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For Immediate Release

November 16, 2012

**DISTRICTING COMMISSION RELEASES REVISED CITYWIDE  
DISTRICTING MAP**

*The Districting Plan retains 19 minority 'ability to elect' districts and creates a  
new minority 'opportunity to elect' district in Brooklyn*

**New York, NY** -The New York City Districting Commission today released a [revised plan](#) for the fifty one City Council districts at the Commission's public meeting held at New York Law School in Downtown Manhattan. Today's release follows the Districting Commission's timeline and guidelines set forth in the City Charter. The plan, based on testimonies and information collected from the ten public hearings, four public meetings and written and online submissions is available online on the Commission's website. The hardcopy version of the revised plan will also be available for public viewing on display in the coming days at the Queens Public Library Main branch, Bronx, Brooklyn and Staten Island Borough Halls and at the Districting Commission office in Lower Manhattan.

"Over the course of four months communities around the five boroughs shared with us their views on how they would like their districts to be redrawn," **said Chairman Benito Romano**. "We heard their concerns and we believe that this revised plan reflects much of what was shared with the Commission within the restrictions set forth by the Charter. We want to thank the public for its participation in this important process."

"I want to thank the Commission for all their hard work these past couple of months," **said Executive Director Carl Hum**. "They have gone through great lengths to make sure to honor in keeping communities together and has given staff great direction to where to redraw the lines."

At the meeting, Commission members were given a presentation of the [revised plan](#) for the City Council district map that included adjustments of the preliminary draft plan released in September. The plan has a total of 35 council districts in which protected racial and language minority groups represent an overall majority of the total population in the council district—that is over two-thirds of the 51 total City Council districts. By comparison, this is five more districts than the 2003 districting plan, which had thirty of such districts at the time it was adopted.



If the plan is adopted, there will be 19 City Council districts in which minority voters will have the ability to elect candidates of their choice. Black voters will have the ability to elect candidates of their choice in 8 districts in the three covered counties—Districts 9, 12, 35, 36, 40, 41, 42 and 45. Hispanic voters will have the ability to elect candidates of their choice in 8 districts—Districts 8, 10, 14, 15, 17, 18, 34 and 37.

As for the remaining three districts, districts where there are concentrations, at least one of which has the ability to elect candidates of its choice. These districts are Districts 7, 16 and 38.

Also for the first time Staten Island will have three districts wholly contained in the within its boundaries.

The revised plan retains 19 ‘ability to elect’ districts, but it also creates an additional, ‘opportunity to elect’ district, District 46, where, for the first time, black voters will have the opportunity to elect candidates of their choice. The plan meets the obligation with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and meets the requirements set forth by the City Charter.

The Commission will submit the revised map to the City Council. Pursuant to the City Charter, the City Council has three weeks from the date of submission by the Commission to take action on the plan or it is deemed adopted.

## **FACTS AND FIGURES**

During the course of this process, over 1,157 people attended the public hearings and more than 350 testified. The Commission also received comment from nearly 5,300 individuals who submitted statements via e-mail or hard copy and nearly 20 alternative maps that were submitted on-line and/or created in the Commission’s Resource Room with the assistance of Commission staff. The Commission’s Community Outreach team also spoke at nearly 40 local community boards throughout the five boroughs educating the public about the districting process.

The Commission’s [website](#), has been constantly updated to add testimony, proposed plan submissions and video links to the public meetings and hearings so that the public has had access to the same information as the Commission throughout the process. Since August 1st, the Commission’s website has received nearly 30,000 hits - averaging about 275 hits per day.



For more information about the Commission and to view the revised plan, please visit [www.nyc.gov/districting](http://www.nyc.gov/districting) or contact 212-442-6940.

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