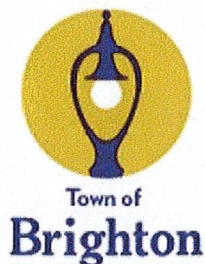


**FINGER LAKES
WRITTEN TESTIMONY**



Office of the Town Supervisor

The Honorable William W. Moehle

January 10, 2023

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

VIA <https://www.nyirc.gov/participate>

Dear Commissioners:

RE: 136th Assembly District

Please find attached my comments on the proposed redistricting plan and my recommendation to keep the Town of Brighton, Monroe County, in a single Assembly District.

Sincerely,

William W. Moehle
Town Supervisor

Attachment

2300 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618

585-784-5252

william.moehle@townofbrighton.org



Office of the Town Supervisor

The Honorable William W. Moehle

SUBMISSION TO NYS INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

My name is William Moehle and I am the Supervisor of the Town of Brighton in Monroe County. I have served as Brighton Town Supervisor for eleven years and previously served as Attorney to the Town for 18 years. Today, I ask you to maintain the Town of Brighton's single Assembly District, as opposed to the proposed IRC plan to divide the Town into two Assembly Districts.

The Town of Brighton is an inner ring suburb of Rochester with a population slightly over 37,000, which is a small increase from the 2010 census. The entire Town of Brighton is currently a part of the 136th Assembly District, represented by Assembly Member Sarah Clark. The Town of Brighton has been included in a single Assembly District since at least the 1970s. Audre "Pinny" Cooke represented Brighton in the Assembly from 1978-1990. Joe Morelle represented Brighton from 1991-2018. Jamie Romeo represented Brighton from 2019-2020 and Sarah Clark has represented Brighton since 2020. For most, if not all of that time, the entire Town of Brighton has been included in an Assembly District that, regardless of its District number, has also included Irondequoit and a portion of the City of Rochester.

For the first time in over 40 years, the plan proposed this year by the IRC would divide Brighton between two Assembly Districts. While I understand that, unlike Senate Districts, there is no absolute prohibition on dividing Towns between two or more Assembly Districts, on the IRC webpage under *Frequently Asked Questions*, the question, "What criteria are used to draw district lines?" is answered as follows: "The Commission shall consider the maintenance of cores of existing districts, of pre-existing political subdivisions, including counties, cities and towns, and of communities of interest." However, as proposed, this plan would not only separate the residents of this part of Brighton from the rest of the Town of Brighton, but it would also remove them from the core of an Assembly District that has existed in substantially its current form for over four decades.

The population of Brighton is small enough that it can easily be included in a single Assembly District. The IRC could do so by unifying Brighton within what is now the 136th Assembly District, and returning a portion of the east side of Rochester to the 137th District currently represented by Assembly Member Demond Meeks. Additional slight adjustments to the District lines could also restore Members Harry Bronson and Sarah Clark to the Districts they currently represent, maintaining the relationships and local understanding of their Districts that they have developed.

I firmly believe that the residents of the Town of Brighton are best served under the current, single District model. I thank you for taking these recommendations under consideration.

2300 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618

585-784-5252

william.moehle@townofbrighton.org

Isabel Rachlin 249 Troy Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850
israchlin@gmail.com

January 23, 2023

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

Dear Chair Jenkins and Commission Members,

Thank you for your work on the Independent Redistricting Commission to create fair and equitable districts in New York that keep communities of interest together.

Towards this goal I am writing because of my concern that the new draft map has left out three essential towns that belong in the 125th district. Those towns are Hartford, Virgil, and Lapee. These communities' geographic areas and economic development are highly correlated to the City of Cortland, which is to remain in the 125th District. These more rural areas need or will at least greatly benefit from the improvements that The City of Cortland and Cortland County continue to make.

Keeping these towns connected to the economic hub of Cortland County, which includes Greek Peak Mountain Resort as well as Tompkins Cortland Community College, will allow those populations to benefit from both services and economic opportunities which may be taken away otherwise.

A significant number of the children in Hartford and Virgil attend the 125th Assembly school District. Schools by definition are communities of common interest. Dividing each of these school districts into multiple assembly districts will create unnecessary financial and administrative difficulties for both the school districts and families.

Staying within the 125th District maintains continuity of representation that has existed for decades, and secures the economic and educational needs of the residents of both Virgil and Hartford.

Thank for your attention to these important matters.
We urge you to maintain the current integrity of the 125th District.

Sincerely,

Isabel Rachlin

TO: **The NY Independent Redistricting Commission**

DATE: January 10, 2023

PROPOSAL: Adjust the boundary of the 136th Assembly District to **“Make the Town of Brighton Whole”**.

FROM: Jim Hooper, jhooper103@aol.com, 191 Bastian Rd, Rochester, NY 14623 AT: 585-424-2678

Make the Town of Brighton Whole

Today, I propose that the commission make measurable but modest changes to Assembly District 136 and those adjacent for the singular purpose to “make a town inside the 136th, the Town of Brighton whole”. In other words to restore the Town under one assembly district.

The Town of Brighton is a wrap around suburb of Rochester in Monroe County. Previously one assembly member represented the entire town. The IRC’s current draft fractures the town, breaking off an entire portion of the Town of Brighton where I have lived for a half-century.

The broken piece of the district I ask you to fix is the portion of the town entirely south of the Erie Canal. But it is best known as it appears on maps as “West Brighton”. Brighton shares a variety of characteristics and is a true “community of interest” in the best sense of the expression.

Specific Example Adjustments to sections of the 136th and adjacent districts

To be helpful I include in the proposal examples using both maps and street boundaries to both restore the town and rebalance the populations in any other districts affected. In doing so I’ve also taken the best care I can to ensure my examples preserve if not improve your principle criteria for districts.

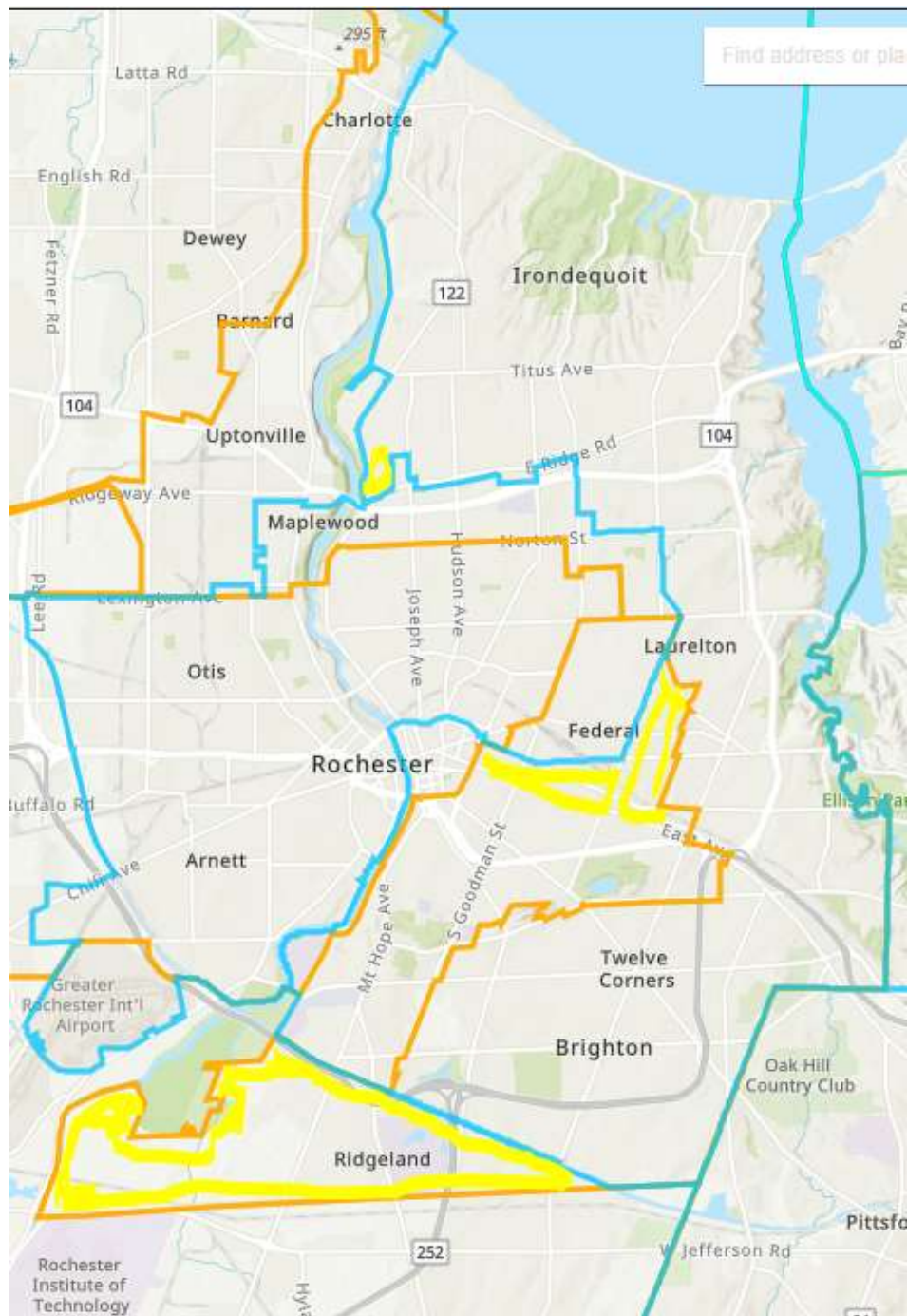
For example there is section of the City of Rochester bounded by Long Acre and East Ridge which could be added to the assembly district representing a large portion of the City of Rochester. There are at least two more sections of the City on its East Side which could be added in similar fashion. Then another adjustment needed after moving West Brighton to the 136th, Two sections of the City can be added to the 138th representing Chili, Gates, and two other Towns. One or both of these final changes would add City neighborhoods west of Mt. Read Blvd. For more specific details to identify these examples please consult the map segments and street boundaries attached to this proposal.

As a final comment I’d like to stress why it is so important to “Make the Town of Brighton Whole” even as adjustments are made to nearby districts especially the City of Rochester. I wish to note:

- Parts of the suggestions in this proposal make portions of the City more whole by adding City neighborhoods to a City district for example those on the North and the East,
- The other areas on the West that add portions of the City to adjacent suburbs are sensible in that they are compact areas,
- The areas on the West have a new border of Mt. Read Blvd, a major highway that already divides East and West,
- Both changed districts have portions of the City as well as Towns. In this sense the people in the towns in both districts maintain comparable and therefore balanced shares of the City as well as towns,
- Most importantly, of all the jurisdictions the City is by far the largest and most populous and therefore least likely to be made completely whole. In other words, there are more districts bordering the City than most towns. It is also the most central population center. It is therefore unavoidable to ensure the need for equal population size of the districts that the City to share populations as well as borders.

Thank you for your attention. Don’t hesitate to let me know if you’d like me to clarify the proposal further. Jim Hooper, 585-424-2789

ADD TO THE 136 TH	REMOVE FROM THE 136 TH
<p>1. The large 'shoe' shape at the bottom known as 'West Brighton' has been splintered from its town: 'Brighton'. It needs to be put back into the 136th order to 'make the Town of Brighton 'whole' inside the 136th. Do this by adding all land north of Brighton-Hen-T-L-Rd</p>	<p>2. To compensate for restoring West Brighton to Brighton, there are at least 3 areas of the 136th that can be returned to the City district. They are all circled in YELLOW also:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (see near the word Maplewood on the map) Bordered (AS SHOWN) by the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River on West, • Clinton on East, • Long Acre on North, and • East Ridge on south. (see near the words Laurelton & Federal on the map) Bordered (AS SHOWN) by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atlantic on South. • Culver on West, • Jersey, Minnesota on East, • Merchant on North (see near the words Federal on the map) Bordered (AS SHOWN) by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atlantic on North. • Culver on East, & • University on South

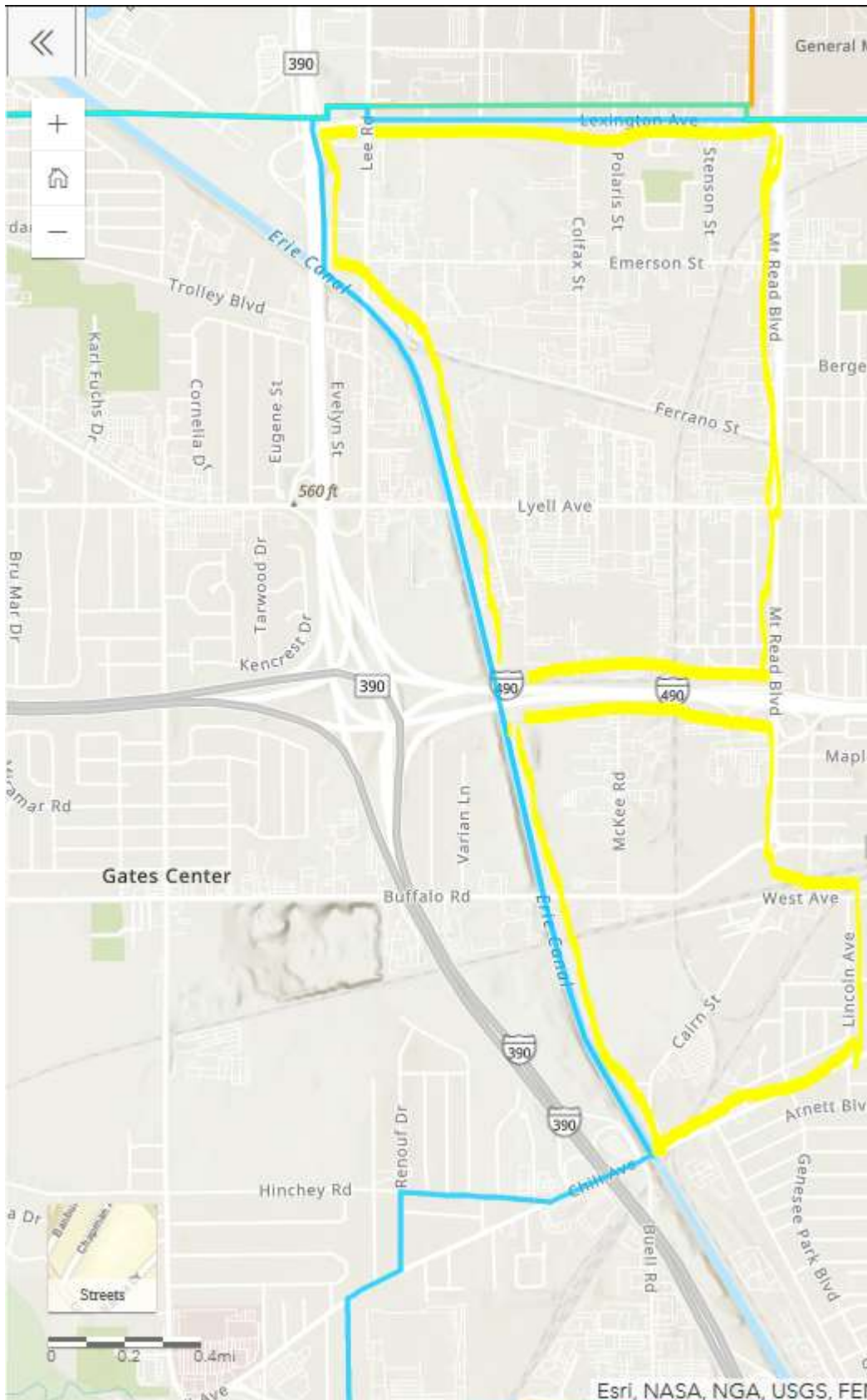


ADD TO THE SPENCERPORT, GATES, CHILI, HENRIETTA assembly district

3. Add one or both of the following contiguous portions of the City to the Spencerport, Gates, Chili, Henrietta assembly district:

a. (bordering the Erie Canal on the upper half of the map **AS SHOWN**)

- Lexington Ave on North, • Erie Canal on West, • I- 490 on South, • Mt. Read on East
- I- 490 on North, • Erie Canal on West, • Ave on South, • Mt. Read & Lincoln Ave on East



Presentation to the IRC on 1-10-2023
By Mark Glogowski, PhD.

I propose Assigning NY Assembly Seats to the Counties.

I contend, the 1964 US Supreme Court's ruling, that declared that the legislative districts needed to be based on population, was itself unconstitutional.

This ruling basically decreed that state legislatures that had a republican structure (which was 49 of the 50 states), that they had to abandon their republican structure and reorganize their legislative districts based strictly on population.

Not only did the US Constitution not give the US Supreme Court the authority to make such a decree, the US Supreme Court completely ignored Article 4, Section 4 of the US Constitution, which reads:

“The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government,”

A 'republican form of government is nothing more than having regional representation in the legislature

New York State had a republican form of government because every recognized region that joined New York State became a county, and every county was guaranteed at least one seat in the Assembly. There was one agreed to exception.

There was no need to change anything. The New York State constitution granted additional Assembly seats to the more populous counties when a county's population was 50% greater

than the average, and the New York State Senate was already based on population

So, when the US Supreme Court made its decree in 1964, New York State was effectively already in compliance.

Despite this fact, New York State legislature proceeded to destroy the republican structure of the New York State legislature.

I am asking that this commission abandon its current and past proposals and move to restore the republican structure to the New York State Legislature.

This is the proposal that I request you consider.

- 1) That every county in New York State be assigned at least 1 Assembly seat.
- 2) That every assembly district be county wide.
- 3) That no further delineation be made and that there be no Assembly Districts drawn that are just a part of a county or that include part of an adjoining county, and
- 4) Rather than use the census population figures, consider using voter registration figures maintained by the Bo Elections.

If you adopt this proposal, the following Assembly seats would be assigned to each county, each being a county wide Assembly District.

Kings County 16 Queens County 13 New York County 12
Suffolk County 10 Nassau County 9 Bronx County 8
Erie and Westchester Counties 6 Monroe County 5

Richmond and Onondaga counties 3

Orange, Rockland, Albany, Dutchess, Saratoga, Niagara,
Oneida, & Broome 2 and

the remaining 43 New York State counties each be assigned 1
Assembly seat.

The following comments were not given orally

Abandoning the republican created major problems and
returning to a republican structure will create real Benefits:

Benefits

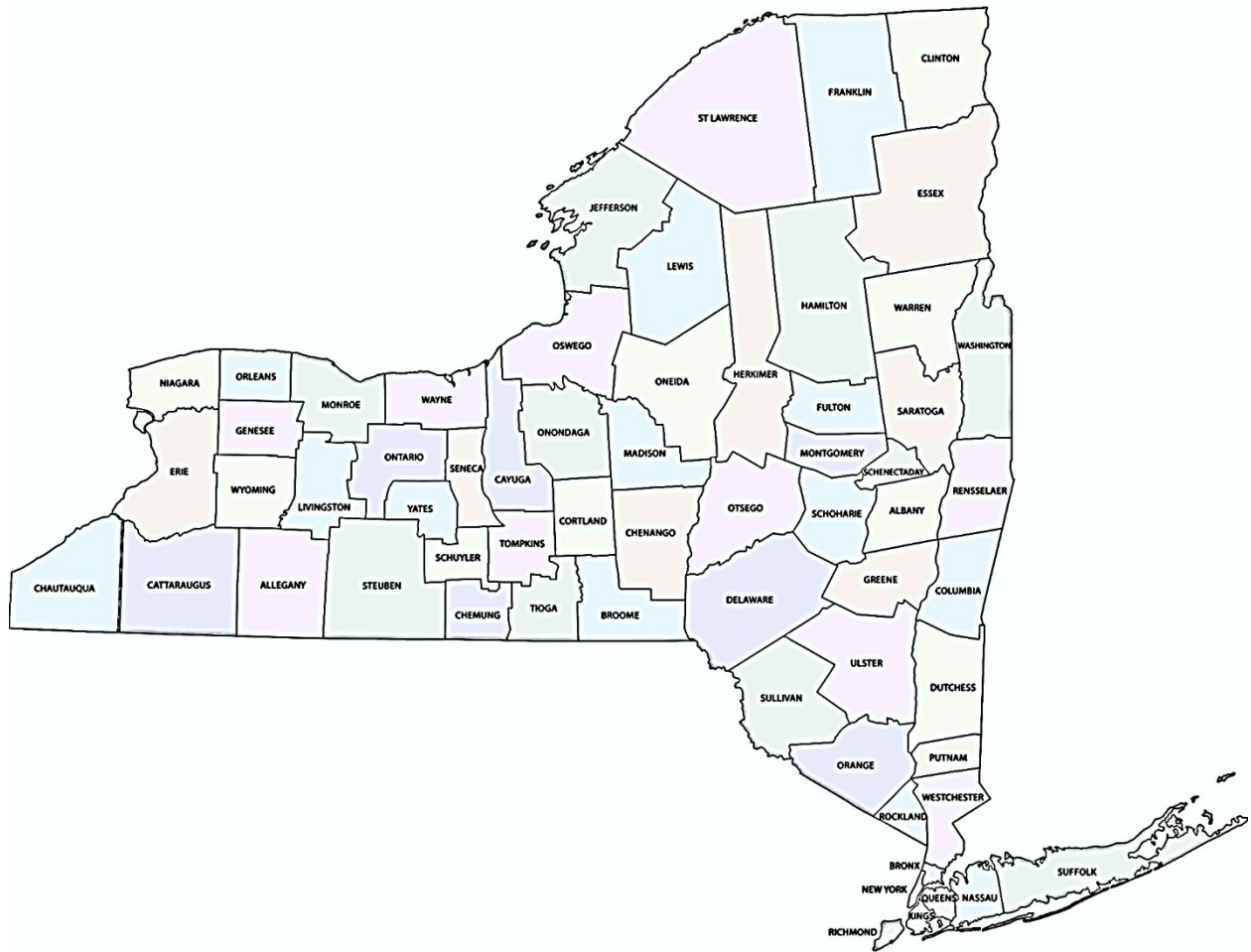
- 1) Eliminates gerrymandering of Assembly Districts
- 2) Restores the republican structure to the New York State legislature.
- 3) Would end the "Divide New York" movements.
- 4) Would restore the county's voice in the NYS Legislature
- 5) Create county oversight

And be in compliance with the statement that

"In the context of redistricting, the Supreme Court has found that a redistricting plan violates the Voting Rights Act if **a group "do[es] not have an equal opportunity to participate in the political processes** and to elect candidates of their choice."

The NYS Counties represent 62 officially recognized groups in NYS that are not represented and do not have the opportunity to elect candidates of their choice.

Reference the two publications on my website :Re-establish county representation in NYS Assembly or Divide NYS, and A Road to Nowhere.



Ontario County

FEB 02 2023

Board of Supervisors

Canandaigua, New York 14424

Supervisor Richard Russell offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 9-2023

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE DIVISION OF ONTARIO COUNTY INTO THREE ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, The redistricting process in New York State results in the redrawing of legislative boundaries every 10 years following the completion of the United States Census; and

WHEREAS, The Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State has been tasked with proposing new Assembly Legislative Districts for Assembly terms to begin in 2025; and

WHEREAS, On December 1, 2022, the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State proposed new Assembly Legislative Districts and solicited public comments on such proposals; and

WHEREAS, Those new districts result in Ontario County being separated into three new Assembly Districts including the 130th, 131st and 133rd; and

WHEREAS, The proposed 131st and 133rd Districts separate Ontario County into eastern and western portions respectively; and

WHEREAS, This separation results in the towns of Manchester and Farmington becoming part of the 130th District with Wayne and Cayuga Counties; and

WHEREAS, New York State Law requires that each legislative district shall "consist of contiguous territory", "be as compact in form as practicable" and consider the pre-existing subdivisions of counties, cities, towns and communities of interest; and

WHEREAS, The history and tradition of Ontario County is it has been included within one or two Assembly Districts, including the most recent redistricting years of 2022, 2012, 2002 and 1992; and

WHEREAS, Ontario County will be wholly represented in one New York State Senate District and one US Congressional District until the next redistricting cycle after the 2030 US Census; and

WHEREAS, The Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State and the New York State Legislature should continue the State's longstanding practice of containing Ontario County to one or two Assembly Districts because they constitute a community of interest whose residents are best represented by a unified voice in the New York State Assembly; and

WHEREAS, While previous constructions of Assembly Districts have well served the residents of Ontario County and they are generally compact, contiguous and respect municipal boundaries, the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State and the New York State Legislature should make every effort to preserve the District boundaries to the greatest extent practicable; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Ontario County Board of Supervisors strongly urges the Independent Redistricting Commission and the New York State Legislature to make every effort to preserve Ontario County in one or two Assembly Districts.



STATE OF NEW YORK }
County of Ontario }

I do hereby certify that I have compared the preceding with the original thereof, on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at Canandaigua, New York, and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original; and that said original was duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Ontario County held at Canandaigua, New York on January 26, 2023.

Given under my hand and official seal January 27, 2023.

Kristin A. Mueller

Kristin A. Mueller, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Ontario County, NY

Town Supervisor
Peter V. Ingalsbe
315-986-8100 Opt. 2

Deputy Supervisor
Steven Holtz

Town Clerk
Michelle Finley
315-986-8100 Opt. 1



Justices
John E. Gligora
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Tim Ford
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Assessor
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Code Enforcement Office
Daniel Delpriore
315-986-8100 Opt. 3

Town Councilmen
Steven Holtz
Michael Casale
Nate Bowerman
Ron Herendeen

1000 County Road 8, Farmington, New York 14425

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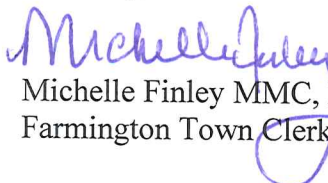
December 16, 2022

Assemblyman Jeff Gallahan
70 Elizabeth Blackwell Street
Geneva, NY 14456

Dear Assemblyman Gallahan:

Enclosed is a certified resolution the Farmington Town Board passed at their meeting held on December 13, 2022, pertaining to the division of Ontario County into three assembly districts.

Sincerely,


Michelle Finley MMC, RMC
Farmington Town Clerk

Town Supervisor
Peter Ingalsbe
315-986-8100 opt 2

Deputy Supervisor
Steven Holtz

Town Clerk
Michelle Finley
315-986-8100 opt 1

Town Councilmen
Michael Casale
Steven Holtz
Ron Herendeen
Nate Bowerman



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315-986-8100 opt 3

www.townoffarmingtonny.com

RESOLUTION #492-2022:

Councilman Holtz offered the following Resolution, seconded by Councilman Bowerman:

RESOLUTION URGING AGAINST DIVISION OF ONTARIO COUNTY INTO THREE ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, the redistricting process in New York State comprises of redrawing legislative boundaries every 10 years following the completion of the United States Census; and

WHEREAS, the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State has been tasked with proposing new Assembly Legislative Districts for Assembly terms to begin in 2025; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2022, the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State proposed new Assembly Legislative Districts and solicited public comments on such proposals; and

WHEREAS, those new districts propose that Ontario County be separated into three new Assembly Districts including the 130th, 131st and 133rd; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 131st and 133rd separate Ontario County into eastern and western portions respectively, the towns of Manchester and Farmington have been singled out to be included in the 130th District with Wayne and Cayuga Counties; and

WHEREAS, New York State Law requires that each legislative district shall "consist of contiguous territory", "be as compact in form as practicable" and consider the pre-existing subdivisions of counties, cities, towns and communities of interest; and

WHEREAS, the history and tradition of Ontario County is that it has been included within one or two Assembly Districts, including the most recent redistricting years of 2022, 2012, 2002 and 1992; and

WHEREAS, Ontario County will be wholly represented in one New York State Senate District and one US Congressional District until the next redistricting cycle after the 2030 US Census; and

WHEREAS, the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State and the New York State Legislature should continue the State's longstanding practice of containing Ontario County to one or two Assembly Districts because they constitute a community of interest whose residents are best represented by a unified voice in the New York State Assembly; and

WHEREAS, while previous constructions of Assembly Districts have well served the residents of Ontario County and they are generally compact, contiguous and respect municipal boundaries, the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State and the New York State Legislature should make every effort to preserve the District boundaries to the greatest extent practicable; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: The Town of Farmington strongly urges the Independent Redistricting Commission and the New York State Legislature to not split Ontario County into three different Assembly Districts and make every effort to preserve Ontario County to one or two Assembly Districts.

I, Michelle Finley, Town Clerk of the Town of Farmington do hereby certify that the aforementioned resolution was adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Farmington on December 13, 2022, by the following vote:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Peter Ingalsbe	X		
Michael Casale	X		
Steven Holtz	X		
Ronald Herendeen	X		
Nathan Bowerman	X		

**STATE OF NEW YORK
ONTARIO COUNTY**

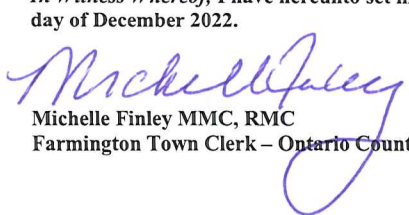
This is to certify that I, Michelle Finley, Town Clerk of the Town of Farmington, in the said County of Ontario, has compared the foregoing copy of Resolution No. 492-2022 - **RESOLUTION URGING AGAINST DIVISION OF ONTARIO COUNTY INTO THREE ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS**

With the original now on file in this office, and that the same is a correct and true transcript of such originals and the whole thereof.

TOWN OF FARMINGTON

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Town this 14th day of December 2022.

SEAL


Michelle Finley MMC, RMC
Farmington Town Clerk – Ontario County

RESOLUTION #150

URGING AGAINST DIVISION OF ONTARIO COUNTY INTO THREE ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS

Offered by: Town of Manchester

WHEREAS, the redistricting process in New York State comprises of redrawing legislative boundaries every 10 years following the completion of the United States Census; and

WHEREAS, the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State has been tasked with proposing new Assembly Legislative Districts for Assembly terms to begin in 2025; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2022, the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State proposed new Assembly Legislative Districts and solicited public comments on such proposals; and

WHEREAS, those new districts propose that Ontario County be separated into three new Assembly Districts including the 130th, 131st and 133rd; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 131st and 133rd separate Ontario County into eastern and western portions respectively, the towns of Manchester and Farmington have been singled out to be included in the 130th District with Wayne and Cayuga Counties; and

WHEREAS, the history and tradition of the Town of Manchester is that it has been included within the eastern portion of Ontario County of any Legislative District; and

WHEREAS, Ontario County will be wholly represented in one New York State Senate District and one US Congressional District until the next redistricting cycle after the 2030 US Census; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Manchester also contains the Village of Manchester and the Village of Shortsville in whole and contains a portion of the Village of Clifton Springs which is also contained in the Town of Phelps; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Manchester shares common concerns about water quality and agriculture with Ontario County and particularly the Eastern portion of Ontario County as a contiguous community of interest; and

WHEREAS, the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State and the New York State Legislature should continue the State's longstanding practice of drawing Manchester into the Eastern Ontario County District because they constitute a community of interest whose residents are best represented by a unified voice in the New York State Assembly; and

WHEREAS, while previous constructions of Assembly Districts have well served the residents of Ontario County and they are generally compact, contiguous and respect municipal boundaries,

the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State and the New York State Legislature should make every effort to preserve the District's boundaries to the greatest extent practicable; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED:

1. The Town of Manchester strongly urges the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State and the New York State Legislature to make every effort to not split Ontario County into three Assembly Districts and include the Town of Manchester with the Eastern portion of Ontario County as a community of interest.

I, Devon Hayes, Town Clerk of the Town of Manchester do hereby certify that the Town Board of the Town of Manchester adopted the aforementioned resolution on December 10, 2022, by the following vote:

	Aye	Nay
David Phillips	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kevin Blazey	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Jaylene Folkins	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Scott DeCook	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Matthew Shannon	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

Dated: December 13, 2022


Devon Hayes, Town Clerk



TOWN OF
Ogden
COUNTY OF MONROE
STATE OF NEW YORK

March 1, 2023

Ken Jenkins, Chair
Charles Nesbitt, Vice Chair
New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

Dear Chair Jenkins and Vice Chair Nesbitt,

I write you today to express my concerns regarding the current redistricting proposal put forth by the New York State Independent Redistricting Commission for the Assembly Districts.

I am specifically referencing the western portion of Monroe County. Currently, the Town of Ogden, in which I serve as the Town Supervisor, is in the 134th Assembly District. This current district includes the towns of Greece, Ogden and Parma, along with the villages of Spencerport and Hilton.

The proposed redistricting plan proposed by the IRC removes the town of Ogden and village of Spencerport from the current district and places it with the towns of Chili, Gates, Brighton and Henrietta. Towns that have much less in common with Ogden than the current district representation. These towns have much more extensive commercial property than the town of Ogden and do not reflect the rural and agricultural community we have here.

Additionally, under the current district, the villages of Hilton and Spencerport are together, which allows them to have a more impactful voice when advocating for issues related to their communities. The school districts are similar, the topography is similar and the issues we face are similar. Under the proposed district, the village of Spencerport stands alone in its interests that are uniquely tailored to its status as a village presiding in a town like Ogden.

It's imperative that the town of Ogden and village of Spencerport remain in a shared district under the existing 134th Assembly District to allow for our rural values and shared communities to continue having an effective voice that is properly represented in our state government. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,

Mike Zale
Ogden Town Supervisor

Town Supervisor
Peter V. Ingalsbe
315-986-8100 Opt. 2

Deputy Supervisor
Steven Holtz

Town Clerk
Michelle Finley
315-986-8100 Opt. 1

Town Councilmen
Steven Holtz
Michael Casale
Nate Bowerman
Ron Herendeen

**TOWN OF
FARMINGTON**



1000 County Road 8, Farmington, New York 14425

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Paul Arndt
315-986-8100 Opt. 4

Code Enforcement Office
Daniel Delpriore
315-986-8100 Opt. 3

December 16, 2022

Independent Redistricting Commission

Attn: Submissions
250 Broadway 22nd Floor
New York NY 10007

Dear Commission:

Enclosed is a certified resolution the Farmington Town Board passed at their meeting held on December 13, 2022, pertaining to the division of Ontario County into three assembly districts.

Sincerely,


Michelle Finley MMC, RMC
Farmington Town Clerk

Town Supervisor
Peter Ingalsbe
315-986-8100 opt 2

Deputy Supervisor
Steven Holtz

Town Clerk
Michelle Finley
315-986-8100 opt 1

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WHEREAS, the proposed 131st and 133rd separate Ontario County into eastern and western portions respectively, the towns of Manchester and Farmington have been singled out to be included in the 130th District with Wayne and Cayuga Counties; and

WHEREAS, New York State Law requires that each legislative district shall "consist of contiguous territory", "be as compact in form as practicable" and consider the pre-existing subdivisions of counties, cities, towns and communities of interest; and

WHEREAS, the history and tradition of Ontario County is that it has been included within one or two Assembly Districts, including the most recent redistricting years of 2022, 2012, 2002 and 1992; and

WHEREAS, Ontario County will be wholly represented in one New York State Senate District and one US Congressional District until the next redistricting cycle after the 2030 US Census; and

WHEREAS, the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State and the New York State Legislature should continue the State's longstanding practice of containing Ontario County to one or two Assembly Districts because they constitute a community of interest whose residents are best represented by a unified voice in the New York State Assembly; and

WHEREAS, while previous constructions of Assembly Districts have well served the residents of Ontario County and they are generally compact, contiguous and respect municipal boundaries, the Independent Redistricting Commission of New York State and the New York State Legislature should make every effort to preserve the District boundaries to the greatest extent practicable; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: The Town of Farmington strongly urges the Independent Redistricting Commission and the New York State Legislature to not split Ontario County into three different Assembly Districts and make every effort to preserve Ontario County to one or two Assembly Districts.

I, Michelle Finley, Town Clerk of the Town of Farmington do hereby certify that the aforementioned resolution was adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Farmington on December 13, 2022, by the following vote:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nav</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Peter Ingalsbe	X		
Michael Casale	X		
Steven Holtz	X		
Ronald Herendeen	X		
Nathan Bowerman	X		

**STATE OF NEW YORK
ONTARIO COUNTY**

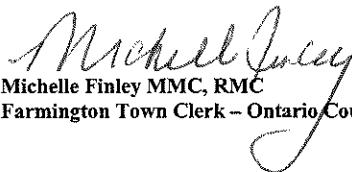
This is to certify that I, Michelle Finley, Town Clerk of the Town of Farmington, in the said County of Ontario, has compared the foregoing copy of Resolution No. 492-2022 - **RESOLUTION URGING AGAINST DIVISION OF ONTARIO COUNTY INTO THREE ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS**

With the original now on file in this office, and that the same is a correct and true transcript of such originals and the whole thereof.

TOWN OF FARMINGTON

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Town this 14th day of December 2022.

SEAL


Michelle Finley MMC, RMC
Farmington Town Clerk – Ontario County

Town of Avon

23 Genesee Street
Avon, New York 14414
Phone: (585) 226-2425
Fax: (585) 226-9299
Web Site: www.avon-ny.org

David LeFeber, Supervisor
James Harrington, Councilman
Paul Drozdziel, Councilman
Tami Snyder, Assessor
Thomas Crye, Highway/Water Superintendent

Thomas Mairs, Deputy Supervisor
Malachy Coyne, Councilman
Clara Mulligan, Historian
Brian Glise, Code Enforcement Officer
Sharon M. Knight, MMC/RMC Town Clerk

January 18, 2023

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

Dear Redistricting Commission,

I am the Supervisor of the Town of Avon and Chairman of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors. The proposed map for the 133 Assembly District does not include all of Livingston County.

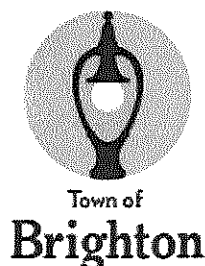
Currently, the County is all in the district represented by Assemblywomen Byrnes. It is a real benefit to have complete County representation by one Representative. Our needs aren't necessarily the same as our adjoining counties.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



David LeFeber
Supervisor, Town of Avon
Chairman, Livingston County Board of Supervisors



Office of the Town Supervisor

The Honorable William W. Moehle

January 10, 2023

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

VIA <https://www.nyirc.gov/participate>

Dear Commissioners:

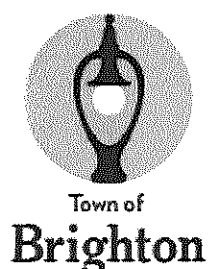
RE: 136th Assembly District

Please find attached my comments on the proposed redistricting plan and my recommendation to keep the Town of Brighton, Monroe County, in a single Assembly District.

Sincerely,

William W. Moehle
Town Supervisor

Attachment



Office of the Town Supervisor

The Honorable William W. Moehle

SUBMISSION TO NYS INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

My name is William Moehle and I am the Supervisor of the Town of Brighton in Monroe County. I have served as Brighton Town Supervisor for eleven years and previously served as Attorney to the Town for 18 years. Today, I ask you to maintain the Town of Brighton's single Assembly District, as opposed to the proposed IRC plan to divide the Town into two Assembly Districts.

The Town of Brighton is an inner ring suburb of Rochester with a population slightly over 37,000, which is a small increase from the 2010 census. The entire Town of Brighton is currently a part of the 136th Assembly District, represented by Assembly Member Sarah Clark. The Town of Brighton has been included in a single Assembly District since at least the 1970s. Audre "Pinny" Cooke represented Brighton in the Assembly from 1978-1990. Joe Morelle represented Brighton from 1991-2018. Jamie Romeo represented Brighton from 2019-2020 and Sarah Clark has represented Brighton since 2020. For most, if not all of that time, the entire Town of Brighton has been included in an Assembly District that, regardless of its District number, has also included Irondequoit and a portion of the City of Rochester.

For the first time in over 40 years, the plan proposed this year by the IRC would divide Brighton between two Assembly Districts. While I understand that, unlike Senate Districts, there is no absolute prohibition on dividing Towns between two or more Assembly Districts, on the IRC webpage under *Frequently Asked Questions*, the question, "What criteria are used to draw district lines?" is answered as follows: "The Commission shall consider the maintenance of cores of existing districts, of pre-existing political subdivisions, including counties, cities and towns, and of communities of interest." However, as proposed, this plan would not only separate the residents of this part of Brighton from the rest of the Town of Brighton, but it would also remove them from the core of an Assembly District that has existed in substantially its current form for over four decades.

The population of Brighton is small enough that it can easily be included in a single Assembly District. The IRC could do so by unifying Brighton within what is now the 136th Assembly District, and returning a portion of the east side of Rochester to the 137th District currently represented by Assembly Member Demond Meeks. Additional slight adjustments to the District lines could also restore Members Harry Bronson and Sarah Clark to the Districts they currently represent, maintaining the relationships and local understanding of their Districts that they have developed.

I firmly believe that the residents of the Town of Brighton are best served under the current, single District model. I thank you for taking these recommendations under consideration.

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

Re: Proposed Assembly district lines –Greater Rochester area

Dear Commissioners Jenkins, Nesbitt, Brady, Collado, Conway, Cuevas-Molina, Flateau, Frazier, Harris, and Stephens:

Please allow me to begin by thanking you for your service and work on the Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC). I am the former Monroe County Commissioner of Elections, having served for 17 years, retiring in 2019; and was Deputy Commissioner for 3 years as well. I've been involved in politics since the late 60's. Through my tenure I have experienced redistricting many times.

With that experience, I was somewhat stunned when reviewing the IRC proposed maps for the upstate Rochester region as it does not reflect our communities of interest. Over the past 30 years I have been involved in trying to ensure that communities of interest were considered when redistricting the Rochester area. I have seen time after time Monroe County/Rochester becoming the place where maps from the west and maps from the east are made to fit, with Monroe County dealing with the leftovers. The IRC proposed map under consideration is problematic as it does not fully recognize the importance of communities of interest in the city nor how the surrounding towns relate to the City.

During the redistricting of 2021, after a misstart by the redistricting commission the Assembly lines as I understand it were drawn beginning from the Rochester area and were pushed out. This created a chance to finally make right communities that had been divided for decades –the current Assembly lines indeed have corrected this history. Attached please find a list of the Rochester communities of interest along with a map of the current Assembly lines with communities of interest lines overlayed. This shows how, with very limited exceptions, communities of interest have been kept together in the current Assembly lines. In cases where some very minor divisions were carved out the community had asked for those sub-divisions. The School of Arts, the University of Rochester, Winton Village and Browncroft communities of interest to name specifics.

Also, the suburb communities that share interests were put together. Perinton, Pittsford and Penfield, as we locally refer to as the “P – towns” share many common interests and could in many ways be one community. Although it is impossible to bring all suburban schools districts totally together consideration was given where there were strong ties; in particular, the Churchville-Chili School District keeping the towns of Riga and Chili together were put together given the families and students in those two towns have a strong connection because of the unified school district.

Unlike the Assembly drawn maps, the IRC proposed map has failed on so many levels. To start with, putting our city south-east core with two strong towns, Irondequoit and Brighton undermines the importance of the efforts that have been and are being made to strengthen the city and ensure its success as an alive vibrant community standing on its own. The city's efforts in growing housing, businesses, community services for city neighborhoods are so important to the families of the south-east. These two towns will inevitably draw resources away that are needed so much.

Particularly, putting the whole south-east side of the city with these two towns diminishes the importance of those city rebuilding efforts as well as the arts in the city. The IRC proposal cuts the Neighborhood of the Arts in half without understanding the various elements of it. The Neighborhood of the Arts has a very strong sense of unity and is led by strong neighborhood and business associations. The renaissance of this area with an emphasis on the arts is a tribute to the unity of this community.

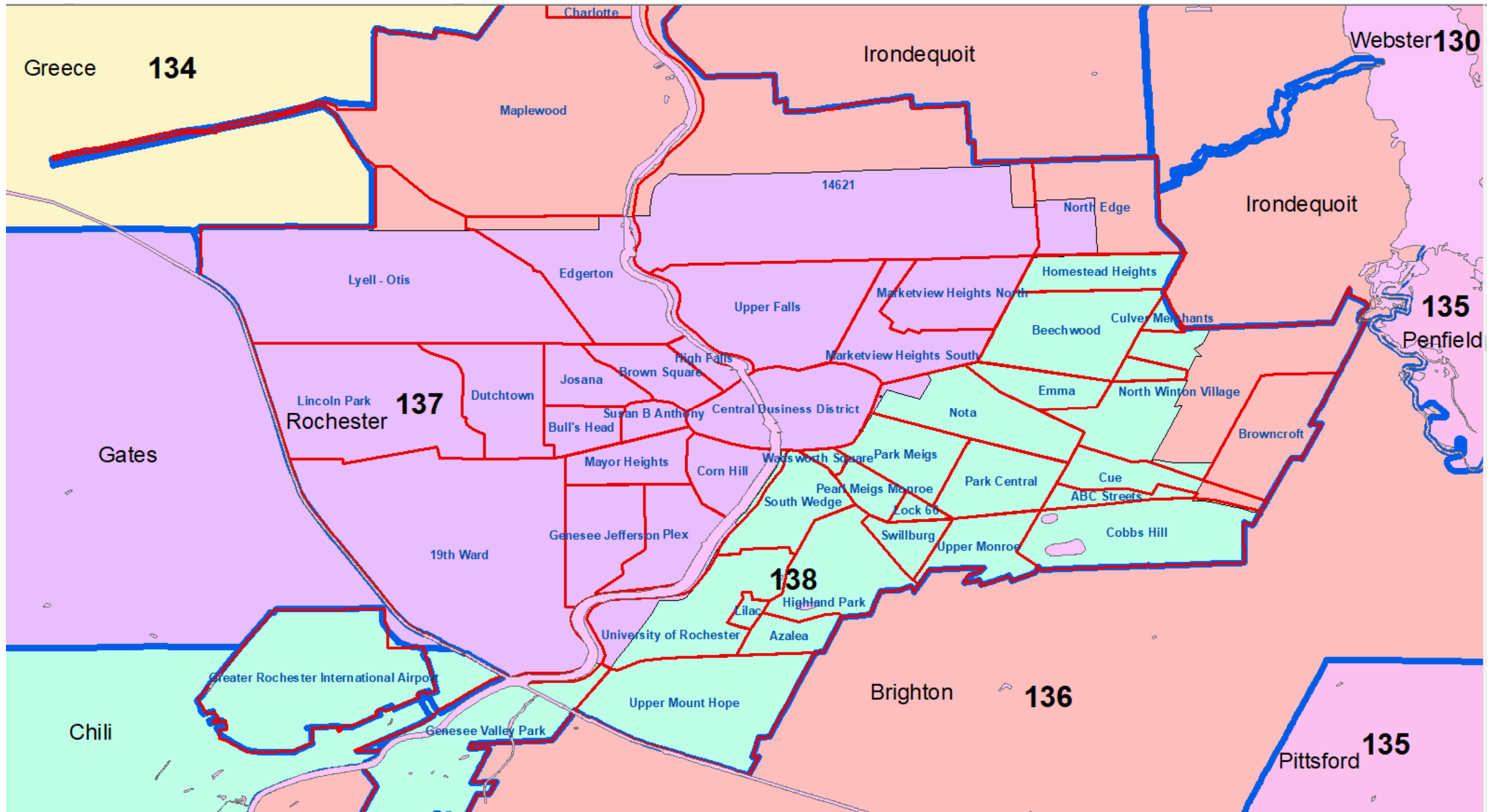
On the northwest side of Rochester, the IRC proposed map has cut the Maplewood Community into pieces. Like the south-east area, Maplewood Community has worked together in a unified way to improve the quality of life for its residents.

Additionally, the IRC proposed map places a small section of an Assembly district in the city near the river on the northside that cuts it off from anything surrounding it and there is a small section of another Assembly district going into Irondequoit without a clear reason. I can only assume these strange elements were some of your leftover parts.

Finally, the current Assembly lines provide similar communities that crossed city suburban lines with a link through their Assembly lines. For example, Gates and the city and Henrietta and the city.

I believe the IRC can fix this by taking a closer look at what was set in place under the current Assembly lines –looking, in particular, with how the City communities of interest have been kept together and how certain towns link with parts of the City. Please understand the community did have a strong voice in what was ultimately put in place and the lines repair, if I may, the sins of the past.

Tom Ferrarese
Former Commissioner of Elections,
Monroe County Board of Elections



Current NYS Assembly lines with COI overlayed

NEIGHBORHOODS OF ROCHESTER

AND HOW THEY GOT THEIR NAMES

1. 14621

For the area zipcode, which also covers parts of Irondequoit. Includes the old Carthage settlement (named for the ancient capital), a rival development to Rochesterville.

2. 19TH WARD

Bygone designation leftover when city planners organized the land tracts by wards.

3. ABC STREETS

For the unique naming structure of the neighborhood streets: famous scientists, naturalists, and discoverers, in alphabetical order from A-H.

4. AZALEA

For Azalea Rd., which was originally part of the Mount Hope Nursery. Area was formerly known as Highland Park Terrace.

5. BEECHWOOD

After a local post office and Beech-Nut Foods, known for Five-Stripe gum and baby foods.

6. BROWNCROFT

After the Brown Brothers Continental Nursery, which made up most of the area.

7. BROWN SQUARE

For the first public park in Rochester, so named for Matthew and Francis Brown, who owned and developed the tract.

8. BULL'S HEAD

For the Bull's Head Tavern, an early 1800s tavern that serviced cattle ranchers.

9. COBB'S HILL

For Gideon Cobb, an early settler and original owner of the land.

10. CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

Some names are a matter of utility. Also known as Center City.

11. CHARLOTTE

Colonel Robert Troup, one of the early developers who laid out the city plan of Charlottesville, named it for his daughter.

12. CORN HILL

For the corn fields that boat captains used as a nautical landmark.

13. CUE

For the streets Culver, University, and East Culver for Oliver Culver, a prominent developer, University for the second home of University of Rochester, and East for its direction compared to city center.

14. CULVER MERCHANTS

Also known as The Triangle for its shape, named for streets Culver, for Oliver Culver, a prominent developer, and Merchants, for its commercial use.

15. DUTCHTOWN

A corruption of Deutschtown, for the concentration of German immigrants.

16. EDGERTON

For Edgerton Park, originally a multi-sport indoor arena built in 1892, now a recreation center with athletic fields and park, so named for H.H. Edgerton, former mayor.

17. E.M.A.A.

For East Main St., Mustard St., and Atlantic Avenue. Mustard St. for the former entrance to RT French's Mustard Factory, and Atlantic for the ocean.

18. GENESEE JEFFERSON

For Genesee and Jefferson Streets. Genesee for the river, from a Seneca word meaning Pleasant Valley, and Jefferson for President Thomas Jefferson.

19. HIGH FALLS

Named for the nearby Upper Falls.

20. HIGHLAND PARK

For the Frederick Law Olmsted designed park within the area. Formerly Ellwanger-Barry, for George Ellwanger and Patrick Barry, founders of Mount Hope Nursery, one time world's largest.

21. HOMESTEAD HEIGHTS

Named after the Goodman St. Homestead Building Association. Also known as Bensonhurst, so named for the neighborhood in Brooklyn, NY.

22. JOSANA

Jay and Orchard Street Area Neighborhood Association. Jay Street is so named for John Jay.

23. LILAC

For the flowering shrub that has become synonymous with Rochester, thanks to John Dunbar and Bernard H. Slavin.

24. LINCOLN PARK

Named by Dyer Dayton Stanley Brown of Scottsville, the original land developer, for Abraham Lincoln. Also known as UNIT (United Neighbors In it Together).

25. LOCK 66

For an Erie Canal lock, when the canal traveled through the city, not south of it.

28. 29. MARKETVIEW HEIGHTS NORTH/SOUTH

Named for the Rochester Public Market (second home).

30. MAYORS HEIGHTS

For a forgotten former Mayor of Rochester. Also known as COTS (Changing Of The Scenes), for the variety and age of buildings. Once known as Chocolate City, for its many brown buildings.

31. NOTA

Neighborhood Of The Arts, a 1990s reimagining of the area as a creative destination. Formerly Atlantic-University, Atlantic Ave., for the ocean, and University Ave., for the University Of Rochester.

32. NORTH EDGE

Also known as Northland-Lyceum. Strangely, Northland St travels east-west, and there was never a school on Lyceum St. Formerly known as Goat's Hill.

37. PLEX

For Plymouth Ave and Exchange St, Plymouth for the Congregational Church founded on that street, and Exchange for it being the site of an Interurban trolley station.

38. SOUTH WEDGE

For the geometric shape of the area.

39. SUSAN B. ANTHONY

For the neighborhood's most famous resident, who shared a home with her sister Mary.

40. SWILLBURG

Former site of George Goebels pig farm.

41. UPPER FALLS

More accurately named for the natural feature nearby. Formerly known as Butter Bowl/Butter Hole, for the abundance of dairy farms in the area.

42. UPPER MONROE

For Monroe Avenue, so named for President James Monroe.

43. UPPER MOUNT HOPE

For Mount Hope Avenue, so named by City Council, while also giving the cemetery of the same name.

44. WADSWORTH SQUARE

For a public commons in the area of the same name, which is so named for General James Wadsworth, who was the first landowner and developer of the area.

A. DURAND-EASTMAN PARK

For Dr. Henry S. Durand and George Eastman, original landowners of the area.

B. GREATER ROCHESTER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Originally called Britton Field, for the early pioneer family who owned the land.

C. GENESEE VALLEY PARK

For the Genesee River, so named from the Seneca word meaning Pleasant Valley.

D. UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

Named for Nathaniel Rochester, city founder.

33. NORTH WINTON VILLAGE

For Winton Road, so named for Winton Motor Carriage Company, a prominent 1900s automobile manufacturer.

34. PARK CENTRAL

For Park Avenue, so named for the Union Horse Racing Track, a driving park owned by James Vick.

35. PARK MEIGS

For Park Avenue, so named for the Union Horse Racing Track, a driving park owned by local developer James Vick. Meigs for Meigs St., so named for Return J. Meigs, Jr., Post Master General of the US at the time.

27. MAPLEWOOD

For Maplewood Park, renamed from Maple Grove, an old resort area, so named for the abundance of maple trees.