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, including its environmental justice policy.

Scenic Hudson strongly recommends that the current Congressional Districts NY-20, NY-19, NY-18, and NY-17, generally speaking, be drawn in a manner to retain most of the communities that they currently represent. We believe that there is a special case to be made for why Ulster County should remain in a single Congressional District. We further propose, as we have in previous redistricting efforts, that districts throughout the region cross the Hudson River to ensure that our waterfront community's identities continue to be recognized for the critical role they play in New York's environment and our Nation's economy.

### **NY Congressional District 20**

The ecological character of the current NY-20 Congressional District is defined by the confluence of the upper Hudson and Mohawk Rivers with the Hudson River Estuary. This region is united by unique challenges, including reversing harm from decades of damage caused by water management infrastructure that opened new opportunities for our nation's commerce, yet

is now increasingly being understood as contributing to invasive species management challenges and flooding of local communities, including state-mapped Environmental Justice Areas. Uniform representation of this area of the Hudson Valley is essential to address these and other issues.

### **NY Congressional District 19**

The Catskills, Hudson Valley and Taconic region – notably Ulster County and waterfront communities in Columbia and Dutchess Counties – share unique environmental challenges that must be represented uniformly in Congress. These issues include species and habitat migration due to climate change, flood control, sea level rise adaptation in coastal communities, and drinking water infrastructure for New York City. In addition, the region has a robust agricultural economy that defines the rural landscape. Farms in this region, on average, are less than half the acreage of the state’s average size farm, trend towards producing specialized products for the New York City market, and include a great number of farmers that are employing climate resilient and regenerative techniques.

Ulster County, in particular, is at the forefront of these issues, and it must not be bifurcated on future Congressional maps. Further, its social and economic connectivity with Columbia and Dutchess County waterfront communities, made possible by the Rip Van Winkle, Kingston-Rhinecliff, and Mid-Hudson Bridges would benefit from uniform representation. This area of the Hudson River has been significantly impacted by generations of industrialization. As a result, it contains many opportunities to reduce harmful chemical contaminants such as PCBs, restore critical habitats, promote equitable public access to the Hudson River, and implement local plans for sea level rise and climate resilience. The Cities of Hudson, Kingston and other population centers are also home to many frontline communities mapped as Environmental Justice Areas by New York State. Focused attention on these disadvantaged communities is necessary to unlock their potential and created new opportunities for their residents to address social justice and economic development issues.

Because of the connectivity of these issues and the region’s unique demographics, Scenic Hudson strongly recommends that Ulster County be contained wholly within its future Congressional District, and that the district also include other waterfront communities in Dutchess and Columbia Counties.

### **NY Congressional District 18 and overlapping State Senate Districts**

The current Congressional District is defined by the Hudson Highlands, the portion of the Appalachian Mountain chain that runs through New York State. The region has been extensively studied by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and is home to nationally significant watersheds, wildlife habitats, and farmland and forest systems. These natural resources are recognized for their federal significance in the Highlands Conservation Act. From an environmental prospective, the ability of the Hudson Valley and its Hudson Highlands sub-region to continue to provide clean water benefits to the Croton Aqueduct system and recreational opportunities for the regions residents and visitors from New York City, requires consistent and uniform representation in Congress.

We apply this same logic to current State Senate District 39, and request that it be redrawn to



include the Hudson Highlands, a major natural resource of interest to the State of New York that is included in the State Open Space Conservation Plan. It is also the proposed site of state and nationally significant infrastructure and public access amenities, including the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, and the Appalachian Trail. Analogous to our analysis of the 19<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, the Cities of Beacon and Newburgh share much in common, and a strong economic and social connection through the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge, a ferry service, waterfront parks, and the challenges and opportunities faced by small cities in the region. As such, they would benefit by representation in the same State Senate District.

#### **NY Congressional Districts 17 and 16**

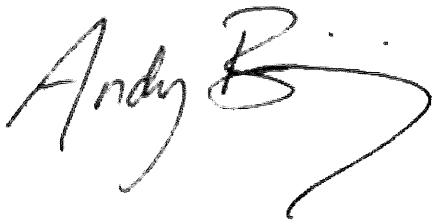
The suburban areas of Westchester and Rockland Counties are united by their proximity to the Hudson River and major transportation infrastructure, including the Tappan Zee Bridge/Mario Cuomo Bridge, a critical connection for commerce, motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians. In this region, Scenic Hudson believes that Congressional maps must be drawn to further position the Hudson as an economic and environmental resource that attracts new visitors and facilitates the recovery of natural resources by federal agencies. Management of oyster reefs and habitat for other critical water-dependent species, through dam removal, daylighting of historically buried tributaries, and other means, and managing sea level rise and flooding in these waterfront and near-shore communities, requires coordinated federal action and uniform representation in Congress. These initiatives will benefit from stronger representation if future Congressional Districts cross the river between the two counties.

#### **Conclusion**

As history has demonstrated, the Hudson Valley, because of its geography and rich environmental resources, will continue to be influential to New York State's and our Nation's prosperity. The economy and environment are closely linked in this region, and it is critical that future Congressional maps represent this connectivity and prioritize it to ensure that the region's communities receive sufficient Congressional attention to secure this promise.

Thank you for considering Scenic Hudson's comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Bicking". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

Andy Bicking  
Director of Government Relations and Public Policy

Cc:

Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie  
Assembly Minority Leader Will Barclay  
President Pro Tempore and Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins  
Senate Minority Leader Robert Ort

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sun 1/16/2022 5:17 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Philippa
- **Last Name:** Wharton
- **Email:** phils.wharton@verizon.net
- **Body:** Dear Redistricting Commission - As a Larchmont/Mamaroneck resident, I am very concerned that the first two attempts to remap the congressional districts combine our small part of Westchester with a larger NYC NE Bronx and Queens area, thereby making our voice a minority in the larger NYC district. It would make it less likely that our representative could prioritize the needs of our suburban community. I also am concerned that the entire Larchmont & Mamaroneck Villages and Township be included in the new district, given that there are many issues (flooding for example) that need to be addressed. Splitting parts of Mamaroneck into 2 districts will dilute the representation of the Village of Mamaroneck. Thank you for your careful consideration of these concerns. Philippa Wharton
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sun 1/16/2022 10:50 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Mark
- **Last Name:** Hergott
- **Email:** m.hergott87@gmail.com
- **Body:** Here is a congressional map for your consideration. The number of majority-minority districts increases from 9 to 11. Passing a map such as this one will make the national congressional map more balanced and fair- bringing the median seat to close to 50/50 in terms of partisanship.

<https://davesredistricting.org/join/d3aad641-29f5-4ede-9257-c9487e9d1faa>

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Brooklyn

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 1/17/2022 11:01 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Amy
- **Last Name:** Goldman
- **Email:** amyjjjg@aol.com
- **Body:** I live in Larchmont NY. I am concerned about the proposed redistricting which splits Westchester County into 3 areas, with a majority in none and also splits the Sound Shore communities. The proposed redistricting further dilutes my voice. This is not to say that the concerns of NYC are not important; rather, it is to say that the concerns of my community deserve equal consideration and a dedicated voice in Congress.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Southern Tier

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 1/17/2022 12:21 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Catherine
- **Last Name:** Wachs
- **Email:** cwachs@rtbrn.com
- **Body:** The draft Congressional maps splits the Town AND Village of Mamaroneck, plus split Larchmont/Mamaroneck from the rest of Sound Shore, to join with Bronx and Queens! This is a disaster for good representation.

Partisan squabbling is at play here, it's obvious. Do the common sense thing and join communities by boundaries and similar needs. We would be better off as Sound Shore communities starting at southern Westchester all the way to CT. Pollution, flooding, and other concerns must be addressed. Splitting Westchester 3 ways is one of the worst ideas since the last redistricting when we got tied to the Bronx. At least they are on the LI Sound.

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Bronx, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 1/17/2022 1:31 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Barbara
- **Last Name:** Rudder
- **Email:** barbararudder@aol.com
- **Body:** January 17, 2022

Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22nd Floor  
New York, NY 10007 To the members of the Independent Redistricting Commission,

I urge you to draw district lines that keep Stanley M. Isaacs Houses and Holmes Towers in the 12th Congressional district, as shown in the Plan B map. I am a long-time member of Community Board 8 Manhattan and a resident of the Upper East Side. Isaacs and Holmes are part of our community and should be part of our Congressional district.

As a longtime member of Community Board 8 and an involved member of the community, I have worked with residents of Isaacs and Holmes on the effort to expand and improve the East River Esplanade, and other issues. Community Board 8 has identified parks and open space as one of our top three most pressing issues for Fiscal Year 2022. Greenery and public space are critical to our quality of life and our health, but Community Board 8's aging parks are in particularly poor repair. The Esplanade is in bad shape, with dangerous sinkholes where the seawall has crumbled. It is narrow in many parts and poorly landscaped in most areas. Until our member of Congress created a task force with the city councilmember to improve the Esplanade, the Esplanade had

been badly neglected for decades. A section of the Esplanade runs directly across from Isaacs and Holmes, and the Esplanade is an important resource for residents of Isaacs and Holmes, as it is for other residents of Community Board 8. Residents of Isaacs and Holmes have been active members of the coalition to improve the Esplanade and it is in their interest to retain the member of Congress who has been taking the lead in pushing for improvements.

The community board is a good way to mark communities of interest. In community board 8, the connections are particularly clear since we share schools, zip code, parks, social service organizations and so forth. I believe that Isaacs and Holmes ought to be with the rest of community board 8.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Barbara

Rudder

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Manhattan

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 1/17/2022 5:07 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Richard
- **Last Name:** Kelley
- **Email:** rkelley@francemediainc.com
- **Body:** Keep Mamaroneck Together!

Thanks for your service in this redistricting effort. One point that is important in Westchester.....it would make zero sense to split Mamaroneck/Larchmont into two districts.

The communities are very similar, similar issues, etc....

Please keep them together as you plan this, and ideally Rye also.

Sincerely, Richard Kelley 756 Soundview Drive Mamaroneck NY  
10543

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate

This e-mail has been automatically generated



## READ THIS

Marshall Cohen <mcableguru@aol.com>

Mon 1/17/2022 6:25 PM

To: SMayer@nysenate.gov <SMayer@nysenate.gov>; OtisS@nyassembly.gov <OtisS@nyassembly.gov>; info@latfor.state.ny.gov <info@latfor.state.ny.gov>; Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Dear Shelley, Otis et al,

The proposed maps split both the Village and Town of Mamaroneck into two pieces. *[As a resident of the Town of Mamaroneck, under the current proposal I would be separated from my Town and stuck in the no-mans-land that connects the Northern Sound Shore with Yonkers.]* The shape of this map is a telltale sign of gerrymandering and violates the Commission's stated principle of keeping communities of interest and municipalities together.

The division of the Sound Shore community into two pieces will make it extremely difficult to get attention for Sound Shore environmental and other concerns because of the divided attention of two representatives instead of one, and the smaller portion we will represent in the district of each.

The map also splits off 4 communities (Larchmont, Mamaroneck, Pelham and a sizable part of New Rochelle) into a district with the Bronx and Queens and separate from Westchester County. This virtually ensures that the needs of the small Westchester portion of the district will not be met. Westchester and NYC have more differences than similarities (schools, transportation, government), including in those communities, and that's why my earlier testimony to the Commission included a request that the two regions be kept separate.

Westchester County would be divided among 3 districts instead of two, which will fracture the attention of our reps and reduce the political clout of our county in D.C.

Please redraw this portion of the maps to do the following:

Keep Larchmont/Mamaroneck together, including Town and Villages

- Keep the Sound Shore together especially for environmental reasons
- Keep our small Sound Shore communities separate from a huge NYC area where we will get little attention
- Reduce the number of Westchester districts to 2 not 3

Cordially,

Marshall Cohen  
5 country club drive  
larchmont, ny 10538

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 1/17/2022 9:36 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Kim
- **Last Name:** Snyder
- **Email:** kisnyder@gmail.com
- **Body:** I am a New Rochelle resident and do not think that Plan A or Plan B maps make any sense for my community.

These maps place New Rochelle at risk of being a small portion of a NYC-dominated district where we will have no or very limited voice. Keep the Westchester/Sound Shore region together especially for important environmental reasons. Make Westchester the majority of at least one of the districts so that our county can have effective representation (we finally did get to 1 million in the Census!)

Please consider these points when reconfiguring the maps.

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 1/18/2022 8:47 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Barbara
- **Last Name:** Gessler
- **Email:** forshopdrop@gmail.com
- **Body:** The current districts are a recipe for poor representation of our small Sound Shore community as well as Westchester County as a whole. Don't put Larchmont/Mamaroneck into a tiny portion of a NYC-dominated district where we will have no voice. Keep Larchmont/Mamaroneck Town and Villages together to maximize representation and avoid a bureaucratic nightmare. Keep Sound Shore together especially for important environmental reasons. Make Westchester the majority of at least one of the districts so that our county can have effective representation.

Please — keep Westchester whole and don't split it up and thus delute our voices. We are one million people with shared interests. Thank you!

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Southern Tier

## FW: One Village of Mamaroneck

Ahsia Badi <badia@nyirc.gov>

Tue 1/18/2022 12:19 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

**From:** Douglas Breakell <breakelld@nyirc.gov>

**Sent:** Friday, January 14, 2022 4:21 PM

**To:** Ahsia Badi <badia@nyirc.gov>; Patrick Cameron <cameronp@nyirc.gov>; Karen Blatt <blatrk@nyirc.gov>; Danielle Futia <futiad@nyirc.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: One Village of Mamaroneck

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jay Castelli <jaycastell@aol.com>

**Date:** January 14, 2022 at 4:09:57 PM EST

**To:** Douglas Breakell <breakelld@nyirc.gov>

**Subject:** One Village of Mamaroneck

**Reply-To:** Jay Castelli <jaycastell@aol.com>

Dear Mr. Breakell,

Please keep all of the small Village of Mamaroneck in the same Congressional District. We have too many important issues affecting the village, most important corrective actions to alleviate our deadly flooding, to have to split our efforts in Balkanized fashion between two congresspersons.

Thank you!

Jay Castelli  
319 Melbourne Ave.  
Mamaroneck, NY 10543

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 1/18/2022 1:04 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Lisa
- **Last Name:** Futtner
- **Email:** lfutt@aol.com
- **Body:** Please preserve Columbia County as a unified community of interest with our neighboring counties. We share similar agricultural, historic, artistic and economic challenges and opportunities with Dutchess, Ulster, Rensselaer, and Greene Counties as part of a Mid-Hudson Valley Region. Dividing Columbia County or separating us from this region would impact the County's ability to be fully represented.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Capital Region

This e-mail has been automatically generated


## Letter regarding congressional redistricting plan

Lorraine Walsh <mayor@larchmontny.gov>

Tue 1/18/2022 2:51 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>; info@latfor.state.ny.us <info@latfor.state.ny.us>

Cc: Steve Otis <OtisS@nyassembly.gov>; SMayer@nysenate.gov <SMayer@nysenate.gov>; Eney, Jaine Elkind <JElkindEney@TownofMamaroneckNY.org>; Thomas A. Murphy <tmurphy@vomny.org>

 1 attachments (72 KB)

Joint letter Larchmont-Mamaroneck to IRC 1-18-2022.pdf;

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair and Honorable Commissioners,

Attached please find a joint letter from the Town of Mamaroneck, Village of Mamaroneck and Village of Larchmont regarding the proposed congressional redistricting plan. We ask that this correspondence be made part of the official record.

Best regards,

*Lorraine Walsh*

Mayor, Village of Larchmont  
120 Larchmont Avenue  
Larchmont, NY 10538  
(914) 834-6230



January 18, 2022

David Imamura, Chair  
Jack Martins, Vice-Chair  
Honorable Members of the New York State  
Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10007

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair and Honorable Commissioners:

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in your process of obtaining public input on the redistricting plans for New York State. We ask that this correspondence be made part of the official record.

The currently proposed congressional redistricting plan splits the Town of Mamaroneck and the Village of Mamaroneck into two separate congressional districts (NY14 and NY16), and separates the Sound Shore communities who have long shared congressional representation.

The Town of Mamaroneck, Village of Mamaroneck and Village of Larchmont are joined in their opposition to the proposed congressional redistricting plan for our municipalities.

It is important not only to understand the close working relationship and governmental interconnectedness that exists within our tri-municipal boundaries, but the fact that all of the Village of Larchmont and the majority of the Village of Mamaroneck lie within the Town of Mamaroneck. The Town of Mamaroneck and the Villages of Larchmont and Mamaroneck have a long history of sharing municipal services, such as EMS, library, community counseling, sanitation, recreation, capital improvement contracts and equipment, as well as sharing a school district. We hold regular quarterly meetings to discuss local issues and plan for joint solutions. We have often presented our shared needs to our congressional representatives as a tri-municipal entity in order to best represent our constituents and secure federal support.

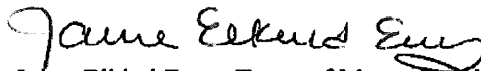
Our primary concern with the proposed plan is the separation into two congressional districts. This partitioning of both the Town of Mamaroneck and the Village of Mamaroneck into two districts will make it more difficult for local officials to interface with the federal government to meet the needs of our constituents, it dilutes our voices and makes it harder to get attention for the issues that matter specifically to our community, such as flooding. It will also create confusion among our residents when seeking constituent services.

Secondarily, since the Town and both Villages are within the Long Island watershed, all of our stormwater flows into Long Island Sound, and our sanitary sewers flow into either the New Rochelle or Mamaroneck Valley treatment plants. Separating the Sound Shore communities into two congressional districts would undercut potential regional solutions and inter-municipal cooperative agreements to comprehensively address stormwater and sanitary sewer issues and regional flooding. These common interests and the need to work together to address shared environmental matters that impact the Long Island Sound mean that, to be successful, all such joint efforts often involve federal monies and common representation.

In summation, the proposal disregards the common goals, shared identity and long-standing collaborative efforts in many areas of mutual concern among the Town of Mamaroneck and Villages of Mamaroneck and Larchmont. It also disregards the areas of mutual concern for the municipalities of the Sound Shore District. All of the Sound Shore communities deserve to have a single voice to represent their collective, unique and mutual interests.

The Town of Mamaroneck, Village of Mamaroneck, and Village of Larchmont therefore strongly oppose the proposed change in the boundaries of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and urge the Commission to reconsider such proposal.

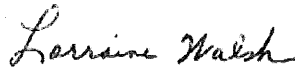
Sincerely,



Jaine Elkind Eney, Town of Mamaroneck Supervisor



Tom Murphy, Village of Mamaroneck Mayor



Lorraine Walsh, Village of Larchmont Mayor

cc: New York State Assemblyman Steve Otis  
New York State Senator Shelley Mayer



A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Kathleen
- **Last Name:** Savolt
- **Email:** ksavolt@verizon.net
- **Body:** I am writing to strongly opposed the redistricting plans that split the Village of Mamaroneck into two districts. And I'll include separating the Town of Mamaroneck while I'm at it. Villages in NYS have enough trouble making their voices heard and concerns put forth without splitting us between two districts.

The Village of Mamaroneck is synergistically tied to the Larchmont-Mamaroneck Community and has little, if any, contact with the Town of Rye. We're not even contiguous to the rest of the Town! Therefore, I am also opposed to separating the Village of Mamaroneck (in part or in total) from the rest of the Larchmont-Mamaroneck community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kathy Savolt Former Mayor, Village of Mamaroneck

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Mid-Hudson

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 1/18/2022 6:40 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

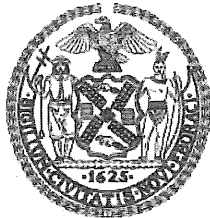
A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Anna
- **Last Name:** PEREZ
- **Email:** annasperez@gmail.com
- **Body:** Proposed Congressional District Would Split Our Community: (1) I don't think Larchmont - Mamaroneck would be well represented be being split into 2 Congressional districts, (2) all the Westchester communities along Long Island Sound have similar environmental issues and logically should be included in the same district, and (3) Representation of Westchester residents on the Federal level would be diluted by having 3 Congressional Districts including one which is largely urban rather than suburban.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Southern Tier

This e-mail has been automatically generated

**Russell Squire**  
Chair

**Will Brightbill**  
District Manager



505 Park Avenue, Suite 620  
New York, N.Y. 10022-1106  
(212) 758-4340  
(212) 758-4616 (Fax)  
www.cb8m.com – Website  
info@cb8m.com – E-Mail

**The City of New York**  
**Community Board 8 Manhattan**

January 18, 2022

Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22nd Floor  
New York, NY 10007

To the members of the Independent Redistricting Commission,

I am Chair of Community Board 8 Manhattan, which stretches from East 96th Street to East 59th Street, from Fifth Avenue to the East River, as well as Roosevelt Island, and includes Stanley M. Isaacs Houses and Holmes Towers. The residents of Isaacs and Holmes are part of our community and have similar concerns to the rest of the Community Board. Isaacs and Holmes are located between First Avenue and the East River, between 92nd and 96th Street. While Plan B keeps Isaacs and Holmes in the 12th Congressional district, as it currently is, Plan A cuts it out of the district.

The Isaacs and Holmes complex includes a popular senior center, the Stanley Isaacs Center, that is attended by seniors from all over the Upper East Side, not just residents of Isaacs and Holmes. Issues related to the senior center, which receives a significant amount of its funding from the federal government, are of concern to the entire community, not just residents of Isaacs and Holmes. It makes sense to have one member of Congress to represent the senior center, Isaacs and Holmes residents, and the non-resident seniors who use the facility.

Children who live in Isaacs and Holmes attend Community School District 2 schools which are located in our community district. When our local schools were overcrowded, all District 2 children were impacted, including residents of Isaacs and Holmes. One of the reasons for the overcrowding is that a public school on East 91st Street had been closed and no new school had been created to replace it. Instead, children from the area were sent to adjacent District 2 schools, causing all of them to become overcrowded. Our member of Congress formed a task force that led to the creation of a new school in the neighborhood, PS 151, which helped alleviate the overcrowding.

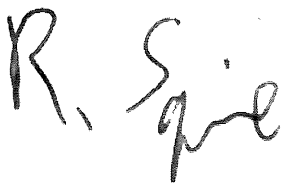
When the city proposed to build a giant private apartment building on Holmes's property, the entire neighborhood joined with residents of Holmes and Isaacs to protest the action. We marched together, went to meetings together and stood together in opposition to the idea that taking property from public housing tenants was a good way to solve underfunding of NYCHA. We pointed out that the amount of

money the city would receive would in no way come close to solving the deficit. Our member of Congress was among the elected officials representing our neighborhood who led this effort.

When the city proposed building a large marine transfer station adjacent to Holmes and Isaacs, residents joined the effort to try to defeat it. They worked in coalition with residents throughout our community district. Some looked at the community district at large and said that it was environmental justice to build the marine transfer station next to Isaacs and Holmes. Our member of Congress pointed out that the structure was being built next to a public housing development and said that it was just as wrong to burden the public housing residents who lived in our community district as those who lived in other community districts. Residents of Isaacs and Holmes should have a member of Congress who understands the nuances of the neighborhood.

If you divide Isaacs and Holmes from the community board in which they live, they will no longer have a member of Congress who has an interest in understanding the neighborhood issues that affect all of us in this community district. Moreover, it would suggest that public housing residents are not full and equal members of our neighborhood—that they are distinct and should be considered separate. I reject any such separation. Isaacs and Holmes residents are Upper East Siders and part of our neighborhood and should be in our Congressional district. Accordingly, I urge you to adopt district lines that keep Isaacs and Holmes with the rest of the Community Board.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. Squire". The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent "R" and "S".

Russell Squire  
Chair

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 1/18/2022 8:52 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Jennifer
- **Last Name:** Horowitz
- **Email:** hmarinc@optonline.net
- **Body:** As a resident of New Rochelle, NY, I am concerned about the proposed redistricting maps that separate much of New Rochelle and the southern Sound Shore from the rest of Westchester, placing us with portions of The Bronx and Queens. New Rochelle has issues that are shared with the greater Westchester area (regional traffic and mass transit, development, and environmental infrastructure impacted by the Hudson and more of the Sound). I am concerned that these issues may not get the attention required by our representation, creating a potential burden on local municipalities. It is very important that representation be shared by a community of interest. It is important that Westchester not be split up that way in any redistricting plan.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Tue 1/18/2022 11:02 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Monica
- **Last Name:** Friedman
- **Email:** monicafriedman18@gmail.com
- **Body:** On Jan 16, 2022, at 3:01 PM, monicafriedman18@gmail.com wrote:

Splitting The Village of Mam'k into 2 districts is unwise considering the importance of helping Mamk get back on its feet after the natural disaster that wiped out people's homes, properties, livelihoods and businesses. LMHTF fills over 500 bags of food every Tuesday to help families put food on the table. Our village needs to rebuild in a way that protects residents from potential future natural disasters. A strong consensus and base of support is important. Please, think about it. Keep Mamaronck whole!

Sent from my iPhone

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Patrick Cameron

---

**From:** Douglas Breakell  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 4:29 PM  
**To:** Ahsia Badi; Karen Blatt; Danielle Futia; Patrick Cameron  
**Subject:** FW: changing district lines for Larchmont and Mamaroneck

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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**From:** Terry Toll <tollnews@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 4:24:29 PM  
**To:** Douglas Breakell <breakell@nyirc.gov>  
**Subject:** re: changing district lines for Larchmont and Mamaroneck

Dear Mr. Breakell,

In the midst of failed efforts to redefine the Congressional District which Larchmont and Mamaroneck are in, I encourage you to recommend and insure that our towns and villages remain in the same Congressional district. As a long time resident of Larchmont and neighbor who frequents Mamaroneck stores and cares about its residents, I feel that we must not be split apart, as has been recommended in these 2 failed redistricting plans.

Separating us will dilute the voices of our residents, and make the issues that matter specifically to our community, like flooding, easier to ignore.

It will also create confusion and difficulty with residents who need constituent services from a Congressperson.

As a member of the Independent Redistricting Committee, I appeal to you to do the right thing: block any separation of Larchmont and Mamaroneck towns and villages in any redistricting changes. Keep us together.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Terry Toll

3 Beresford Lane  
Larchmont, NY 10538  
[Tollnews@gmail.com](mailto:Tollnews@gmail.com)

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 1/19/2022 9:35 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Jennifer
- **Last Name:** Bourdain
- **Email:** jbourd2@gmail.com
- **Body:** There's a proposal to carve up the Town of Mamaroneck, in Westchester County, into separate districts, associating one piece with Queens! The needs of these areas are incredibly different. This carve up serves no purpose whatsoever, and whoever is proposing this should be made to detail quite explicitly the resulting benefits. Jennifer and Chris Bourdain
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Mid-Hudson

This e-mail has been automatically generated



## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 1/19/2022 10:45 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Helen
- **Last Name:** Lobel
- **Email:** helen.lobel@gmail.com
- **Body:** Please keep Columbia County whole .Dividing or a am County will dilute representation and undermine our ability to advocate for our County's needs . We are stronger together.  
Helen
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Capital Region

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 1/19/2022 1:55 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Giancarlo
- **Last Name:** Consiglio
- **Email:** gconsiglio00@gmail.com
- **Description:** The "Least Change" proposal, similar to what was done in Wisconsin to maintain the districts in relatively the same location, size, and shape. The biggest changes were done upstate, which had to eliminate a district due to Census reallocation.
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional

This e-mail has been automatically generated

## We must keep the voice of Westchester in the new Congressional, State and Assembly Maps

Dennis Monasebian <dennismonasebian@gmail.com>

Wed 1/19/2022 2:18 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Cc: info@latfor.state.ny.us <info@latfor.state.ny.us>; biaggi@nysenate.gov <biaggi@nysenate.gov>; senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov <senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov>; smayer@nysenate.gov <smayer@nysenate.gov>; scousins@nysenate.gov <scousins@nysenate.gov>; reichlin@nysenate.gov <reichlin@nysenate.gov>; harckham@nysenate.gov <harckham@nysenate.gov>; PaulinA@nyassembly.gov <PaulinA@nyassembly.gov>; PretloJ@nyassembly.gov <PretloJ@nyassembly.gov>; SayeghN@nyassembly.gov <SayeghN@nyassembly.gov>; OtisS@nyassembly.gov <OtisS@nyassembly.gov>; AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov <AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov>; BurdickC@nyassembly.gov <BurdickC@nyassembly.gov>; ByrneK@nyassembly.gov <ByrneK@nyassembly.gov>; GalefS@nyassembly.gov <GalefS@nyassembly.gov>

To all the Members of the Commission:

### **I am very concerned about maintaining the voice of Westchester County in the to-be-drawn maps for Congressional, and State and Assembly seats.**

I strongly urge you to recognize the importance of maintaining Westchester's independent voice; it should not be split apart and diluted by surrounding areas of New York City. The City of New York is a unique urban center with an infrastructure of its own, like none other in the state, and a set of issues and concerns that are wholly distinct from suburban communities like Westchester. If the Commission is given the opportunity to propose a second set of maps, it should use that opportunity to **unite and not dilute** areas of Westchester County.

I have business interests in both New York City and in Westchester. I understand first hand the importance of maintaining the unique identities and needs of both areas. They are different places and must be treated (and represented) as such.

Westchester already shares districts with New York City. When you redraw the Congressional maps, please do not further divide Westchester and weaken even more its voice.

Thank you  
Dennis Monasebian  
Armonk, NY

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 1/19/2022 2:21 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Sharon
- **Last Name:** Silver
- **Email:** sraplata@msn.com
- **Body:** The planned redistricting of the Village of Mamaroneck and Larchmont as a tiny part of the a predominantly Bronx and Queens district, separate from the Town of Mamaroneck, the Sound Shore area and Westchester County, weaken the political, geographically, social and cultural voices of the residents, the larger community and the county of Westchester. Westchester County, which has one million residents, will be split into three districts, each of which will lose voice and power to advocate for its needs and wants. It will divide the Village of and Mamaroneck and Larchmont from the Town of Mamaroneck, creating managerial and political difficulties. It will divide the Sound Shore community which needs to be unified to advocate for ameliorating the severe environmental issues that face our area. Clearly, I am asking that you reject this unfair redistricting plan as poorly thought out, poorly planned politically, geographically, socially and culturally. Keep the VOMamaroneck and Larchmont together with the Town of Mamaroneck, the Sound Shore community and the County of Westchester. Thank you.

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 1/19/2022 5:30 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** erkyn
- **Last Name:** Madonia
- **Email:** emadonia@gmail.com
- **Body:** Currently Columbia County is divided into 3 voting districts. As final redistricting plans are being made, please keep Columbia County whole. Dividing our County will dilute our representation and undermine our ability to advocate for our County's needs. We are stronger and better together. Columbia County should be part of a contiguous Congressional district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties when redistricted. We are neither urban nor suburban – we belong as a unified Columbia County community with neighboring counties—Dutchess, Rensselare, Ulster and Greene. Please preserve Columbia County as a unified community of interest with our neighboring counties. We share similar agricultural, historic, artistic and economic challenges and opportunities with Dutchess, Ulster, Rensselaer, and Green Counties as part of a Mid-Hudson Valley Region. Dividing Columbia County or separating us from this region would impact the County's ability to be fully represented.

Erlyn Madonia Austerlitz Democratic Chair

- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate

Thursday, January 13th, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a community leader and resident from Stanley M. Isaacs Houses and Holmes Towers, and am writing to express my objection to the recent proposed Congressional District map, which would cut us out of our current Congressional District. The most recent map cut us off from the rest of the Upper East Side community, removing us from the 12th congressional district.

As an active community member and organizer, I understand the value of having the same Congressional Representative as our neighbors. Stanley M. Isaacs Houses and Holmes Towers share a community board, police precinct, and school district with our neighbors on the Upper East Side and we should share a Congressional district too. Working with this broader community to advocate for issues important to us has been incredibly important.

We have worked in partnership with other Upper East Siders on issues that are critical to our community, including the fight against the Marine Transfer Station, the drive to build a Second Avenue Subway, and the coalition to improve the East River Esplanade. When an infill program threatened to take land from the Holmes and Issacs complex and sell it to private developers to build luxury apartment towers, we collaborated to stop it. We wouldn't have been able to protect our public housing property from becoming unaffordable, market rate housing if we didn't have the support of the Upper East Side community.

One of the recently proposed maps takes Holmes and Issacs out of our existing district, removing us from our community and decreasing our ability to advocate for issues alongside our neighbors. I am urging the NYS Independent Redistricting Commission to adopt district lines that keep Stanley M. Isaacs Houses and Holmes Towners in the 12th Congressional District, alongside the rest of the Upper East Side.

Sincerely,

LaKeesha Taylor, Co-Founder of the Holmes-Isaacs Coalition

January 17, 2022

Karen Blatt  
Co-Executive Director  
Douglas Breakell  
Co-Executive Director  
New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

Dear Directors Blatt and Breakell:

The new redistricting map made by the Independent Redistricting Committee totally disenfranchises two distinct yet historically connected African American communities that have voted together for 30+ years and elected representation that reflected its interests in homeownership, economic empowerment, and social issues.

The present 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District has African American communities in North Corona, East Elmhurst, LeFrak City and Sherwood Apartments that has enabled an Assembly Member to go to Albany and make legislative appropriations that address social inequities that manifest in drug abuse, allow for the creation and maintenance of a growing senior citizen population, and create programming support for youth betterment through sport and job training.

There is also a strong connection with these communities and LaGuardia Airport where opportunities have always been present for franchise ownership serving the unending stream of passengers passing through, and for service contracts in the airport facility.

Presently, issues around automobile traffic (with its resultant congestion and pollution) and alternative means of transportation to and from this upgraded airport are being debated. Obviously, this State issue has a major impact on the surrounding community's quality of life.

In addition, cultural institutions in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park have historically been a part of this district as these two communities are connected both geographically and through local usage of these important areas.

The proposed new Assembly District lines take the 10,000+ residents in North Corona and East Elmhurst and put them in a newly created 34<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. It takes the 2,500+ residents of LeFrak City and Sherwood Apartments and puts them in the newly created 39<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. Neither of the two new ADs have residents with the same number of ethnicities that would empower either community as one would be overwhelming Hispanic, while the other White, Orthodox Jewish (Russian ancestry), North Asian and Indian (south Asia).

This strong Black community presently served by the 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District would disappear – as its votes would be diluted with the inability to elect its own representative.

Redistricting is a difficult process as many competing interests and groups look to have their voices heard. Yet, this "cracking" of a district draws lines that decrease Black representation in an area that has consistently elected the Black community's candidate of choice. The drawing of a legislative line should not cause harm to minority votes; rather, it should reflect a "portrait" of the people they represent, with all their nuances and special features.

The preservation of existing political communities reflected in the cores of prior districts must include racial fairness to have meaningful representation. The proposed new lines do not reflect this priority; they would divide the political representation of these African American communities ensuring their minority status thereby reducing – if not eliminating - their power to be adequately represented in State government.

Any new legislative lines drawn pursuant to the 2020 Census, must take these factors into account before any map is finalized. The African American communities of North Corona, East Elmhurst, LeFrak City and Sherwood Apartments must be kept together in a unified Assembly District.

Sincerely,

Clara M. SALAS/State Committee Woman- 35<sup>th</sup>AD

86-35 Queens Blvd. #4d

Elmhurst, New York 11373

C: Honorable Jeffrion Aubrey, Assembly Member, 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Howard Vargas, Executive Council to the Speaker



January 19, 2022

Karen Blatt  
Co-Executive Director  
Douglas Breakell  
Co-Executive Director  
New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

Dear Directors Blatt and Breakell:

The new redistricting map made by the Independent Redistricting Committee totally disenfranchises two distinct yet historically connected African American communities that have voted together for 30+ years and elected representation that reflected its interests in homeownership, economic empowerment, and social issues.

The present 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District has African American communities in North Corona, East Elmhurst, LeFrak City and Sherwood Apartments that has enabled an Assembly Member to go to Albany and make legislative appropriations that address social inequities that manifest in drug abuse, allow for the creation and maintenance of a growing senior citizen population, and create programming support for youth betterment through sport and job training.

There is also a strong connection with these communities and LaGuardia Airport where opportunities have always been present for franchise ownership serving the unending stream of passengers passing through, and for service contracts in the airport facility.

Presently, issues around automobile traffic (with its resultant congestion and pollution) and alternative means of transportation to and from this upgraded airport are being debated. Obviously, this State issue has a major impact on the surrounding community's quality of life.

In addition, cultural institutions in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park have historically been a part of this district as these two communities are connected both geographically and through local usage of these important areas.

The proposed new Assembly District lines take the 10,000+ residents in North Corona and East Elmhurst and put them in a newly created 34<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. It takes the 2,500+ residents of LeFrak City and Sherwood Apartments and puts them in the newly created 39<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. Neither of the two new ADs have residents with the same number of ethnicities that would empower either community as one would be overwhelming Hispanic, while the other White, Orthodox Jewish (Russian ancestry), North Asian and Indian (south Asia).

This strong Black community presently served by the 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District would disappear – as its votes would be diluted with the inability to elect its own representative.

Redistricting is a difficult process as many competing interests and groups look to have their voices heard. Yet, this "cracking" of a district draws lines that decrease Black representation in an area that has consistently elected the Black community's candidate of choice. The drawing of a legislative line should not cause harm to minority votes; rather, it should reflect a "portrait" of the people they represent, with all their nuances and special features.

The preservation of existing political communities reflected in the cores of prior districts must include racial fairness to have meaningful representation. The proposed new lines do not reflect this priority; they would divide the political representation of these African American communities ensuring their minority status thereby reducing – if not eliminating - their power to be adequately represented in State government.

Any new legislative lines drawn pursuant to the 2020 Census, must take these factors into account before any map is finalized. The African American communities of North Corona, East Elmhurst, LeFrak City and Sherwood Apartments must be kept together in a unified Assembly District.

Sincerely,

*Mark McMillan*

C: Honorable Jeffrion Aubrey, Assembly Member, 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Howard Vargas, Executive Council to the Speaker

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 1/20/2022 11:14 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Francisco
- **Last Name:** Paret
- **Email:** fjparet@aol.com
- **Body:** I write to express my opposition to the proposed congressional redistricting plan, which would split the Town of Mamaroneck and Village of Mamaroneck into separate congressional districts, hence separating communities with shared interests and longstanding shared representation. These communities have a long history of shared services and of working together to seek solutions to shared issues, including in the areas of sanitation, regional flooding, environmental challenges and others. Splitting congressional representation would create unnecessary challenges in engaging with the federal government, likely result in confusion from local constituencies, and possibly dilute attention from some critical issues.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Francisco Paret Larchmont, NY

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Southern Tier

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 1/20/2022 1:53 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Pam
- **Last Name:** Brandman
- **Email:** pbrandman@gmail.com
- **Body:** I am writing as a concerned resident of Westchester County, I urge you to rethink proposed district maps so that they maintain Westchester's independent voice, that you not split it apart, nor dilute it by combining with surrounding areas of New York City.

The City of New York is a unique urban center with an infrastructure of its own, like none other in the state, and a set of issues and concerns that are wholly distinct from suburban communities like Westchester. Linking the Bronx and Queens is particularly unfair and unacceptable because it divides communities in three counties, limiting the ability of residents in each part of the district to have an elected official who can effectively represent their own unique interests. This area has shared infrastructure and institutions, and both proposals would split our community into not two but three different Congressional Districts.

Additionally, the proposed maps split both the Town of Mamaroneck and the Village of Mamaroneck into two Congressional Districts. Larchmont and parts of the Town and Village of Mamaroneck would be in a district with the Northeast Bronx and part of Queens, being split from the other Sound Shore Communities. This will dilute our voices and make it harder to get attention for the issues that matter specifically to our community,

like flooding. Also, it makes it more difficult for local officials to interface with the federal government to meet the needs of the three municipalities. It could also create confusion among the residents of our community when seeking constituent services. The proposed maps also split the entire Sound Shore into two districts, making it difficult to advocate for important regional issues like flooding and Long Island Sound.

I urge you to reassess the Congressional map and take action to ensure that Westchester County is not unduly divided.

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 1/20/2022 2:40 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Ryan
- **Last Name:** Martin
- **Email:** caymen77@yahoo.com
- **Body:** Dear IDC - Thank you for your service and the opportunity to message you. I write today to oppose New York State's proposed redistricting of the Town and Village of Mamaroneck. The split will create additional congressional representation making it more difficult for our collective voices and concerns to be properly heard. Thank you for your time. Ryan Martin
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 1/20/2022 3:26 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Lisa
- **Last Name:** Pizzurro
- **Email:** lwnnew@gmail.com
- **Body:** It is obvious that your partisan, two-map submission did not pass muster. PLEASE let your next -- and I believe final -- submission be ONE set of bipartisan maps. It would be awful if the IRC's inability (&/or unwillingness) to agree on one set of maps to be the reason why the state legislators would end up drawing their own voting districts!
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate

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## Redistricting

GLENN CARLIN <carlign@aol.com>

Thu 1/20/2022 3:53 PM

To: SMayer@nysenate.gov <SMayer@nysenate.gov>; OtisS@nyassembly.gov <OtisS@nyassembly.gov>; Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

The proposed maps split both the Village and Town of Mamaroneck into two pieces. As a resident of the Town of Mamaroneck, under the current proposal I would be separated from my Town and stuck in the no-mans-land that connects the Northern Sound Shore with Yonkers. The shape of this map is a telltale sign of gerrymandering and violates the Commission's stated principle of keeping communities of interest and municipalities together.

The division of the Sound Shore community into two pieces will make it extremely difficult to get attention for Sound Shore environmental and other concerns because of the divided attention of two representatives instead of one, and the smaller portion we will represent in the district of each.

The map also splits off 4 communities (Larchmont, Mamaroneck, Pelham and a sizable part of New Rochelle) into a district with the Bronx and Queens and separate from Westchester County. This virtually ensures that the needs of the small Westchester portion of the district will not be met. Westchester and NYC have more differences than similarities (schools, transportation, government), including in those communities. As it stands now (before redistricting), we often feel unrepresented given the district focus in the Bronx, with different needs and concerns than ours.

Westchester County would be divided among 3 districts instead of two, which will fracture the attention of our reps and reduce the political clout of our county in D.C.

Please redraw this portion of the maps to do the following:

- Keep Larchmont/Mamaroneck together, including Town and Villages
- Keep the Sound Shore together especially for environmental reasons
- Keep our small Sound Shore communities separate from a huge NYC area where we will get little attention
- Reduce the number of Westchester districts to 2 not 3

Respectfully,

Maura Carlin, 297 Rockingstone Avenue, Larchmont, NY



## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 1/20/2022 4:52 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

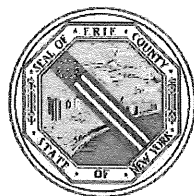
A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Marciana
- **Last Name:** D'Angelo
- **Email:** marcianadangelo@gmail.com
- **Body:** Do not split Larchmont and Mamaroneck!
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly

This e-mail has been automatically generated

# ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

APRIL N.M. BASKIN  
Chairwoman  
2nd District Legislator



92 Franklin St., 4th Floor  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
716/858-8869  
FAX: 716/858-8895

Legislative Assistant  
Pedro Gonzalez-Ortiz  
Pedro.gonzalez-ortiz@erie.gov

January 18, 2022

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

## RE: CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING FOR BUFFALO/NIAGARA REGION

Honorable Commissioners:

It was an honor to testify before your commission last August. I know that in the Buffalo-Niagara region, much of the attention was focused in a few areas:

1. Strong opposition to any re-establishment of a district connecting any municipality within the Buffalo/Niagara Region to the city of Rochester and/or its surrounding communities (known in its 2003-2012 iteration as the "Earmuff" district); and
2. Strong support for the city of Buffalo to remain united in one single congressional district along with immediately surrounding suburban communities; and
3. Strong support for Niagara Falls to remain included within a district with the city of Buffalo.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to commission members for addressing our community's concerns. Despite not reaching agreement on a single set of maps, commissioners from both political parties proposed a map for the 26<sup>th</sup> Congressional District which met the above criteria.

As you know, the best congressional districts are compact and contiguous, combining residents of shared interests and communities of concern. The maps released on January 3, 2022 for the 26th Congressional District do an excellent job of meeting these criteria. Moreover, these districts, by maintaining inclusion of the city of Niagara Falls as well as the entirety of the cities of Buffalo and Lackawanna along with other first-ring Buffalo suburbs, ensure the maximum voting strength of persons of color.

Following this week's rejection of the January 3 maps by the State Legislature, we know that your commission will have another opportunity to draw maps for further legislative consideration. As Chair of the Erie County Legislature, I strongly encourage commissioners to draw a map once again for the 26<sup>th</sup> Congressional District that meets the three objectives numbered above, maintaining one compact, densely urban/suburban district that combines Niagara Falls and Buffalo, and does not connect the Buffalo/Niagara region to any areas in Monroe County. Thank you.

Sincerely,

April N. M. Baskin  
Chair, Erie County Legislature

cc: Hon. Carl Heastie, Speaker, NYS Assembly (NYS Capitol, Albany, NY 12248)  
Hon. Andrea Stewart Cousins, Maj Leader, NYS Senate (NYS Capitol, Albany, NY 12248)  
Legislative Task Force on Redistricting, (250 Broadway, Ste. 2100, New York, NY 10007)

Hello,

As a 24-year resident of Larchmont, NY, I am very concerned about the redistricting proposal that will split Larchmont and other parts of the town of Mamaroneck off from the rest of the town of Mamaroneck. This will dilute our voices and make it harder to get attention for the issues that matter specifically to our community, like flooding, and make it more difficult for local officials to interface with the federal government to meet the needs of our constituents.

Please reconsider this proposal.

Thank you!

Kirsten Graham  
2 Winslow Place  
Larchmont, NY 10538

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 1/20/2022 10:33 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Denise
- **Last Name:** Dunn
- **Email:** dfd2925@gmail.com
- **Body:** Keep Mamaroneck and Larchmont together - we have many tri-municipal priorities and must stay together today and the future.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Southern Tier

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## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 21, 2022 8:45 AM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Ian
- **Last Name:** Swainson
- **Email:** ISWAINSON@GMAIL.COM
- **Body:** I am a concerned citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. I do not believe that a single Representative can adequately represent the diverse interests of three counties in a conglomeration of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14. I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission and continues to be, but I do not want the Commission to dilute any Westchester votes in this manner, and for the next ten years. This same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing.

Thank you.

Ian Swainson

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Southern Tier

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## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 21, 2022 10:47 AM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Diana
- **Last Name:** Moreno
- **Email:** Diana@nynice.org
- **Body:** To: New York State Independent Redistricting Commission From: New Immigrant Community Empowerment Date: January 21, 2022 Subject: Concerns About Current Redistricting Plans

Dear New York State Independent Redistricting Commission,

I am writing to you today in my capacity as interim Executive Director of New Immigrant Community Empowerment, a nonprofit organization, based out of Jackson Heights in Queens, dedicated to improving the lives of vulnerable and precarious immigrant workers in New York, with a focus on day laborers, domestic workers, and newly arrived immigrants. Our work revolves around providing an extensive set of services, community organizing and leadership development programs to the diverse immigrant community in and around Jackson Heights.

I am writing to you to express concern about the redistricting of Jackson Heights and parts of Woodside, Queens from New York Congressional District 14. Our 15,000 rank-and-file members, and community leaders have felt amply represented by Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and would like to



Via email to:

Karen Blatt – Co-Executive Director (blattk@nyirc.gov)

Douglas Breakell – Co Executive Director (breakelld@nyirc.gov)

New York Independent Redistricting Commission

January 20, 2022

Dear Commissioners:

We, the New York Latino Civic Engagement Coalition,<sup>1</sup> are writing to express our deep concern with the status of New York’s redistricting process and the New York State Independent Redistricting Commission’s inability to reach consensus on a single set of maps for consideration by the New York State Legislature. In 2014, New Yorkers overwhelmingly voted to establish the Commission, which created an opportunity to remove the state’s redistricting process from the influence of partisan maneuverings that often led to maps that were not fair for all New Yorkers, including Latinos. The current redistricting cycle serves as an important opportunity for New Yorkers to have a meaningful voice in the line-drawing process. As the Commission and the Legislature navigate the process during the upcoming weeks, we continue to advocate for a process that is transparent, responsive to community input, and produces maps that provide New York’s under-represented communities with a fair opportunity to elect the candidates of their choice.

As civic engagement organizations focused on protecting the rights of New York’s Latino communities, we actively engaged community members in the Commission’s redistricting process and mobilized them to provide public comment during the commission’s summer and fall hearings. We invested in mobilizing community members to participate in the process because we saw it as a true opportunity for our community’s voices to be heard and reflected. We also believe that the Commission’s maps must reflect the significant growth of the state’s Latino community. The percentage of New York State’s Latinos increased from 17.6% in 2010 to 19.5% in 2020; nearly one in five New Yorkers are Latino. In New York State, Latinos accounted for nearly two-thirds (64.5%) of the population growth between 2010 and 2020, and Latinos now comprise 28% of New York City’s total population. To ensure the success of the independent redistricting process – a process that should empower community voices and reflect

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<sup>1</sup> The New York Latino Civic Engagement Coalition is a non-partisan group of community based organizations consisting of LatinoJustice PRLDEF, Hispanic Federation, NALEO Educational Fund, and Dominicanos USA. Collectively, we engage community members to promote civic engagement while advocating for equitable and open access for Latino community members to the franchise.

a fair and responsive democracy for New York for the next 10 years, and we look forward to continuing to work with the Commission to make this vision a reality.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fulvia Vargas-De Leon  
Associate Counsel | LatinoJustice PRLDEF  
Email: [fvargasdeleon@latinojustice.org](mailto:fvargasdeleon@latinojustice.org)

Eddie Cuesta  
Executive Director | Dominicanos USA  
Email: [ecuesta@dominicanosusa.org](mailto:ecuesta@dominicanosusa.org)

Frederick Velez  
National Director for Civic Engagement | Hispanic Federation  
Email: [fvelez@hispanicfederation.org](mailto:fvelez@hispanicfederation.org)

Orlando R. Ovalles  
Northeast Director of Civic Engagement | NALEO Educational Fund  
Email: [oovalles@naleo.org](mailto:oovalles@naleo.org)



## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 21, 2022 11:45 AM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Dvora Wolff
- **Last Name:** Rabino
- **Email:** wolfbee56@gmail.com
- **Body:** I live in Larchmont within the Town of Mamaroneck in the county of Westchester. I understand that the current redistricting plan would split the town into two or even three different districts. I ask that this not be done, for two reasons. First, it will be confusing to residents. Second, it will dilute our residents' voice when it comes to seeking Congressional help with issues of particular importance to our town, including flooding.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours, Dvora Wolff Rabino

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Mid-Hudson

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## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 21, 2022 3:12 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** ANDRE
- **Last Name:** FRIEDLI
- **Email:** afriedli@gmail.com
- **Body:** We are writing to you today to express our opposition to the currently proposed congressional redistricting plan to split the Town of Mamaroneck and the Village of Mamaroneck into two separate congressional districts (NY14 and NY16), and separate the Sound Shore communities who have long shared congressional representation. This partitioning of both the Town of Mamaroneck and the Village of Mamaroneck into two districts will make it more difficult for local officials to interface with the federal government to meet the needs of our constituents, it dilutes our voices and makes it harder to get attention for the issues that matter specifically to our community, such as flooding. It will also create confusion among our residents when seeking constituent services.

Sincerely, André Friedli 120 Beechwood Dr. Mamaroneck NY  
10543

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional

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## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 21, 2022 4:01 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Mara
- **Last Name:** Covell
- **Email:** mara.covell@gmail.com
- **Body:** I AM AGAINST REDISTRICTING IN MAMARONECK AND LARCHMONT.
- **Categories Selected:** Southern Tier

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This e-mail has been automatically generated

## Submissions

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**From:** Jane Hoffman <janehoffman101@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 21, 2022 4:45 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** concerns about the proposed redistricting plans

Dear Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission and New York State Legislature:

I am a concerned citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. I do not believe that a single Representative can adequately represent the diverse interests of three counties in a conglomeration of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14.

I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission and continues to be, but I do not want the Commission to dilute any Westchester votes in this manner, and for the next ten years. This same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing.

Thank you.

Jane Hoffman

Resident of the town of Mamaroneck

## Redistricting in Westchester

Mindy Gibson <mindycgibson@gmail.com>

Fri 1/21/2022 4:48 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Dear Sirs/Madames:

I have become aware of a very disturbing prospect - that the voice, needs, and concerns of Westchester residents, specifically those living in the Sound Shore region will be minimized by the proposed congressional redistricting. Both proposed maps drawn previously were completely unacceptable, and I urge you to take action to ensure that the next iteration addresses our concerns.

As you know, the proposed maps, that have since been rejected, split both the Village and Town of Mamaroneck into two pieces. This is not acceptable in any new proposal. As a resident of the Village of Mamaroneck/Town of Rye/Rye Neck School district, our district should not be separate from our neighbors. Any absurdly shaped congressional district is a gerrymandered atrocity. Any proposal that violates the Commission's stated principle of keeping communities of interest and municipalities together, is unacceptable. Larchmont and Mamaroneck, as well as our bookmarked towns on either side - Rye and New Rochelle are part of the Sound Shore Community. We truly are a community, with similar concerns.

This division of the Sound Shore community into pieces will make it extremely difficult to get attention for Sound Shore environmental and other concerns because of the divided attention of two representatives instead of one, and the smaller portion we will represent in the district of each.

As it is, my district - 16 - incorporates sections of the Northern Bronx. I don't believe that serves either of the areas well, but the recently proposed maps took that to a new level. Please bear in mind, we do not have the same concerns as city residents. The Bronx and Queens are completely separate from Westchester County. Our needs will be dwarfed by theirs if we are apportioned into a district where we are minimized. Westchester and NYC have many more differences than similarities including our schools, transportation systems, and government. The two regions must be kept separate.

Please redraw this portion of the maps to:

- Keep Larchmont/Mamaroneck together, including Town and Villages
- Keep the Sound Shore together especially for environmental reasons
- Keep our small Sound Shore communities separate from a huge NYC area where we will get little attention
- Increase the size of the Westchester portion of the districts so the county is not marginalized

I urge you to take your responsibility seriously and ensure that all citizens have the best possible representation and equal voice in our government.

Thank you.

Mindy Gibson  
Mamaroneck Village/Rye Town/Rye Neck School District

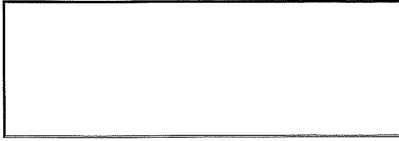
--  
Mindy Gibson  
[mindycgibson@gmail.com](mailto:mindycgibson@gmail.com)  
(631) 235-4625 mobile

Evolve Strategic Communications

Mindy Gibson, Co-Founder

<https://www.evolvestrategiccommunications.com/>

Mobile: 631-235-4625



## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Fri 1/21/2022 6:01 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Ralph
- **Last Name:** Engel
- **Email:** engelesq@gmail.com
- **Body:** The fact that you do not even have a "Location" category that fits where we live illustrates the problem with the proposed district map.

For 10 years my wife and I have lived (and we still live) in postal Larchmont but in the Town of Mamaroneck in the Sound Shore portion of Westchester County. We previously lived, with our children, for 40 years, in the Village of Larchmont, all of which itself is part of the Town of Mamaroneck. Furthermore, the Town of Mamaroneck also includes about 2/3 of the Village of Mamaroneck. None of us live in The Bronx (although my wife grew up there, and I went to college there, both many decades ago), and our problems are typically not closely related to the problems faced by many residents of The Bronx. I have served on various Village of Larchmont and Town of Mamaroneck boards and committees for over 35 years, and, for the last 5, I have headed the Town of Mamaroneck's Planning Board. Accordingly, I am very familiar with how things work around here. The main point is that the entire Town of Mamaroneck, including the entire Village of Larchmont and the entire Village of Mamaroneck, even the 1/3 of that Village that is not in the Town of Mamaroneck, are effectively governed as one coordinated area, and the entire population of all three should remain in one and the same Congressional (as well as Assembly and Senate) district.

Furthermore, we should be in governmental districts the residents of which have problems similar to ours, which would involve most of Westchester, but not most of The Bronx, so that we may be properly represented at all levels of government, just

as the residents of The Bronx should be in districts which have representatives that will represent them and deal with their problems. Thus I urge you to keep the entire Village of Larchmont, the entire Village of Mamaroneck and the entire Town of Mamaroneck in the same Congressional (as well as Senate and Assembly) districts, and to make those districts part of other Westchester County districts, so that the people who live where we live may be properly represented by our government representatives. Thank you for your consideration.

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional

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## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 22, 2022 9:02 AM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Cheryl
- **Last Name:** Palermo
- **Email:** cher0571@gmail.com
- **Body:** We cannot redistrict Larchmont and Mamaroneck. We are a community, part of the sound shore. It would be detrimental
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Mid-Hudson

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## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 22, 2022 9:35 AM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Donald
- **Last Name:** Werder
- **Email:** donwerder@gmail.com
- **Body:** I have been living in Tompkins County 9.5 years. This county should not be in the 23rd district. It has never had representation in the US House of Representatives. In fact, its representative, Tom Reed, has been openly hostile to the county, and to Ithaca, in particular. Tompkins County is the only majority Democratic county in the 23rd, so its interest will never be considered by any elected representative in the Southern Tier's 23rd district. Tompkins County has no place in the 23rd district. It should be in the 22nd district.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Finger Lakes, Southern Tier

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## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 22, 2022 3:39 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

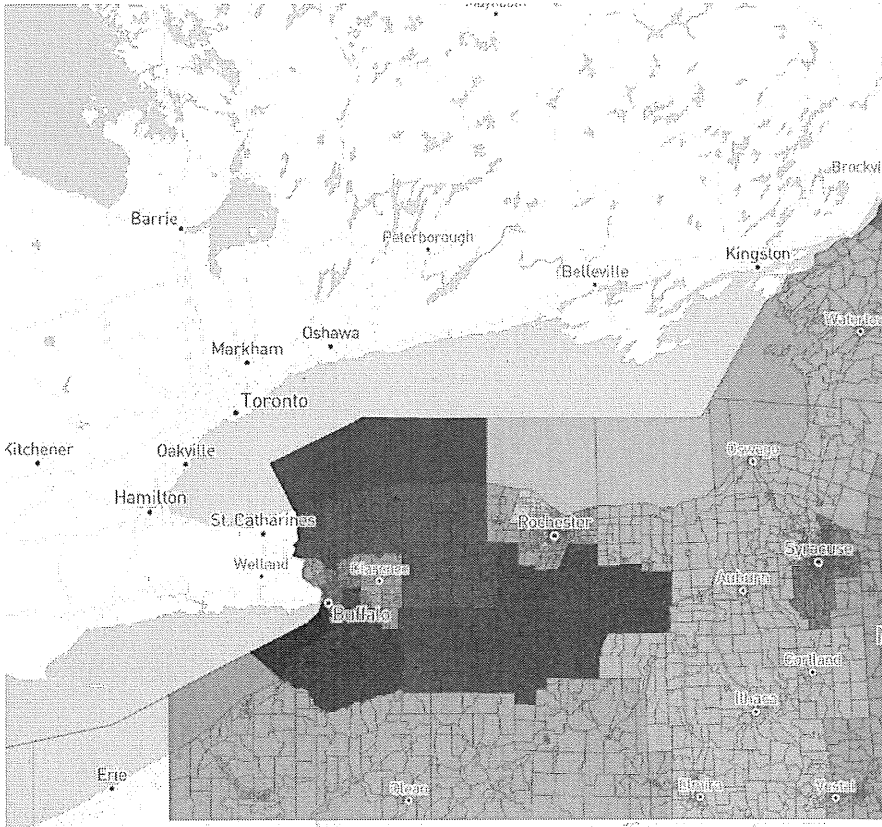
- **First Name:** Mark
- **Last Name:** Braiman
- **Email:** mbraiman@twcny.rr.com
- **Body:** I am updating an earlier upstate Senate map that I provided. This one is designed to mesh with the Plan A Senate map produced by the IRC in December, so that its districts 1-37,39, and 40 are untouched. The district numbered 38 in my plan here contains only Putnam County, and the portion of Westchester County to the north of districts 39 and 40 in the IRC Plan A.

You can see the full details of this plan at:

<https://districtr.org/plan/87313>

Relative to my earlier upstate redistricting, this also has some other changes that bring the populations in each district closer to equal, without ever dividing any of the 49 smaller counties in the state (those smaller than the standard Senate district size). The maximum deviation from this standard size is 5.5%

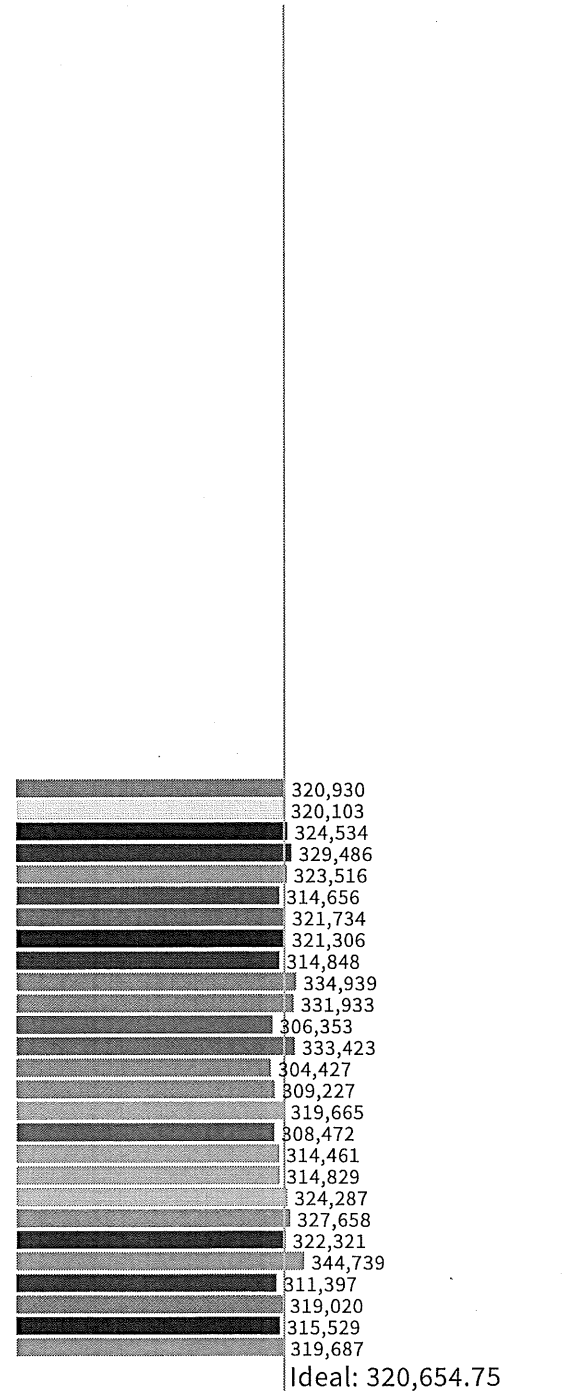
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** State Senate, Capital Region, Central New York, Finger Lakes, Mid-Hudson, North Country/ Mohawk Valley, Southern Tier, Western New York



Population | Data Layers | Evaluation

### Population Balance

① Uses 2020 Decennial Census data on 2020 Block Groups.



UNASSIGNED POPULATION: 11,547,769  
 MAX. POPULATION DEVIATION: 7.51%

Whatever the need may be, to divide large counties among multiple legislative districts in order to keep them nearly equal in size, this need is not present for smaller Upstate counties. This map is a mathematic proof of this, showing that it is possible to keep every county, city, and town with a population under 320,655 undivided, and almost all villages, without skirting any of the other Constitutional criteria the IRC must follow.

There are 40 State Senate districts in the "Plan A" proposal submitted by the Independent Redistricting Commission that reach through the middle of Westchester County (numbered 1-37,39, and 40). These have a combined population of 12,519,302. There is no attempt here to re-define the boundaries of any of these "40 Downstate Plan A districts." The remainder of Upstate NY has a 2020 population of 7,681,947. This corresponds to 23.957 times the average Senate district size (320,655, or 1/63 of the state's population). The Upstate Senate Districting plan here defines 24 State Senate districts for this Upstate population.

North of Westchester, there are only 5 Upstate counties with populations entitling them to over one full State Senate district: Erie (almost exactly 3 full districts); Monroe (2.37); Onondaga (1.486); Orange (1.25), and Rockland (1.05). All the remaining 50 counties have fewer than 320,655 inhabitants in the 2020 census. If, as the NY Constitution mandates, Onondaga and Orange Counties were each left undivided as a single Senate district, or if Monroe County were divided into 2 equal districts, this would result in a district over 18% larger than the standard district size. These deviations appear to me likely to be violations of the "one-man, one-vote" principle laid out in Reynolds v. Sims. That is, this landmark court ruling might be used to justify the division of these 3 counties—but in my opinion, no more.

The district map below shows that by dividing only Monroe, Onondaga, and Orange, it is possible to avoid population imbalances greater than 5.5% above or 5.1% below ideal. The district with the most is Rockland County by itself. There is no good justification for dividing it; 105.5% of average is hardly an outrageous deviation. The ratio of the populations of the largest and smallest districts in this map is 338,329/304,427 or 1.111. A mere 11% discrepancy between largest and smallest populations in State Senate districts is not a self-evident violation of one-man, one-vote principle as elaborated in a US Supreme Court decision (Reynolds v. Sims).

The districting below furthermore divides *no Upstate city or town*. None of these has a population greater than 320,655. This is important for creating Senate districts with nonwhite majorities in Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo. On the other hand, the need to create such districts where possible is a justification for dividing Monroe and Onondaga counties: It better allows groups that have traditionally experienced voting-rights discrimination to gain fair representation in the NY Senate.

There are a few remaining features of this districting map that are slightly concerning, but unavoidable if counties are not to be divided unnecessarily:

- 1) The "excess populations" of Monroe, Onondaga, and Orange counties (over their populations that form integer numbers of districts) are each divided among 3, 3, and 2 neighboring Senate districts, respectively, rather than just 1 each. This means that the Boards of Elections in these 3 counties must each track 1 or 2 more State Senate races than the minimum necessary; and voters' identities in these 3 counties are divided more than the minimum necessary to achieve equal-sized districts. So far, I have not found an Upstate Senate districting map that reduces this problem further, without also leading to significantly more unequal district sizes.
- 2) District 63, which contains the whole of Buffalo, plus the towns of Lackawanna and Grand Island, stretches to the limit the definition of "contiguous". However, any town consisting of a single island is, by any strict definition, non-contiguous with any other jurisdiction. The only jurisdictions in Erie County that are "more" contiguous with Grand Island than Buffalo would be Tonawanda Town and Tonawanda City. I could not come up with an equal 3-way division of Erie County that keeps the City of Buffalo intact in a single district, and that also groups Grand Island with either of the Tonawanda jurisdictions. If one is found, I would consider it superior to the district map below.
- 3) District 43 consists of Dutchess County plus 2 appropriately sized towns in Orange County, that are across the Hudson River. The shape of this "tab" in District 43 is less compact than desirable. However, Dutchess County is just a bit too small for a single Senate district. Shifting these 2 towns from Orange County equalizes the population of districts 42 and 43 as no other "more-compact" shifts between these 2 districts can.
- 4) Several of the other districts (49, 53, 54, 55, 59) are also less compact than desirable. However, these shapes are necessary in order to allow compliance with the NY Constitution while keeping district sizes within  $\pm 5.5\%$  of ideal.

## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 22, 2022 3:59 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** James
- **Last Name:** Fanto
- **Email:** james.fanto@brooklaw.edu
- **Body:** I live in the Village of Larchmont. It makes no sense to link us and the Village of Mamaroneck with the Bronx and even parts of Queens. I urge you to keep the entire Village of Larchmont, the entire Village of Mamaroneck and the entire Town of Mamaroneck in the same Congressional (as well as Senate and Assembly) districts, and to make those districts part of other Westchester County districts, so that the people who live where we live may be properly represented by our government representatives. Thank you for your consideration.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Southern Tier

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sat 1/22/2022 4:08 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Sabrina
- **Last Name:** Fiddelman
- **Email:** sabrina.fiddelman@gmail.com
- **Body:** Dear Mr. Imamura, Mr. Martins and Honorable members of the New York State Redistricting Committee,

I am strongly opposed to the current maps that have been presented for congressional redistricting of the Town and Village of Mamaroneck and the Village of Larchmont. We, as residents of the Sound Shore, have long shared congressional representation. To deprive us of that now will severely diminish our voices and needs from consideration in Congress for the next decade. It is important not only to understand the close working relationship and governmental interconnectedness that exists within our tri-municipal boundaries, but the fact that all of the Village of Larchmont and the majority of the Village of Mamaroneck lie within the Town of Mamaroneck. The Town of Mamaroneck and the Villages of Larchmont and Mamaroneck have a long history of sharing municipal services such as EMS, library, community counseling, sanitation, recreation, capital improvement contracts and equipment, as well as sharing a school district. Our local governments often present our shared needs to our congressional representative as a tri-municipal entity to best represent us, the residents of the Town and Villages, and secure federal support. My primary concern with the proposed plan is our separation into two congressional districts. This partitioning will make it more difficult for our local elected officials to interface with the federal government to meet our needs. It dilutes our voices and makes it

harder to get attention for the issues that matter specifically to us in the community. My secondary concern is that, since the entire area is within the Long Island Sound watershed, all of our storm water flows into Long Island Sound, and our sanitary sewers flow into either the New Rochelle or Mamaroneck Valley treatment plants. Separating the Sound Shore communities in two congressional districts would undercut potential regional solutions and inter-municipal cooperative programs to comprehensively address storm water and sanitary sewer issues and regional flooding. These common interests and the need to work together to address shared environmental matters that impact the Long Island Sound mean that, to be successful, these joint efforts frequently involve federal money and common representation. In conclusion, these proposals disregard the common goals, shared identity and long-standing collaborative efforts in many areas of mutual concern for residents of the Sound Shore. We deserve to have a single voice represent our collective, unique, mutual interests. Again, I strongly oppose the proposed boundaries for the 16th and 17th Congressional districts and urge the Commission to reconsider this proposal. Thank you for your time.

Sabrina Fiddelman 10 Indian Cove Road Mamaroneck, NY

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Mid-Hudson

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## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 23, 2022 10:33 AM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** John
- **Last Name:** Lee
- **Email:** larchmontlees@gmail.com
- **Body:** Please do not split Mamaroneck into two congressional districts - I am a 50 year resident. We are one community with shared interests. From nursery school to retirement, Mamaroneck residents share schooling, religious services, cultural events etc - we act as ONE - to disrupt this is pointless and destructive.
- **Categories Selected:** Mid-Hudson

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## Submissions

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**From:** Mareha <mareha@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 23, 2022 5:37 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Proposed Redistricting in Westchester County

Dear Commission Members,

I am a concerned citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. I do not believe that a single Representative can adequately represent the diverse interests of three counties in a conglomeration of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14.

Furthermore, the new map actually divides our towns, which doesn't make sense at all. We want Larchmont and Mamaroneck (including the Rye Neck portion) kept together in one CD district. We would also like our district to include all the other Westchester Sound Shore communities and our neighboring Westchester communities.

I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission and continues to be, but I do not want the Commission to dilute any Westchester votes in this manner, and for the next ten years. This same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing.

Thank you,

Marianne

## Submissions

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**From:** Ruth Campanelli <recx2@optimum.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 23, 2022 6:06 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Proposed redistricting in Westchester County

I feel very strongly against the proposed redistricting.  
I have resided at 7 Barnum Road for 60years. It is in Town of Mamaroneck, Larchmont , NY 10538

I am a concerned citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. I do not believe that a single Representative can adequately represent the diverse interests of three counties in a conglomeration of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14.

Furthermore, the new map actually divides our towns, which doesn't make sense at all. We want Larchmont and Mamaroneck (including the Rye Neck portion) kept together in one CD district. Furthermore we would like our district to include all the other Westchester Sound Shore communities and our neighboring Westchester communities.

I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission and continues to be, but I do not want the Commission to dilute any Westchester votes in this manner, and for the next ten years. This same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing.

Ruth Campanelli

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Mon 1/24/2022 11:28 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Judith
- **Last Name:** Santarsiero
- **Email:** santarsierojudith@gmail.com
- **Body:** I am submitting this communication to show and support to the opposition proposing redistricting plans to change the boundaries of the 16th Congressional District. Separating this district into NY 14 and NY 16 would be devastating and reduce the voice of this Sound Shore community. I wholeheartedly concur that changing the boundaries would NOT benefit our communities but rather make it impossible for our local officials to interface with the Federal Government with a common voice regarding big issues that we face all too often such as flooding. Currently the Town of Mamaroneck and the Villages of Mamaroneck and Larchmont have had a long history of working together as we share many services such as EMS, sanitation, recreation, community counseling, capital improvement contracts and a school district. I agree this community deserves to have a single voice to represent our unique and mutual interests.  
As a 20+ year resident of the Village of Mamaroneck I would like to ensure that my voice is heard and implore you to REJECT this proposal to redistrict the 16th Congressional district.  
Respectfully Judith Santarsiero 325 Palmer Terrace 2D  
Mamaroneck, NY 10543
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Southern Tier

## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 6:22 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Lisa
- **Last Name:** Schwartzman
- **Email:** drlisakaren@aol.com
- **Body:** I am a resident of the Village of Larchmont and I agree with the attached letter from my Mayor, Lorraine Walsh.  
Sincerely, Lisa Weiss Schwartzman
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Southern Tier

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January 18, 2022

David Imamura, Chair  
Jack Martins, Vice-Chair  
Honorable Members of the New York State  
Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10007

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair and Honorable Commissioners:

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in your process of obtaining public input on the redistricting plans for New York State. We ask that this correspondence be made part of the official record.

The currently proposed congressional redistricting plan splits the Town of Mamaroneck and the Village of Mamaroneck into two separate congressional districts (NY14 and NY16), and separates the Sound Shore communities who have long shared congressional representation.

The Town of Mamaroneck, Village of Mamaroneck and Village of Larchmont are joined in their opposition to the proposed congressional redistricting plan for our municipalities.

It is important not only to understand the close working relationship and governmental interconnectedness that exists within our tri-municipal boundaries, but the fact that all of the Village of Larchmont and the majority of the Village of Mamaroneck lie within the Town of Mamaroneck. The Town of Mamaroneck and the Villages of Larchmont and Mamaroneck have a long history of sharing municipal services, such as EMS, library, community counseling, sanitation, recreation, capital improvement contracts and equipment, as well as sharing a school district. We hold regular quarterly meetings to discuss local issues and plan for joint solutions. We have often presented our shared needs to our congressional representatives as a tri-municipal entity in order to best represent our constituents and secure federal support.

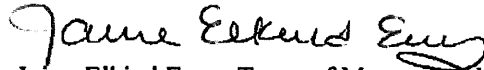
Our primary concern with the proposed plan is the separation into two congressional districts. This partitioning of both the Town of Mamaroneck and the Village of Mamaroneck into two districts will make it more difficult for local officials to interface with the federal government to meet the needs of our constituents, it dilutes our voices and makes it harder to get attention for the issues that matter specifically to our community, such as flooding. It will also create confusion among our residents when seeking constituent services.

Secondarily, since the Town and both Villages are within the Long Island watershed, all of our stormwater flows into Long Island Sound, and our sanitary sewers flow into either the New Rochelle or Mamaroneck Valley treatment plants. Separating the Sound Shore communities into two congressional districts would undercut potential regional solutions and inter-municipal cooperative agreements to comprehensively address stormwater and sanitary sewer issues and regional flooding. These common interests and the need to work together to address shared environmental matters that impact the Long Island Sound mean that, to be successful, all such joint efforts often involve federal monies and common representation.

In summation, the proposal disregards the common goals, shared identity and long-standing collaborative efforts in many areas of mutual concern among the Town of Mamaroneck and Villages of Mamaroneck and Larchmont. It also disregards the areas of mutual concern for the municipalities of the Sound Shore District. All of the Sound Shore communities deserve to have a single voice to represent their collective, unique and mutual interests.

The Town of Mamaroneck, Village of Mamaroneck, and Village of Larchmont therefore strongly oppose the proposed change in the boundaries of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and urge the Commission to reconsider such proposal.

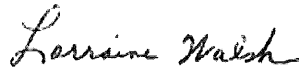
Sincerely,



Jaime Elkind Eney, Town of Mamaroneck Supervisor



Tom Murphy, Village of Mamaroneck Mayor



Lorraine Walsh, Village of Larchmont Mayor

cc: New York State Assemblyman Steve Otis  
New York State Senator Shelley Mayer

## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 9:52 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Map Submitted

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Uri
- **Last Name:** Hoch
- **Email:** urimaxx@gmail.com
- **Description:** Proposed Congressional Map of New York updated *excel precinct assignments* • Good compactness score • Good minority score. Increases number of majority minority districts to 11 and maintains the 3 black majority, 3 hispanic majority and 1 near asian majority districts • Good splitting score with many counties kept intact • Creates 12 competitive districts, 5 of which are highly competitive. • Populations do not deviate from ideal population size by more than .05%. online map link: <https://davesredistricting.org/join/3ae15c45-5fba-4a6c-a9c1-c1b08c637500>
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Long Island, Mid-Hudson, North Country/ Mohawk Valley, Southern Tier, Central New York, Finger Lakes, Western New York, Bronx, Staten Island, Capital Region

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## **Interested Parties Memo: Preserving and Strengthening Communities of Interest**

TO: Interested Parties

FR: Chairman Sean Patrick Maloney, Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee

DT: 01.25.2022

### **Overview**

New York is a diverse and vibrant state that has been badly served for the last decade by a map that fails to group like communities together and therefore dilutes the voices of New Yorkers in Congress. The legislature should take action to bring folks with similar needs throughout the state together and correct the errors of the past.

In New York City and the surrounding areas, the current map does a serviceable job ensuring that communities are linked together and that minority representation is strong - as the New York State constitution requires. Of course, communities have changed over the past decade and the new map should reflect that. Ultimately, although lines may shift or expand, the districts must preserve the ability of minority communities to elect their chosen representatives to Congress. Groups like the Unity Coalition have suggested maps that adhere to the state constitutional requirement that maps shall not abridge the voting rights of racial or language minorities. We have used their suggestions below to preserve minority opportunity districts while adding to their work on Long Island where there is a clear opportunity for a new majority-minority district.

Although New York State is home to America's most populous city, it is also home to dozens of mid-sized and small cities. These cities are vibrant centers of culture and education and are often the engines driving regional economic growth. But, like many other urban areas around the country, they have unique challenges, with crumbling infrastructure, high rates of crime, addiction, and poverty. These communities need representation in Congress that understands both their struggles and opportunities and is willing to fight for the tools they need to reach their full potential. Meanwhile, the state's rural and agricultural communities are often set at odds with the needs of the urban and suburban communities - meaning no one is getting the advocacy they deserve.

In correcting these imbalances, the New York Legislature must also deal with some hard facts. New York is losing a seat because it did not grow as fast as other states in the past 10 years, adding only 823k people. The population growth was not evenly distributed, with nearly all of it (+828k) occurring in the 12 "downstate"

counties from Mid-Hudson through Long Island. Meanwhile, all but 11 of the 50 upstate counties lost population. Within those counties, there was also a shift toward urban and suburban centers – for example, the city of Syracuse grew for the first time in 70 years, while the populations of surrounding upstate communities decreased dramatically.

### **Western New York, the Finger Lakes, and the Western Southern Tier**

For generations, the population centers of Western New York and the Finger Lakes region have clustered around four predominant water features – Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, the Niagara River, and the Erie Canal. The cities and towns that grew up along the water are certainly the largest in the region and larger than nearly every other city outside of the New York City media market.

In fact, these communities, from the biggest cities of Buffalo and Rochester, to the smaller towns like Greece, Tonawanda, Niagara Falls, and Lackawanna are too big for a single congressional district. There should be two seats to represent these lakefront communities.

#### **New York's 26th Congressional District:**

The first should follow the lake from just north of Silver Creek up through the northern border of Buffalo city, and include the Buffalo suburbs Eggertsville, Cheektowaga, Harris Hill Clarence, West Seneca, Lackawanna, and the southwest lake communities of East Aurora, North Boston, and Lake Erie Beach. This compact, metro Buffalo district is a clear and obvious community of interest.

#### **New York's 25th Congressional District:**

The second district should reunite the old Erie Canal towns of Rochester and Tonawanda with the industrial and tourism communities along Lake Ontario and the Niagara River, drawing in the City of Rochester, and the Monroe County towns of Irondequoit, Clarkson, Brockport, Hamlin, while heading north and west along the lake to Lockport, and then over to Niagara Falls, and the aforementioned towns of Tonawanda and North Tonawanda. This district would resemble the previous iteration of the congressional maps before the 2012 redraw, which recognized the urban centers of these lakefront communities have shared communities and needs.

#### **New York's 23rd & 27th Congressional Districts:**

Due in part to similar planting hardiness zones and soil composition, the agricultural industries of Chautauqua, Wyoming, Genesee, Livingston, Allegany, Schuyler, and Steuben Counties generate billions of dollars in annual revenue. These breadbasket communities are dominated by farmland, producing dairy, grains, hay, corn, and

other specialty vegetables and fruits. Along with Seneca and Yates Counties, these counties are leaders in New York State's hog, pig, sheep, cattle, and calf production. This region also claims some of New York's biggest grape and wine producers. It is also home to some of the largest swaths of public and private forestland and hunting grounds, centered in the Pennsylvania border communities of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Steuben and western Chemung Counties. These counties are also very sparsely populated, with only two or three cities like Batavia and Bath claiming more than ten thousand residents.

Ideally, all of these communities would be joined together in one district, so their representative in Congress can be laser focused on their issues.

This more rural district could include the outer suburban and exurban areas as well as the farmland and forested areas of Orleans, Niagara, and Monroe Counties to unite agricultural interests. These areas would add to the agricultural profile of this combined district, picking up some of the most important fruit and horticultural producers in New York State and making this single district responsible for roughly 1/3rd of the state's agricultural sales.

### **Central New York, Eastern Southern Tier, and the Mohawk Valley:**

This region of the state is often the hardest to classify. Looking at dozens of organizational maps, from NYISO, Empire State Development regions, the SUNY system, statewide nonprofits, and even high school sports leagues one can see quickly that unlike the Hudson Valley or the North Country, regional boundaries here are not always clear. A new map should not be solely bound to these old classifications, but again seek to join similar small and mid-sized cities to unite New Yorkers in this region who have similar interests.

### **New York's 24th Congressional District:**

As noted above, the city of Syracuse, in Onondaga County, has grown in the last decade, for the first time in 70 years. At the same time, the four counties surrounding Onondaga County all lost population: Cayuga (-4.7 percent), Oswego (-3.8 percent), Madison (-7.4 percent) and Cortland (-5.1 percent). This population loss means that the current mapping configurations must change. The Central New York seat, now known as the 24th, should ideally tie together similar urban and suburban communities. These communities are more diverse than the surrounding areas and share many important educational institutions like SUNY Geneseo, SUNY Oswego, and Syracuse University. To unite these communities of interest, this district should have a westernmost edge starting at the Irondequoit Bay. The district should then extend east along the Lake Ontario shoreline to Oswego County, and then follow down the Oswego River to Onondaga Lake and the city of Syracuse.

The district should also cross over the top of the Finger Lakes, uniting the tourism industries of the lakeside cities and towns of Skaneateles, Auburn, Seneca Falls, Geneva, and Canandaigua. The district would also include Geneseo and the SUNY Geneseo campus.

### **New York's 22nd Congressional District:**

The cities of the eastern Southern Tier region, the Mohawk Valley, and the Central Leatherstocking region should also be united to form a district stretching from the eastern Syracuse suburbs up the river to Oneida Lake. This district, which would roughly take the place of the current 22<sup>nd</sup> district, would contain these communities, which are driven by the manufacturing and logistics industries, along with the professional support services that accompany these economies. In the outlying communities, retail, agriculture, and hospitality are more common. Similar to the urban/rural divide in the other parts of the state, there is a significant difference in diversity as well.

The district should extend out along the southern lakefront and – unlike some iterations of the commission maps – draw in the entirety of the Oneida Nation to keep that community of interest whole.

Because the neighboring 21st district to the north needs to gain 72,000 voters (and can only go south) the city of Rome should be the northern border of the 22nd district and the outlying areas should be the southernmost border of the 21st.

Rome would continue to be grouped with the nearby city of Utica, given the shared economic and cultural interests of those two cities, but the 21st would need to gain neighboring Herkimer County. The 22nd district could also extend south, picking up the counties of Madison, Chenango, and Cortland, and adding in the nearby lake communities around Cayuga Lake and Seneca Lake.

### **New York's 20th Congressional District:**

The Capital Region should have a district situated around Albany, to the west of the Hudson River that includes all of Albany, Schenectady, and all of Saratoga Counties. This is similar to the existing 20th seat and may only need to add small portions of neighboring Montgomery County to balance out the population.

### **New York's 21st Congressional District:**

As stated above, the northernmost New York district now called the 21st must grow south, extending into eastern Oswego, northern Oneida (along the lake), all of Herkimer, Fulton, Montgomery, and northern Rensselaer counties. This scenic district should retain the rural quality of its communities, even as it expands

geographically. This Adirondack Mountain seat is home to the largest forestland in New York State, and the areas we suggest are similarly forested regions just outside the current lines. The communities around the Mohawk River Valley should be the southern border since those communities would share similar economic drivers in the tourism and agricultural industries – particularly the dairy industry.

### **The Hudson Valley:**

#### **New York's 19th Congressional District:**

The 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Congressional districts should be Hudson River districts, and group together the communities that have grown around the water. These communities share similar priorities and assets, namely environmental conservation, tourism and cultural cultivation, educational institutions, Revolutionary War landmarks, and significant freight, commuter and passenger rail lines like Metro North and Amtrak. They also all struggle with infrastructure challenges, economic revitalization, and in some cases crime and poverty.

The Upper Hudson, Catskill Mountain, and Mohawk Valley seat, now the 19th, would go south of what is now the 21st on the eastern side of the Hudson River. This seat would take in nearly all of Columbia County, allowing the district to encircle Albany County. The 19th would connect the northern Hudson Valley river communities to the east by travelling south between the mountains that border the river (roughly Route 9) and the Hudson River itself, uniting the voters on both sides of this important natural feature. The Walkway Over the Hudson should be the southern border of the district, which then continues over the river and to the city of New Paltz, Woodstock, and SUNY New Paltz. Again, these communities would be united in their shared comparative diversity, their historical cultural connection to the region, as well as educational and economic assets.

On the western side of the Hudson River, the 19th would still include all of Schoharie, Delaware, and Greene, but would also connect all of Binghamton and surrounding Broome County to Ithaca and the southern half of Tompkins County. This would unite technology and educational hubs around Poughkeepsie in the Hudson Valley with some technology hubs in Binghamton and the Capital Region.

This district would stretch from the Hudson Valley to Tompkins County, through the Catskills and along the communities around the Susquehanna River just as the late Rep. Maurice Hinchey's district once did.

The communities and urban centers of Tompkins County are similar to the communities in and around Kingston, New Paltz, and Poughkeepsie and grouping

those areas is a smart way to find similar communities without breaking up other communities of interest in nearby districts.

Population growth from the lower Hudson and the suburban New York City counties means the 19th cannot grow south – those lower districts are already growing upward to find similar populations. And, as we have stated before, the northernmost seat (the 21st) must grow because of population loss, and cannot grow north into Canada. In order for the 21st to pick up similar communities of interest it needs to grow south, because growing west would mean disrupting the communities of interest that make up the 24th and 22nd seats.

In sum, the 19th is being pushed by population changes from below and above its existing borders and must reach west to put similar communities of interest within the same district.

### **New York's 18th Congressional District:**

The Mid-Hudson seat, now known as the 18th, should largely be a Hudson Highlands seat, existing among and between the mountains that surround the Hudson River, and then out into the surrounding farming communities. The 18th does need to pick up some of the current 19<sup>th</sup>. The best option is to add the dairy farming communities in the outlying areas of Ulster County, thereby uniting them with the blackdirt farming communities in Orange County. Nestled in this Orange County farmland is the Orthodox Jewish community of Palm Tree. This community's infrastructure needs are closely connected with the river towns, so keeping them together makes the most sense.

As in the 19th, this seat would also seek to unite the river communities on the east and west of the Hudson. In the western portion of the district along the river, the lines should match the current district's configuration stopping at the Orange/Rockland border.

On the eastern side of the Hudson, the district would roughly follow along the North-South thoroughfare of the Taconic Parkway that distinguishes between the Highlands towns along the Hudson in the western parts of Westchester, Dutchess and Putnam Counties. The eastern parts of those counties that are more sparsely populated Connecticut and Massachusetts border communities should be in the 16th because of their shared concerns with other people in that district.

Uniting these riverfront communities along the mountains will allow their Representative in Congress to focus on best representing their transportation, energy infrastructure, water, environmental protection, historical preservation, and economic development needs.

On the east side of the river, the 18th should grow south into Ossining. This would unite the cities and towns along routes 9 and 9D like Peekskill, Montrose, Buchanan, and Croton-on-Hudson with the very similar communities like Beacon, Wappingers Falls, Cold Spring, and Garrison to the north. The eastward lines should include Chappaqua, Katonah, and Mt Kisco – roughly following the Saw Mill River Parkway or the Metro North’s Harlem line to the New Croton Reservoir, keeping those commuter line properties together. The district would then use the Taconic Parkway as the eastern border, up through Westchester and Putnam Counties. The Taconic is an important regional dividing line in the region and serves as a main north south route of travel to New York City.

### **New York’s 17th Congressional District:**

This congressional district must grow north and west from the suburban Westchester County cities of Yonkers and White Plains and into Rockland via the Mario Cuomo Bridge. Therefore, we believe that those Westchester towns should be connected to the densely packed communities in Rockland County, like Stony Point, Ramapao, and Haverstraw which should extend up to the smaller urban centers like Port Jervis and Callicoon along the Pennsylvania border up the western half of Orange and Sullivan Counties.

This district would be similar to the district represented by former Congressman Maurice Hinchey, albeit more southerly. These communities in Westchester, Rockland, Orange and Sullivan are closely matched urban and suburban communities with outcroppings of forestland, camping grounds, suburban hideouts, and tourist spots along the Lower Catskills and Callicoon Hills and the Upper Delaware River Basin.

### **New York City:**

Ultimately the goal through much of the city should be that of least change since the courts designed these districts with communities of interest in mind during the last redistricting cycle. A new map should align those previously defined communities with the shifts in population, allowing the new map to reflect the priorities of the old. This goal means preserving or expanding the ability of minority communities to elect the Representatives of their choosing without packing like-voters into one seat or another and reducing the overall number of members these voters can send to Congress.

### **New York’s 16th Congressional District:**

The 16th district must grow north to keep whole the communities of interest in the Hudson Highlands in the Hudson Valley. Like the New York redistricting commission,

we believe this district should retain the culturally important community of Co-Op City and then move north immediately across the Bronx border to the similar cities of Mount Vernon and Yonkers. These cities should be paired with the city of Port Chester, a predominantly Hispanic/Latino community along the Connecticut border via Bronxville.

The district should continue moving south of and to the east of Scarsdale and White Plains to continue north, drawing in another Hispanic/Latino city in Brewster in the more sparsely populated areas of eastern Putnam, west of the mountains. In order to create a Hudson Highlands district in the 18th, the 16th should pick up the more rural areas in the Taconics, along eastern Dutchess. Drawing these communities together will help unite these border towns and farming communities to the east of the mountain ranges that border the river.

### **New York's 13th Congressional District:**

NY-13 must move north to the Westchester border, accounting for the expansions of districts in southern New York City. The 13th should maintain its Western border with the 15th between the Bronx and Manhattan. The 13th is pushed slightly north of Central Park to Harlem, while allowing the 10th to take parts of Morningside Heights in order to keep Columbia University whole. Because we want to maintain the strength of communities in this and neighboring districts, the 13th would need to go around the 15th and pick up like communities in the East Bronx. The growth of this district to the east of The Bronx River Forest would unite important New York City Housing Authority properties in Gun Hill, Parkside, and the East Bronx. The border should run along Gun Hill Rd as the Northern border of the 16th, up to Pelham Pkwy and the Southern border with the 14th.

### **New York's 15th Congressional District:**

The 15th district, a long-established and extremely compact majority-minority district, should be the least-changed seat in any configuration. The only change would be to pick up voters in the Bronx along its Southern or western border to help balance the population. The 15th should be kept whole to maintain its border with the 13th to the east and 12th on its southern border.

### **New York's 12th Congressional District:**

The 12th district will also largely remain the same, expanding slightly north beyond the Upper East Side into Lower East Harlem, to account for the loss of some voters



in the Lower East Side as a result of expanding districts in the south. This growth north would also keep the majority of the 12th's voters in Manhattan. As a result, the 12th would lose all of Brooklyn but keep most of the neighborhoods in western Queens along the East River, only losing the neighborhoods to the south and east of Jackson and Northern Boulevards.

#### **New York's 14th Congressional District:**

Again, the 14th district should also remain largely the same, maintaining its borders to the east with the 12th and the 15th to the North and west. Just as in the other New York City seats, population shifts in the south will naturally push the 14th north, growing into Westchester County. The communities of Pelham, Pelham Manor, and New Rochelle would help to balance the population in the district and are very closely connected to neighboring communities. These predominantly Black and Latino communities are vibrant, densely populated cousins to the New York City neighborhoods just across the border. The growth of neighboring congressional districts pushes the 14th to below the Pelham Parkway.

#### **New York's 6th Congressional District:**

The 6th district is the heart of the city's AAPI population and must remain so. The seat should largely maintain its current configuration but may lose portions of Queens to the east because of the need for population expansion in the districts on Long Island.

#### **New York's 7th Congressional District:**

The 7th district should also largely maintain its current configuration, keeping its western Brooklyn community whole, adding some voters in the Lower East Side, and largely maintaining its border with the old 12th district to the north. The district needs to add a few thousand people, so it can grow into the neighborhoods just east of the Greenwood Cemetery.

#### **New York's 9th Congressional District:**

The 9th district should also be a least-change district, maintaining its borders with the 7th and 8th districts to the east, west and north, but adding some voters just west of Homecrest along Ocean Avenue serving as a dividing line for business and transit communities between the 10th and 9th districts.

**New York's 8th Congressional District:**

Similarly, the 8th district should barely change, maintaining its borders to the west with the 9th and north with the 7th. The 8th will lose some voters in the east to the 5th district because the districts along Long Island must gain population and move west.

**New York's 10th Congressional District:**

The 10th district should continue to be a Manhattan to Brooklyn district, connecting Lower Manhattan to Brooklyn via the Brooklyn Bridge given the shared interests of those two communities on each side of the bridge. The 10th starts just north of Central Park, including all of Columbia University and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. It would then extend down to Lower Manhattan between the 12th and 11th districts, to include the 9/11 Memorial and NewYork-Presbyterian Lower Manhattan Hospital.

To better connect the Brooklyn communities that are now divided across districts, the district should follow the enacted map's vision, extending this seat from Borough Park down to Dyker Heights and south, along Ocean Parkway to eastern Gravesend by Coney Island Hospital.

**New York's 11th Congressional District:**

The seat in Staten Island must grow by nearly 11,000 people. There are only two ways to grow, either into Brooklyn or into Manhattan. Growing further into Brooklyn presents several obstacles, namely diluting minority voices in Sunset Parks or Coney Island. Instead, the map should try to reduce the district's Brooklyn footprint and grow into the west side of Manhattan. The 11th will keep its core communities in Staten Island and better serve the district by connecting the island to Lower Manhattan, via the ferry lines, where there is a natural shared interest. The 11th should then extend along the Hudson River, adding communities west of the 9/11 Memorial and up, taking in important transportation features like the Lincoln and Holland tunnels and all of the piers up to 59th street. This district would capture many of the ferry routes that tens of thousands of New Yorkers travel every day and the bridges and tunnels traversed by thousands more. These Hudson River and New Jersey border communities share many of the same transportation and housing needs and are intimately connected to one another.

The seat would still need some parts of Brooklyn, following along the Verrazzano Narrows Bridge and keeping the shoreline communities around Bay Ridge, Bath Beach, and Dyker Beach Park. These communities are connected by their shared

interest in combating climate change and mitigating damages from natural disasters and rising waters.

### **New York's 5th Congressional District:**

As the Long Island seats grow west, the 5th district can now be wholly within New York City. The communities on the eastern border of the district in Nassau County would be added to the new 4th Congressional District, to help that seat pick up needed population. This change on the easternmost border of the district necessitates adding some neighboring communities on its western border with the 8th – nearly extending to Brooklyn – and the northern edges of the 6th – likely the southern portions of Flushing and Hollis Hills. These changes would keep these neighboring communities together, rather than linking residents of Nassau County with New York City residents, and maintaining the power of minority voices in the city.

### **Long Island:**

#### **New York's 4th Congressional District:**

Continuing along the Atlantic Ocean, the southwestern Long Island seat now called the 4th should keep Long Island whole, and pick up only a tiny piece of easternmost Queens around the Belmont Park racetrack, extending up to the Queens Children's Psychiatric Hospital to Route 495 and down the county line to New Hyde Park, again making the 5th an entirely New York City district.

#### **New York's 2nd Congressional District:**

As one of the largest cities in New York, this map would give Hempstead two representatives in Congress, with the western part of the city in the 4th and the eastern part of the city in the 2nd. The district would then continue along the south shore, including the shoretown neighborhoods in Freeport, Merrick, Massapequa, Amityville, and Copiague.

The district would reunite the larger Nassau County towns of Roosevelt, Levittown, and East Meadow. Depending on how map drawers design the western edges of the district, these changes allow for the potential of a new majority-minority seat in the New York delegation, if not today, then certainly by the end of the decade.

#### **New York's 1st Congressional District:**

The easternmost Long Island seat now called the 1st would be very similar to the enacted map, only losing communities like Smithtown and Nissequoge, while adding Ronkonkoma, Great River, and East Islip to its western edge.

**New York's 3rd Congressional District:**

The northwestern Long Island seat should also remain largely the same, extending east to add similar Long Island Sound communities like Port Jefferson, Stony Brook, and Smithtown.

Like the Unity Map, we believe the 3rd should unite the Long Island Sound communities of interest on both sides of the estuary, linking the shoreline towns of Mamaroneck, Larchmont, and Rye to Kings Point, Sands Point, and Bayville. These communities are closely connected to the water in terms of culture, economy, tourism, and leisure activities. They are also most closely related in their infrastructure, environmental conservation, and pollution mitigation needs.

The western edge should add sister communities in the northern edge of Queens around Little Neck Bay and the Little Bay like Bayside or Little Neck.

## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 12:02 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Map Submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

#### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Joseph
- **Last Name:** Anderson
- **Email:** Famijos@icloud.com
- **Description:** Has 14 Majority-Minority Districts and 30 split Counties (approximately 48% of Counties are split).
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional

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## FW: Redistricting Letter

Joe Solimine Sr. <joesr@meridianrisk.com>

Tue 1/25/2022 12:50 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Cc: biaggi@nysenate.gov <biaggi@nysenate.gov>; paulina@nyassembly.gov <paulina@nyassembly.gov>; pretloj@nyassembly.gov <pretloj@nyassembly.gov>; abinantit@nyassembly.gov <abinantit@nyassembly.gov>; scousins@nysenate.gov <scousins@nysenate.gov>

SENATORS s. COUSINS AND BIAGGI.....ASSEMBLY PERSONS AMY..GARY..TOM

Yesterday I had a long conversation with MAYOR MIKE...he was kind enough to share will me the letter he sent to the legislature .....ALLOW ME TO GIVE YOU MY 2 CENTS....I believe his letter is on the right track...When I was the Pelham Town Supervisor, I always had a problem with legislators dividing up a community ..I feel it is a disservice to the constituent and puts the elected official "between a rock and a hard place". I offer as an example ( will never forget this situation) many years ago Senator John Calandra represented only a portion of Yonkers wanted to give the schools in HIS district computers....Joan Raymond ,the superintendent, said ALL the schools or none. John was trying to help the community he represented and Joan was right .....the students lost they did not get the computers.

The year I was President of WMOA I realized the common interest we have in WESTCHESTER . Now in my other life I am the board VICE CHAIR of Monsignor Scanlan HS in the Bronx a half mile from the Whitestone Bridge .....the school is 95% minority and I compare my board experience to the time I was President of the Pelham School Board.

Folks I tell you that from an educational view point the needs are light years apart .... the divergence between communities the Bronx and Southern Westchester will be even greater...my non-partisan request is that WESTCHESTER has 2 congressional districts and the NYC constituents have elected officials representing the city.....

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

JOE SOLIMINE SR.

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**From:** Mike Spano

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 2:29 PM

**To:** 'submissions@nyirc.gov' <submissions@nyirc.gov>

**Cc:** 'info@latfor.state.ny.us' <info@latfor.state.ny.us>; 'biaggi@nysenate.gov' <biaggi@nysenate.gov>; 'senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov' <senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov>;

'smayer@nyenate.gov' <[smayer@nyenate.gov](mailto:smayer@nyenate.gov)>; 'scousins@nyenate.gov' <[scousins@nyenate.gov](mailto:scousins@nyenate.gov)>; 'reichlin@nyenate.gov' <[reichlin@nyenate.gov](mailto:reichlin@nyenate.gov)>; 'harckham@nyenate.gov' <[harckham@nyenate.gov](mailto:harckham@nyenate.gov)>; 'PaulinA@nyassembly.gov' <[PaulinA@nyassembly.gov](mailto:PaulinA@nyassembly.gov)>; 'PretloJ@nyassembly.gov' <[PretloJ@nyassembly.gov](mailto:PretloJ@nyassembly.gov)>; 'SayeghN@nyassembly.gov' <[SayeghN@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SayeghN@nyassembly.gov)>; 'OtisS@nyassembly.gov' <[OtisS@nyassembly.gov](mailto:OtisS@nyassembly.gov)>; 'AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov' <[AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov](mailto:AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov)>; 'BurdickC@nyassembly.gov' <[BurdickC@nyassembly.gov](mailto:BurdickC@nyassembly.gov)>; 'ByrneK@nyassembly.gov' <[ByrneK@nyassembly.gov](mailto:ByrneK@nyassembly.gov)>; 'GalefS@nyassembly.gov' <[GalefS@nyassembly.gov](mailto:GalefS@nyassembly.gov)>

**Subject:** Redistricting

Members of the Commission and Members of the Westchester Delegation:

I recall when I was a member of the State Assembly we were faced with the possibility of dividing Yonkers into several Assembly districts such that there would not be a single district wholly contained within the City. With the help of many members, including some of those receiving this message now, we succeeded in rejecting that plan in favor of one that kept at least one district wholly within the City. We believed it was essential that the City would have at least one representative who would represent the interests of the City only, and that the City's voice would not be diminished.

Now, as you consider Congressional redistricting, the same can be said for Westchester County. There should be at least one Congressional District that is wholly within the borders of Westchester County. New York City has many members who represent portions of that City, and that City only. Fairness demands that Westchester have a least one member who represents the County, and the County only.

Notwithstanding the efforts of those members of Congress who have represented portions of Westchester for the past ten years, our voice has been diminished simply due to the nature of the districts. Now there is an opportunity to redress the balance and make things right.

I urge that the State Legislature adopt a map that has at least one Congressional District wholly within Westchester. It is entirely possible to accomplish this, and now is the time to do so. Although Westchester shares much in common with our neighbors to the south, north and west, we also have many unique needs and characteristics. Those needs can best be met by having a representative who answers to Westchester County, and who must not be expected to straddle the needs of both Westchester and the nation's biggest city to our south.

Sincerely,

**MIKE SPANO**

Mayor, City of Yonkers

January 19, 2022

Karen Blatt  
Co-Executive Director  
Douglas Breakell  
Co-Executive Director  
New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

Dear Directors Blatt and Breakell:

The new redistricting map made by the Independent Redistricting Committee totally disenfranchises two distinct yet historically connected African American communities that have voted together for 30+ years and elected representation that reflected its interests in homeownership, economic empowerment, and social issues.

The present 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District has African American communities in North Corona, East Elmhurst, Lefrak City and Sherwood Apartments that has enabled an Assembly Member to go to Albany and make legislative appropriations that address social inequities that manifest in drug abuse, allow for the creation and maintenance of a growing senior citizen population, and create programming support for youth betterment through sport and job training.

There is also a strong connection with these communities and LaGuardia Airport where opportunities have always been present for franchise ownership serving the unending stream of passengers passing through, and for service contracts in the airport facility.

Presently, issues around automobile traffic (with its resultant congestion and pollution) and alternative means of transportation to and from this upgraded airport are being debated. Obviously, this State issue has a major impact on the surrounding community's quality of life.

In addition, cultural institutions in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park have historically been a part of this district as these two communities are connected both geographically and through local usage of these important areas.

The proposed new Assembly District lines take the 10,000+ residents in North Corona and East Elmhurst and put them in a newly created 34<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. It takes the 2,500+ residents of Lefrak City and Sherwood Apartments and puts them in the newly created 39<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. Neither of the two new ADs have residents with the same number of ethnicities that would empower either community as one would be overwhelming Hispanic, while the other White, Orthodox Jewish (Russian ancestry), North Asian and Indian (south Asia).

This strong Black community presently served by the 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District would disappear – as its votes would be diluted with the inability to elect its own representative.

Redistricting is a difficult process as many competing interests and groups look to have their voices heard. Yet, this "cracking" of a district draws lines that decrease Black



representation in an area that has consistently elected the Black community's candidate of choice. The drawing of a legislative line should not cause harm to minority votes; rather, it should reflect a "portrait" of the people they represent, with all their nuances and special features.

The preservation of existing political communities reflected in the cores of prior districts must include racial fairness to have meaningful representation. The proposed new lines do not reflect this priority; they would divide the political representation of these African American communities ensuring their minority status thereby reducing - if not eliminating - their power to be adequately represented in State government.

Any new legislative lines drawn pursuant to the 2020 Census, must take these factors into account before any map is finalized. The African American communities of North Corona, East Elmhurst, Lefrak City and Sherwood Apartments must be kept together in a unified Assembly District.

Sincerely,



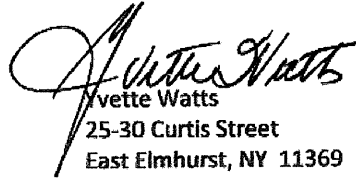
Aretha Wareham  
25-30 Curtis Street  
East Elmhurst, NY 11369



Frank Watts  
25-30 Curtis Street  
East Elmhurst, NY 11369



Harry D. Wareham  
25-30 Curtis Street  
East Elmhurst, NY 11369



Yvette Watts  
25-30 Curtis Street  
East Elmhurst, NY 11369



Brandon Wareham  
25-30 Curtis Street  
East Elmhurst, NY 11369

C: Honorable Jeffrion Aubrey, Assembly Member, 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Howard Vargas, Executive Council to the Speaker

## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 5:22 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Kim
- **Last Name:** Liebowitz
- **Email:** doc\_k55@yahoo.com
- **Body:** Dear Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission and New York State Legislature:

I am a concerned citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. I do not believe that a single Representative can adequately represent the diverse interests of three counties in a conglomeration of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14. I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission and continues to be, but I do not want the Commission to dilute any Westchester votes in this manner, and for the next ten years. This same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing. Currently, I live in a district that spans southern Westchester and the Bronx, and I believe we would be better served and represented if our district were limited to Westchester.

Thank you. Kimberly Greene-Liebowitz

## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 6:01 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Catherine
- **Last Name:** Hiller
- **Email:** catherine\_hiller@yahoo.com
- **Body:** What? Dividing the town of Mamaroneck into 2 congressional districts? Splitting parts of Mamaroneck from Larchmont when they share one school district? Pretending that residents of Queens, the Bronx, and Westchester have the same issues?

I don't know who came up with this redistricting idea, but I strongly oppose it.

Incidentally, I don't see Westchester in your list so I had to choose "mid Hudson." Give Westchester and Mamaroneck a little love, please!

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional

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This e-mail has been automatically generated

January 19, 2022

Karen Blatt  
Co-Executive Director  
Douglas Breakell  
Co-Executive Director  
New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

Dear Directors Blatt and Breakell:

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There is also a strong connection with these communities and LaGuardia Airport where opportunities have always been present for franchise ownership serving the unending stream of passengers passing through, and for service contracts in the airport facility.

Presently, issues around automobile traffic (with its resultant congestion and pollution) and alternative means of transportation to and from this upgraded airport are being debated. Obviously, this State issue has a major impact on the surrounding community's quality of life.

In addition, cultural institutions in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park have historically been a part of this district as these two communities are connected both geographically and through local usage of these important areas.

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This strong Black community presently served by the 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District would disappear – as its votes would be diluted with the inability to elect its own representative.

Redistricting is a difficult process as many competing interests and groups look to have their voices heard. Yet, this "cracking" of a district draws lines that decrease Black

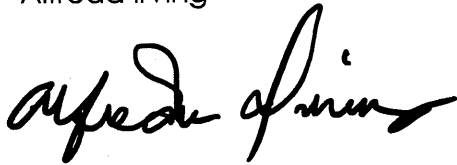
representation in an area that has consistently elected the Black community's candidate of choice. The drawing of a legislative line should not cause harm to minority votes; rather, it should reflect a "portrait" of the people they represent, with all their nuances and special features.

The preservation of existing political communities reflected in the cores of prior districts must include racial fairness to have meaningful representation. The proposed new lines do not reflect this priority; they would divide the political representation of these African American communities ensuring their minority status thereby reducing – if not eliminating - their power to be adequately represented in State government.

Any new legislative lines drawn pursuant to the 2020 Census, must take these factors into account before any map is finalized. The African American communities of North Corona, East Elmhurst, LeFrak City and Sherwood Apartments must be kept together in a unified Assembly District.

Sincerely

Alfreda Irving

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alfreda Irving". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "A".

C: Honorable Jeffrion Aubrey, Assembly Member, 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Howard Vargas, Executive Council to the Speaker

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 1/26/2022 12:35 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Amanda
- **Last Name:** O'Neill
- **Email:** aeoneill@gmail.com
- **Body:** To Whom It May Concern:

The currently proposed congressional redistricting plan splits the Town of Mamaroneck and the Village of Mamaroneck into two separate congressional districts (NY14 and NY16) and separates the Sound Shore communities who have long shared congressional representation.

As a resident of the Town of Mamaroneck with a Larchmont zip code, I join the Town & Village's opposition to the proposed congressional redistricting plan for our municipalities.

It is important not only to understand the close working relationship and governmental interconnectedness that exists within our tri-municipal boundaries but the fact that all of the Village of Larchmont and the majority of the Village of Mamaroneck lie within the Town of Mamaroneck. The Town of Mamaroneck and the Villages of Larchmont and Mamaroneck have a long history of sharing municipal services, such as EMS, library, community counseling, sanitation, recreation, capital improvement contracts, and equipment, as well as sharing a school district.

Our local government holds regular quarterly meetings to discuss local issues and plan for joint solutions. They often presented our community's shared needs to congressional representatives as a

tri-municipal entity in order to best represent its constituents and secure federal support. An example of these joint efforts was shown in the response to the September 2021 flooding.

The primary concern with the proposed plan is the separation into two congressional districts. This partitioning of both the Town of Mamaroneck and the Village of Mamaroneck into two districts will make it more difficult for local officials to interface with the federal government to meet the needs of our constituents, it dilutes our voices and makes it harder to get attention for the issues that matter specifically to our community, such as flooding. The proposal will also create confusion among residents like myself when seeking constituent services.

Secondarily, since the Town and both Villages are within the Long Island watershed, all of our stormwater flows into Long Island Sound, and our sanitary sewers flow into either the New Rochelle or Mamaroneck Valley treatment plants. Separating the Sound Shore communities into two congressional districts would undercut potential regional solutions and inter-municipal cooperative agreements to comprehensively address stormwater, sanitary sewer issues, and regional flooding. These common interests and the need to work together to address shared environmental matters that impact the Long Island Sound mean that, to be successful, all such joint efforts often involve federal monies and common representation.

In summation, the proposal disregards the common goals, shared identity, and long-standing collaborative efforts in many areas of mutual concern among the Town of Mamaroneck and Villages of Mamaroneck and Larchmont. It also disregards the areas of mutual concern for the municipalities of the Sound Shore District. All of the Sound Shore communities deserve to have a single voice to represent their collective, unique, and mutual interests.

I therefore strongly oppose the proposed change in the boundaries of the 16th Congressional District and urge the Commission to reconsider such a proposal.

Sincerely,

Amanda O'Neill Larchmont, NY 10538 aeoneill@gmail.com

917.701.9942

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate

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Amanda O'Neill &lt;aeoneill@gmail.com&gt;

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**Opposition to the redistricting plan for Town & Village of Mamaroneck**

4 messages

**Amanda O'Neill** <aeoneill@gmail.com>

Tue, Jan 25, 2022 at 6:11 PM

To: info@latfor.state.ny.us

Cc: otiss@nyassembly.gov, smayer@nysenate.gov

Bcc: James O'Neill &lt;therealjamesoneill@gmail.com&gt;

To Whom It May Concern:

The currently proposed congressional redistricting plan splits the Town of Mamaroneck and the Village of Mamaroneck into two separate congressional districts (NY14 and NY16) and separates the Sound Shore communities who have long shared congressional representation.

As a resident of the Town of Mamaroneck with a Larchmont zip code, I join the Town & Village's opposition to the proposed congressional redistricting plan for our municipalities.

It is important not only to understand the close working relationship and governmental interconnectedness that exists within our tri-municipal boundaries but the fact that all of the Village of Larchmont and the majority of the Village of Mamaroneck lie within the Town of Mamaroneck. The Town of Mamaroneck and the Villages of Larchmont and Mamaroneck have a long history of sharing municipal services, such as EMS, library, community counseling, sanitation, recreation, capital improvement contracts, and equipment, as well as sharing a school district.

Our local government holds regular quarterly meetings to discuss local issues and plan for joint solutions. They often presented our community's shared needs to congressional representatives as a tri-municipal entity in order to best represent its constituents and secure federal support. An example of these joint efforts was shown in the response to the September 2021 flooding.

The primary concern with the proposed plan is the separation into two congressional districts. This partitioning of both the Town of Mamaroneck and the Village of Mamaroneck into two districts will make it more difficult for local officials to interface with the federal government to meet the needs of our constituents, it dilutes our voices and makes it harder to get attention for the issues that matter specifically to our community, such as flooding. The proposal will also create confusion among residents like myself when seeking constituent services.

Secondarily, since the Town and both Villages are within the Long Island watershed, all of our stormwater flows into Long Island Sound, and our sanitary sewers flow into either the New Rochelle or Mamaroneck Valley treatment plants. Separating the Sound Shore communities into two congressional districts would undercut potential regional solutions and inter-municipal cooperative agreements to comprehensively address stormwater, sanitary sewer issues, and regional flooding. These common interests and the need to work together to address shared environmental matters that impact the Long Island Sound mean that, to be successful, all such joint efforts often involve federal monies and common representation.

In summation, the proposal disregards the common goals, shared identity, and long-standing collaborative efforts in many areas of mutual concern among the Town of Mamaroneck and Villages of Mamaroneck and Larchmont. It also disregards the areas of mutual concern for the municipalities of the Sound Shore District. All of the Sound Shore communities deserve to have a single voice to represent their collective, unique, and mutual interests.

I therefore strongly oppose the proposed change in the boundaries of the 16th Congressional District and urge the Commission to reconsider such proposal.

Sincerely,

Amanda O'Neill  
Larchmont, NY 10538**Amanda O'Neill**

aeoneill@gmail.com

917.701.9942

## Congressional Redistricting

Richard Cherry <rickcherry302@gmail.com>

Wed 1/26/2022 12:44 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>; info@latfor.state.ny.us <info@latfor.state.ny.us>

Cc: Shelley Mayer <smayer@nysenate.gov>; otiss@assembly.state.ny.us <otiss@assembly.state.ny.us>; Elkind Eney, Jaine <supervisor@townofmamaroneckny.org>; Bartlene Sages <b.sages@yahoo.com>; Clark Morehouse <cmorehouse12@gmail.com>; Fred Cuccia <fjc@cuccialaw.com>; Karen Ikeda <ikedacourt611@gmail.com>; Mary Ann Mazza <mcmazza@optonline.com>; Morris Schoenman <mschoeneman1@gmail.com>; Ralph Engel <engelesq@gmail.com>; Richard Cherry <rickcherry302@gmail.com>; Rick Yestadt <ryestadt@yestadtarchitecture.com>; Sheldon Flamm <sheldon.flamm@gmail.com>; Stacy Brandom <stacy@stacybrandom.com>

### **Washington Square Neighborhood Association**

**One Washington Square, Apt. 4C**

**Larchmont, New York 10538**

I am writing to you on behalf of the Washington Square Neighborhood Association, and the over 1,500 residents of the Washington Square Area who live in apartment buildings in the Unincorporated Part of the Town of Mamaroneck in Westchester County.

We have learned that there is a proposal to divide the Town of Mamaroneck into two congressional districts. We strongly oppose any such proposal.

The Town of Mamaroneck, including the Villages of Mamaroneck and Larchmont as well as the unincorporated portions are one community. It would be detrimental to all of the residents of the Town of Mamaroneck were such a proposal to be adopted, but it would be particularly detrimental to the residents of the Washington Square Area who would be divided off from the rest of the Town. Many of us have "downsized" from houses within the Town of Mamaroneck and have lived here most of our lives. We want to continue to have elected officials who understand our needs.

We rely upon the whole Town for all sorts of services, including fire, police, library, senior center and shopping and work together as a community to improve and preserve those services. There are many federal issues that affect our Town as a whole. These are very different and share no commonality with the needs of residents of the Bronx or Queens.

Furthermore, the 1500 plus Washington Square area residents are people who vote. Depriving our votes from the other residents of our community is a big loss to them.

We see no benefit, and only detriment, to be derived from dividing our Town into two congressional districts, and we respectfully request that you revise the initial proposal

and keep the entire Town of Mamaroneck in one congressional district which is tied to the rest of Westchester County.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Richard Cherry, President

cc.:

Senator Shelley Mayer

Assemblyman Steven Otis

Jaine Elkind Eney, Supervisor, Town of Mamaroneck

Karen Ikeda, President, 10 Byron Place

Rick Yestadt, President, 2 Washington Square

Stacy Bandom, President, 14 North Chatsworth Avenue

Bartelene Sages, President, 16 North Chatsworth Avenue

Sheldon Flam, President, 17 North Chatsworth Avenue

Morris Schoeneman, President, 21 North Chatsworth Avenue

Fred Cuccia, President, 35 North Chatsworth Avenue

Ralph Engel, Executive Director, Washington Square Neighborhood Association

## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 26, 2022 2:32 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Comment has been submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Joanne
- **Last Name:** Cathcart
- **Email:** jecathcart1@gmail.com
- **Body:** The proposed redistricting plan to separate Rye Neck from the Village of Mamaroneck is a disservice to the residents of Mamaroneck. Rye Neck is only a school district. We are residents of the village of Mamaroneck. our community services, concerns, identify, involvement in local matters are as Mamaroneck residents.
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Mid-Hudson

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## Map Submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Wed 1/26/2022 8:18 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Thomas
- **Last Name:** S
- **Email:** cablefan2010@gmail.com
- **Description:** Dear New York State Independent Redistricting Commission:

I appreciate your efforts throughout the past year in these difficult times to work on the process of drawing districts for Congress, State Assembly and State Senate in as fair a way possible. I have enclosed here New York's 11th congressional district which includes all of Staten Island and much of Southern Brooklyn including the neighborhoods of Bay Ridge, Bath Beach, Bensonhurst, Dyker Heights and Sunset Park.

In the district I have enclosed based on a variety of factors tried to create the 11th congressional district on what the intentions of the New York State Independent Redistricting commission was. I looked at economic issues, cultural patterns methods of transportation along with giving all racial groups the opportunity fairly participate in the political process in the 11th congressional district. I also wanted to continue to have the 11th congressional district familiar to the different groups in it as over the past 40 years over 80 percent of the 11th congressional district in previous forms of it have been in the same district as this was something listed in the criteria used to draw district lines. Along with these factors I have listed I wanted to keep the 11th congressional district as compact and as contiguous as possible as the district I have enclosed here would create a district which meets those

criteria's as fairly as possible as based on the data I enclosed. My most important thing I focused on in creating the 11th congressional district was it shall be drawn not to discourage competition and the process of favoring or disfavoring incumbents of political parties or political candidates of either party. Based on this the 11th congressional district I have created this would give equal opportunity to anyone from either party to seek this office and discourage favoritism.

In closing, I would hope to anyone who may read this of importance would look at my proposal attached for the 11th congressional district and use it anyway to help with the arduous process of which not only this district but also all new congressional boundaries are drawn. I thank you very much for your time and commend each member of the commission on their efforts in this process.

- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** Congressional

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## Submissions

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**From:** New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 27, 2022 4:32 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Map Submitted

### New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

#### Submitted Map

- **First Name:** Harry
- **Last Name:** Bittker
- **Email:** harrybittker@gmail.com
- **Description:** This state senate map has a population deviation of just 1.18%, a mean-median bias of 1.96%, and reflects the growth of minority voting blocs in Queens and Brooklyn by adding an Asian majority district in each borough. It also maintains most district cores, as 48 out of 63 districts consist of at least 50% of a current district (slightly less than the 52 in the NYIRC's proposed maps). It unites similar Hudson River communities, keeps the Adirondack region together, and keeps similar upstate economies together as well.
- **Attachment:** [Link to File](#)
- **Categories Selected:** State Senate

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## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 1/27/2022 7:16 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Marguerite
- **Last Name:** Daniels
- **Email:** margueritedaniels66@gmail.com
- **Body:** The new redistricting map made by the Independent Redistricting Committee totally disenfranchises two distinct yet historically connected African American communities that have voted together for 30+ years and elected representation that reflected its interests in homeownership, economic empowerment, and social issues. The present 35th Assembly District has African American communities in North Corona, East Elmhurst, LeFrak City and Sherwood Apartments that has enabled an Assembly Member to go to Albany and make legislative appropriations that address social inequities that manifest in drug abuse, allow for the creation and maintenance of a growing senior citizen population, and create programming support for youth betterment through sport and job training. There is also a strong connection with these communities and LaGuardia Airport where opportunities have always been present for franchise ownership serving the unending stream of passengers passing through, and for service contracts in the airport facility. Presently, issues around automobile traffic (with its resultant congestion and pollution) and alternative means of transportation to and from this upgraded airport are being debated. Obviously, this State issue has a major impact on the surrounding community's quality of life. In addition, cultural institutions in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park have historically been a part of this district as these two communities are connected both geographically and through local usage of these important areas. The proposed new Assembly District lines take the 10,000+ residents in North Corona and East Elmhurst and put them in a newly created 34th Assembly District. It takes the



2,500+ residents of LeFrak City and Sherwood Apartments and puts them in the newly created 39th Assembly District. Neither of the two new ADs have residents with the same number of ethnicities that would empower either community as one would be overwhelming Hispanic, while the other White, Orthodox Jewish (Russian ancestry), North Asian and Indian (south Asia). This strong Black community presently served by the 35th Assembly District would disappear – as its votes would be diluted with the inability to elect its own representative. Redistricting is a difficult process as many competing interests and groups look to have their voices heard. Yet, this “cracking” of a district draws lines that decrease Black representation in an area that has consistently elected the Black community’s candidate of choice. The drawing of a legislative line should not cause harm to minority votes; rather, it should reflect a “portrait” of the people they represent, with all their nuances and special features. The preservation of existing political communities reflected in the cores of prior districts must include racial fairness to have meaningful representation. The proposed new lines do not reflect this priority; they would divide the political representation of these African American communities ensuring their minority status thereby reducing – if not eliminating - their power to be adequately represented in State government. Any new legislative lines drawn pursuant to the 2020 Census, must take these factors into account before any map is finalized. The African American communities of North Corona, East Elmhurst, LeFrak City and Sherwood Apartments must be kept together in a unified Assembly District.

Sincerely, Marguerite Daniels

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Queens

## Comment has been submitted

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Thu 1/20/2022 1:48 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Michael
- **Last Name:** Wollin
- **Email:** mwollin@gmail.com
- **Body:** Dear Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission and New York State Legislature:

I am a concerned citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. I do not believe that a single Representative can adequately represent the diverse interests of three counties in a conglomeration of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14. I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission and continues to be, but I do not want the Commission to dilute any Westchester votes in this manner, and for the next ten years. This same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing.

Thank you. Michael Wollin, Westchester, NY resident and concerned citizen

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, Bronx, Mid-Hudson

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★ Attached is a spreadsheet of names who submitted the same form letter

## Preserving Westchester's Voice in New York's New Congressional, State and Assembly Maps

Schrag, William <William.Schrag@thompsonhine.com>

Thu 1/6/2022 5:38 PM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Cc: 'info@latfor.state.ny.us' <info@latfor.state.ny.us>; 'biaggi@nysenate.gov' <biaggi@nysenate.gov>; 'senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov' <senatorjbailey@nysenate.gov>; 'smayer@nysenate.gov' <smayer@nysenate.gov>; 'scousins@nysenate.gov' <scousins@nysenate.gov>; 'reichlin@nysenate.gov' <reichlin@nysenate.gov>; 'harckham@nysenate.gov' <harckham@nysenate.gov>; 'PaulinA@nyassembly.gov' <PaulinA@nyassembly.gov>; 'PretloJ@nyassembly.gov' <PretloJ@nyassembly.gov>; 'SayeghN@nyassembly.gov' <SayeghN@nyassembly.gov>; 'OtisS@nyassembly.gov' <OtisS@nyassembly.gov>; 'AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov' <AbinantiT@nyassembly.gov>; 'BurdickC@nyassembly.gov' <BurdickC@nyassembly.gov>; 'ByrneK@nyassembly.gov' <ByrneK@nyassembly.gov>; 'GalefS@nyassembly.gov' <GalefS@nyassembly.gov>

Dear Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission:

Now that the Commission has failed to propose a single set of maps endorsed by the requisite majority of its members, the New York State Legislature is likely to reject the Commission's first proposals.

As a concerned resident of Westchester County, I urge you to recognize the importance of maintaining Westchester's independent voice and not having it split apart and diluted by surrounding areas of New York City. The City of New York is a unique urban center with an infrastructure of its own, like none other in the state, and a set of issues and concerns that are wholly distinct from suburban communities like Westchester. If the Commission is given the opportunity to propose a second set of maps, it should use that opportunity to unite areas of Westchester County.

It appears that both maps under consideration would continue to artificially link portions of the north Bronx with portions of Westchester in one district, while drawing another district that would link Westchester with portions of both the Bronx and Queens. These maps are fundamentally flawed because they dilute the voice of both the suburban community in Westchester (and Putnam counties) and the New York City community in the Bronx and Queens. The district linking Westchester with both the Bronx and Queens is particularly unfair and unacceptable because it divides communities in **three** counties, limiting the ability of residents in each part of the district to have an elected official who can effectively represent their interests.

During last year's public hearings, when residents of New Rochelle testified before the Independent Redistricting Commission, several were asked by Commissioners whether they would want a district connecting New Rochelle to Queens. None said yes, yet the Commission still drew a Queens to New Rochelle district in both of its proposals. Rather than having District 14 be contained entirely in New York City and District 16 be the only district to cross the Westchester/Bronx border, as was proposed in the earlier Names and Letters draft plans, the Commission inexplicably decided to cross the county border twice. This decision divides communities throughout the region and would especially dilute the voice of the community of southern Westchester centered around Scarsdale and northern New Rochelle. This area has shared infrastructure and institutions, and both proposals would split this community into not two but three different Congressional Districts.

When the lines were last redrawn, New Rochelle, Scarsdale and other parts of Westchester were joined with the Bronx. Now, ten years later, the Commission's proposals would further dilute Westchester's voice. I urge you to reassess the Congressional map and take action to ensure that Westchester County is not unduly divided.

Respectfully yours,

William H. Schrag

39 Harlan Drive

New Rochelle, New York 10804

Name	Address	Email
William H. Schrag	39 Harlem Dr. New Rochelle, NY 10804	<a href="mailto:william.schrag@thompsonhine.com">william.schrag@thompsonhine.com</a>
Allen M. Weider	19 Harvard Rd. Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:awieder@paulweiss.com">awieder@paulweiss.com</a>
Joshua A. Rosenbaum, Esq.	398 North Ave. Suite 207 New Rochelle, NY 10801	<a href="mailto:jr@rosenbaumlaw.com">jr@rosenbaumlaw.com</a>
Robin J. Stalbow-Samot	18 Sturbridge Pl. Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:rssamot@aol.com">rssamot@aol.com</a>
Eli Epstein	339 Oxford Rd. New Rochelle, NY 10804	<a href="mailto:e.epstein@aminco.biz">e.epstein@aminco.biz</a>
Audrey Trachtman	33 Lovell Rd New Rochelle, NY 10028	<a href="mailto:audreytrachtman@gmail.com">audreytrachtman@gmail.com</a>
Howard Trachtman	33 Lovell Rd New Rochelle, NY 10028	N/A
Andres Turner	73 Argyle Ave. New Rochelle, NY 10804	<a href="mailto:anivas123@gmail.com">anivas123@gmail.com</a>
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Betty Berenson- Menashi	111 Cushman Rd. Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:bettyberenson@aol.com">bettyberenson@aol.com</a>
David Menashi	111 Cushman Rd. Scarsdale, NY 10583	N/A
Marc H. Klee	N/A	<a href="mailto:mklee7@gmail.com">mklee7@gmail.com</a>
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Elisha Tropper	17 Haverford Ave. Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:et@cambridgeseals.com">et@cambridgeseals.com</a>
Judy Fink	845 North Broadway White Plains, NY 10603	<a href="mailto:jfink@wics.com">jfink@wics.com</a>
David S. Frydman, Esq.	22 Springdale Rd Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:dfrydman@frydmanllc.com">dfrydman@frydmanllc.com</a>
Noah Chinitz	20 Rolling Ridge Rd White Plains, NY 10605	<a href="mailto:chinitzn1113@gmail.com">chinitzn1113@gmail.com</a>
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Jonathan Eiseman	805 Third Ave. New York, New York 10022	<a href="mailto:Jeiseman@EisemanLevine.com">Jeiseman@EisemanLevine.com</a>
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Adina Fredman	39 Harlan Dr. New Rochelle, NY 10804	<a href="mailto:adinaf621@gmail.com">adinaf621@gmail.com</a>
Steven Gelles	165 Country Ridge Rd. Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:sgelles@sageinvestors.com">sgelles@sageinvestors.com</a>
Amy Reich	N/A	<a href="mailto:amy1music@yahoo.com">amy1music@yahoo.com</a>
Erin Rudensky	8 Archer Lane Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:eizerring@aol.com">eizerring@aol.com</a>
Karen Shatz	29 Montrose Rd. Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:ksshatz@yahoo.com">ksshatz@yahoo.com</a>

Alexander Gruenstein	40 Verdun Ave. New Rochelle, NY 10804	<a href="mailto:alexander.gruenstein@gmail.com">alexander.gruenstein@gmail.com</a>
Mark Fischler	40 Harvard Rd. Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:mefcpa@aol.com">mefcpa@aol.com</a>
Samantha Fischler	N/A	<a href="mailto:fischler.samantha@gmail.com">fischler.samantha@gmail.com</a>
Suman Jain	N/A	<a href="mailto:susanjain@hotmail.com">susanjain@hotmail.com</a>
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Judy Zapinsky	15 Michael Drive Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:zapeat@aol.com">zapeat@aol.com</a>
Dom Gaillard	Harrison, NY	<a href="mailto:dominique.gaillard@gmail.com">dominique.gaillard@gmail.com</a>
Greg Seinfeld	N/A	<a href="mailto:gpsdds@msn.com">gpsdds@msn.com</a>
Paula Blumenfeld	N/A	<a href="mailto:paula.s.blumenfeld@gmail.com">paula.s.blumenfeld@gmail.com</a>
Howard Pein	N/A	<a href="mailto:howard.pein@gmail.com">howard.pein@gmail.com</a>
Caron Gelles	N/A	<a href="mailto:cdbgelles@gmail.com">cdbgelles@gmail.com</a>
David Rosen	111 Morris Lane South New Rochelle, NY 10804	<a href="mailto:davidrosen1976@gmail.com">davidrosen1976@gmail.com</a>
Stessa Peers	N/A	<a href="mailto:stessapeers@gmail.com">stessapeers@gmail.com</a>
Andrea Rosen	111 Morris Lane South New Rochelle, NY 10804	<a href="mailto:rosenadeena@gmail.com">rosenadeena@gmail.com</a>
Stu Berger	185 County Ridge Rd. Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:stu@imigintl.net">stu@imigintl.net</a>
Susan Douglass	59 Crane Road Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:susanudouglass@gmail.com">susanudouglass@gmail.com</a>
Shoshana Bederman	6 Montgomery Rd Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:shoshbederman@gmail.com">shoshbederman@gmail.com</a>
Ari Rudensky	8 Archer Lane Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:aruden@royalindustries.com">aruden@royalindustries.com</a>
Rebecca Staiman	246 Diasy Farms Dr. Scarsdale, NY 10583	<a href="mailto:rstaiman@yahoo.com">rstaiman@yahoo.com</a>
Wendy Goulston	New Rochelle, NY	<a href="mailto:wendygoulston@gmail.com">wendygoulston@gmail.com</a>
Wendy Moskowitz	Rye, NY	<a href="mailto:wfmoskowitz@gmail.com">wfmoskowitz@gmail.com</a>
Harvey Glick	N/A	<a href="mailto:hglickcpa@gmail.com">hglickcpa@gmail.com</a>
Susan Solow-Dubin	N/A	<a href="mailto:solowdubin@gmail.com">solowdubin@gmail.com</a>
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Andrew Siegel	N/A	<a href="mailto:aisiegel11@msn.com">aisiegel11@msn.com</a>
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\* Attached is spreadsheet of names who submitted the same form letter  
**Comment has been submitted**

New York State Independent Redistricting Commission <submissions@nyirc.gov>

Sat 1/15/2022 9:49 AM

To: Submissions <submissions@nyirc.gov>

## **New York State Independent Redistricting Commission**

A comment has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

- **First Name:** Sophie
- **Last Name:** Kent
- **Email:** sophieakent@gmail.com
- **Body:** Dear Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission and New York State Legislature:

I am a concerned citizen of Westchester County who feels strongly that the state's next Congressional District map should not join portions of Westchester to the Bronx and Queens. I do not believe that a single Representative can adequately represent the diverse interests of three counties in a conglomeration of urban New York City and suburban Westchester as drawn in Plans A and B for District 14. I understand that the task of map drawing has been difficult for the Commission and continues to be, but I do not want the Commission to dilute any Westchester votes in this manner, and for the next ten years. This same request was expressed by most speakers who were asked about it at the White Plains public hearing.

Thank you. Sophie Kent

- **Categories Selected:** Congressional, State Assembly, State Senate, Mid-Hudson

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