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For Immediate Release

February 4, 2013

**DISTRICTING COMMISSION UNVEILS REVISED CITYWIDE  
DISTRICTING PLAN**

*Plan is released to the public in advance of the Commission meeting on  
February 6<sup>th</sup>*

**New York, NY** -The New York City Districting Commission today publicly released a newly revised district [plan](#), for the fifty-one City Council districts, prior to the Commission's public meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup>. This revised plan is a result of a third round of hearings held by the Commission in response to overwhelming public interest. The Commission's decision to release the revised plan ahead of its scheduled public meeting is in response to suggestions from many community groups, advocacy groups and members of the public. Today's release also accompanies a district by district explanation of the revised plan prepared by the Commission staff. This explanatory memorandum, which was requested by good government groups including Citizens Union, is the first of its kind in the city's districting process and achieves greater transparency a goal the Commission has been committed to providing since the beginning of the process in July.

"During these past six months we have carefully considered the testimony we received from thousands of New Yorkers who took the time to speak with us and submit comments, along with alternative maps or provide written testimony." **said Chairman Benito Romano.** "In assessing public comment, the Commission was constrained by the necessity to honor federal, state, and local requirements. Nonetheless, the Commission did a commendable job in creating a plan that reflects the diversity of our great city."

"I thank the Commissioners for their guidance and support in developing a comprehensive, fair and legally compliant plan-one that we believe truly reflects the ever changing scope of our City. **Executive Director Carl Hum.** "I also want to thank every New Yorker who testified or submitted alternative maps. These references gave the Commission a solid foundation for redrawing the district lines that will serve the City the next ten years."

The most recently revised [plan](#) creates 19 districts in which federally protected minority groups will have the ability to elect candidates of their choice. The revised plan also adds an opportunity district in District 46, where such a minority group will have the opportunity to elect candidates of its choice for the first time. Details

of this revised plan will be discussed at the meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup> which will be held at New York Law School in Downtown Manhattan at 6PM.

If the revised plan is approved by the Commission, the plan will then be submitted to the City Council. After the plan is submitted, the City Council will have three weeks from the date of submission to take action on the plan or it will be deemed adopted.

### **STATISTICS**

Since the beginning this districting process, over 1,791 people attended the public hearings and nearly 500 people testified. The Commission also received comment from nearly 1,500 individuals who submitted statements via e-mail or hard copy and over 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 over 50 community and advocacy groups 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. Since August 1st, the Commission's website has received nearly 55,000 hits - averaging about 360 hits per day.

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

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Contact: Shirley Limongi (212) 442-6940

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