



**STATEMENT OF OCA-NY
for the Districting Commission of the City Council
By Dr. Wah Lee
January 10, 2013**

My name is Dr. Wah Lee. I am testifying on behalf of OCA-NY, which is a member of ACCORD, and as a local resident. I am here to advocate for the Bensonhurst community where I attended elementary school and continue to reside. Founded in 1976, OCA-NY is a non-profit organization incorporated in the state of New York. It has many members living throughout Brooklyn.

We support the currently proposed City Council District 38 as it keeps both sides of 8th Ave. together, and has also incorporated the community of common interest extending east towards Bensonhurst, between 62nd and 68th Streets.

While the December 4th District Commission map is an improvement from the previous one by keeping more of the western and eastern portions of Bensonhurst together, it still divides the Asian community of common interest in Bensonhurst into 4 districts.

The Center for Urban Research found, "Bensonhurst (east and west) each with a substantial White population in 2000 had lost close to 18,000 Whites by 2010. In that time the Asian population increased by a greater amount (19,747 people, or 57%)."¹

The Asian community of interest in Bensonhurst predominately has an Asian first language, shop and eat at the same ethnic stores and restaurants, go to the same community centers, and take the same public transportation lines. This Asian community of interest in Bensonhurst should be kept intact in the same district, especially when this community of interest historically has not seen its fair share of return in public funds, relative to its tax contributions.

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE CURRENTLY PROPOSED CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 47. We submitted a map on Jan 9 that better preserves our neighborhood. Our map for District 47 resembles more the Unity map, a map that tries to give a political voice to unrepresented groups that share common interests. We have already compromised by working off the Commission's last map. In a spirit of compromise, we are not asking for the Unity map in its entirety, however, the interests of the community must take priority over the self-interest of certain politicians.

In our map, the northwestern boundary of Bensonhurst is no longer Bay Ridge Ave, but 62nd Street. The eastern border is no longer Coney Island Ave, but McDonald Ave.

Our map only exchanges geography between two districts so a ripple effect of change would not occur to other districts. Our map better preserves communities of common interest in each of the two districts in question and creates two geographically compact districts. If we are indeed a democracy where political actions are done by the people for the people, our map should be approved. Our proposal is further supported by ACCORD, Brooklyn Asian Voice Organization, and United Chinese Association of Brooklyn.

¹<http://www.urbanresearchmaps.org/plurality/#nabes>



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New York Chapter

January 21, 2013

Dear Districting Commission c/o Carl Hum, Executive Director:

All of the local Brooklyn groups that submitted Bensonhurst-related testimony support a united Bensonhurst. These groups include, but are not limited to, OCA-NY, Brooklyn Chinese-American Association, United Chinese Association of Brooklyn, Brooklyn Asian Voice Organization, and ACCORD.

Less than a week ago, OCA-NY began circulating an online and paper petition to poll the opinion of Brooklyn residents and the constituents of the council members who will be voting on the map. In five days, our coalition to date has collected over 200 signatures from Brooklyn residents. There are 76 online signatures (see attachments for their comments and <http://goo.gl/CeuzG>) and 163 signers of our paper petition (see attachments), with 95% of the signatures from Brooklyn. We ask you to please forward these signatures and their compelling comments to all the Commission members.

Please keep Bensonhurst united in the new District Map. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Wah Lee
Board Member

Elizabeth OuYang
President



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New York Chapter

UNITE BENSONHURST

We, the undersigned, would like Brooklyn's Bensonhurst community to be represented in the same City Council District, so the community may have a political voice which reflects its common interests.

| Print Name | Sign Name | Address | Date |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------|
| Kim Sing Lo | Kim Sing Lo | 8900 | 1/16/13 |
| Sylvia Lachun Lo | Sylvia Lachun Lo | | 2/28 |
| Alice Chan | Alice Chan | 18 BA7 | 1/16/13 |
| Shank Fong Chan | Shank Fong Chan | 159 B | 2/4 |
| Amy Chew | Amy Chew | 1922 W7 | 1/17/13 |
| Cecilia Mark | Cecilia Mark | 2333 82nd Street | 1/19/13 |
| Robert Wu | Robert Wu | 1963 West 6th | 1/9/13 |
| Chi Fai Wong | Chi Fai Wong | 8900 15 | 1/19/13 |
| Chi Fai Wu | Chi Fai Wu | | |



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| Print Name | Sign Name | Address | Date |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|
| LEE LAI FUN | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2042 | 1/17/13 |
| TIAM KIM YING | <i>[Signature]</i> | 20 | 1/17/13 |
| CHONG, CHOI HOONG | <i>[Signature]</i> | 272 | 1/17/13 |
| CHONG, FOO HEAN | <i>[Signature]</i> | 20 | 1/17/13 |
| CHONG, FOO LUNG | <i>[Signature]</i> | 204 | 1/17/13 |
| DEL GALZO, PEPPY | <i>[Signature]</i> | 20 | 1/17/13 |
| DEL GALZO, JIAN | <i>[Signature]</i> | 20 | 1/17/13 |
| Dawn Marie DelGallo | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/17/13 |
| Simon Zheng | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/17/13 |
| Li Wen Liao | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/17/13 |
| Ying Cai Su | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/17/13 |
| Wei Xun Yuan | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/17/13 |
| ANTONIO OLWAN | <i>[Signature]</i> | 20 | 1/17/13 |
| WEI QUAN | <i>[Signature]</i> | 272 | N.Y. 11273 1/17/13 |



UNITE BENSONHURST

We, the undersigned members of Brooklyn's Bensonhurst community, would like to remain in the same City Council District, so we may have a political voice that reflects our common interests.

| Print Name | Sign Name | Address | Date |
|---------------|---------------|------------|---------|
| Frances Lew | Francis Lew | [REDACTED] | 1/13/13 |
| Kenny Lew | Kenny Lew | [REDACTED] | 1/13/13 |
| Wah Lee | Wah Lee | [REDACTED] | 1/13/13 |
| YEN LIM | Yen Lim | [REDACTED] | 1/13/13 |
| Derrick Lew | Derrick Lew | [REDACTED] | 1/13/13 |
| SIEW LIM | Siew Lim | [REDACTED] | 1/13/13 |
| Mary Lam | Mary Lam | [REDACTED] | 1/13 |
| Xan Juan Chan | Xan Juan Chan | [REDACTED] | 1/13 |
| Hai Queng Lam | Hai Queng Lam | [REDACTED] | 1/13 |
| Wendy Yuen | Wendy Yuen | [REDACTED] | 4/14/13 |
| Kiew N. Fong | Kiew N. Fong | [REDACTED] | 4/14/13 |
| Tue Kyi Fong | Tue Kyi Fong | [REDACTED] | 4/14/13 |



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| Print Name | Sign Name | Address | Date |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|------|
| CHEONG LI | Cheong Li | 42 [REDACTED] | 1/13 |
| KWONG DANIONG | Kwong Daniong | [REDACTED] | 4 |
| MONIED KONG | Monied Kong | [REDACTED] | 4 |
| YUEN HO TILL | Yuen Ho Till | [REDACTED] | |



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| Print Name | Sign Name | Address | Date |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|---------|
| VILI FONG | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2371 57 St Brooklyn | 1/14/13 |
| PING HUA CHANG | <i>[Signature]</i> | 511 CHUN KO WAY SUN CHUN KO WAY | 1/14/13 |
| SUN CHUN KO WAY | | | 1/16/13 |
| Rahiel DESTA | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/18/13 |
| DERRICK QUINN | <i>[Signature]</i> | 1 Penn Plz Brooklyn | 1/18/13 |
| Nicole Rochelle | <i>[Signature]</i> | 13 Brooklyn | 1/18/13 |
| BRANKA GALEY | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/18/13 |
| Haley Blatte | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/18/86 |
| Bri. Longille | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/18/13 |
| Sam Alexander | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/18/13 |
| CALLEEN BENOIT | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/18/13 |
| Rafael my... | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/18/13 |
| Jessica Chavez | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/18/13 |
| Jennifer Cohen | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/18/13 |
| Lina O'Connor | <i>[Signature]</i> | | 1/18/13 |
| Chris Souknet | <i>[Signature]</i> | 11201 | 1/18/13 |
| Javier Gallego | <i>[Signature]</i> | 11209 | 1/18/13 |
| Alex Napolitano | <i>[Signature]</i> | Brooklyn, NY 11206 | 1/18 |



UNITE BENSONHURST

We, the undersigned, would like Brooklyn's Bensonhurst community to be represented in the same City Council District, so the community may have a political voice which reflects its common interests.

| Print Name | Sign Name | Address | Date |
|----------------|----------------|------------|------------|
| Boqwan Louie | Boqwan Louie | [Redacted] | 10/13 |
| [Redacted] | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | [Redacted] |
| [Redacted] | TONY CHAN | [Redacted] | [Redacted] |
| HILDA TONG | Hilda Tong | [Redacted] | [Redacted] |
| MANDY CHAN | Mandy Chan | [Redacted] | [Redacted] |
| JOSEPH CHAN | Joseph Chan | [Redacted] | [Redacted] |
| Angela Lin | Angela Lin | [Redacted] | [Redacted] |
| Yiran Lin | Yiran Lin | [Redacted] | [Redacted] |
| Celeste Lim | Celeste Lim | [Redacted] | [Redacted] |
| Guan Jian zhen | Guan Jian zhen | [Redacted] | 3 |
| Flame Wong | Flame Wong | [Redacted] | [Redacted] |
| Sumin Alcazar | Sumin Alcazar | [Redacted] | 9/13 |
| Lidia PAXTON | Lidia PAXTON | [Redacted] | 3 |
| LUNG Hoi CHAN | LUNG Hoi CHAN | [Redacted] | 11/22 |
| Jamie Tang | Jamie Tang | [Redacted] | 12/23/14 |
| Bei yu wu | Bei yu wu | [Redacted] | 2/14 |
| Shan Li | Shan Li | [Redacted] | 2/24 1/20 |
| Jennifer Rong | Jennifer Rong | [Redacted] | 1/20 |



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| Print Name | Sign Name | Address | Date |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| Wesley Chung | Wesley Chung | 215 65th St, Bklyn, NY 11234 | 1/19/13 |
| Han Han Wong | Han Han Wong | 17 | 1/19/13 |
| Chung Wang | Chung Wang | 17 | 1/22/13 |
| 114 W 55th St Curtis Yip | Curtis Yip | 20 | 1/20/13 |
| Crystal Hon | Crystal Hon | NY 11214 | 1/11/2013 |
| Ng Jan Kim | Ng Jan Kim | NY 11234 | 1/23/2013 |
| Shy Lee | Shy Lee | 8-232-0055 | 1/20/13 |
| Kim Shy | Kim Shy | NY 112 | 1/20/13 |
| Florence Mui | Florence Mui | NY 112 | 1/20/13 |
| CHING HUNG MUI | CHING HUNG MUI | NY 1123 | 1/20/13 |
| XIU HONG LIANG | XIU HONG LIANG | NY 1124 | 1/20/13 |
| Kenny Mui | Kenny Mui | 2 | 1/20/13 |
| WEI XIANG CHEN | WEI XIANG CHEN | 2 | 1/20/13 |
| Mutthachung | Mutthachung | 2155 | 1/20/13 |
| DENG SONG JIA | DENG SONG JIA | NY 11204 | 1/20/13 |



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New York Chapter

UNITE BENSONHURST

身為 BENSONHURST 社區的人民，為了能有民選代表為我們的共同利益出聲，我們都希望留在同一個市議員選區內。

| Print Name | Sign Name | Address | Date |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------|---------------|
| DIANE MUI | Diane Mui | 2 | 1/18/13 |
| William LAI | William LAI | | 1/20/13 |
| Jinquan Liang | Jinquan Liang | | NY 11230 |
| Jianhui LI | Jianhui LI | 1620 | 1/12/13 |
| Leechang Octavio | Octavio Lee | | 30 |
| Mia Chak | Mia Chak | | 1/12 NY 11220 |
| Benjamin Ang | Benjamin Ang | | 204 1/18/13 |
| Jingyeborn Wu | Jingyeborn Wu | | 223 1/15/13 |
| Yuan Pei Si | Yuan Pei Si | 6703 | 1/15/13 |
| Xuezhen LI | Xuezhen LI | | 9/13 |
| Yan Ling LU | Yan Ling LU | 22 | 11204 |
| Yan Fang Li | Yan Fang Li | 14 | NY 11204 |
| SUK TANG | SUK TANG | 98 | 1/12 NY 112 |
| Hung Qian | Hung Qian | 20 | NY 11204 |
| Jin Qiang | Jin Qiang | 193 | 1223 |
| Jin Qiang | Jin Qiang | 193 | 1223 1/2 |
| Guangming Li | Guangming Li | 210 | 1204 1/2 |
| Yue Qian | Yue Qian | 181 | NY 1/2 |



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| Print Name | Sign Name | Address | Date |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|---------|
| Hui Fang Cai | HUI F (L) | [REDACTED] | 6/13 |
| Wei Yin Leong | weiyinleong | [REDACTED] | 6/13 |
| Kwan Yam Chu | Kwan Yam Chu | [REDACTED] | 6/13 |
| Li Ying Dong | Deng Yingling | [REDACTED] | 6/13 |
| Sun Ping Ma | Sun Ping Ma | [REDACTED] | 6/13 |
| Sik Tien Ma | Sik Tien Ma | [REDACTED] | 6/13 |
| Ying Zhu Wu | Ying Zhu Wu | [REDACTED] | 6/13 |
| Shui Ping Leung | PING | [REDACTED] | 7/13 |
| Di Wo Fan | ZANDIWO | [REDACTED] | " |
| Shui Ying Ma | shui Ying Ma | [REDACTED] | " |
| Kam Ying Lun | Kam Ying Lun | [REDACTED] | " |
| Pei Lian Chen | pei | [REDACTED] | " |
| Yim May Lu | YIM MAY LU | [REDACTED] | 6/18/13 |
| Yan Xia Wu | WU/AN+ | [REDACTED] | " |
| Bing Chao Huang | Bing CH | [REDACTED] | " |
| Kwan Lan Ip | KWAN LIP | [REDACTED] | " |
| Choi Kin Chan | choi kin ch | [REDACTED] | " |
| Wing Tam | Tam Wing | [REDACTED] | " |



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| Print Name | Sign Name | Address | Date |
|----------------|----------------|------------|---------|
| May Kuen Chiu | May WUN CHIU | [Redacted] | 1/8/12 |
| Mona Yi Ma | Ma Yi Ma | [Redacted] | 2/23/12 |
| GUO, Cai HUAN | GUO, Cai HUAN | [Redacted] | FL1122 |
| Chiu Terpin | | [Redacted] | 2/3/12 |
| Shui Lan Lai | Chang Lin | [Redacted] | 2/14/12 |
| Sa Qiong Ye | | [Redacted] | 2/3/12 |
| CHE-KAM LEUNG | Chetam Leung | [Redacted] | 2/3/12 |
| KWAN-LIN LEUNG | Kwan Lin | [Redacted] | 2/3/12 |
| Chen Sui Lan | | [Redacted] | 2/3/12 |
| Qu Bo Yang | Qu Bo Yang | [Redacted] | 2/3/12 |
| Wei Wen Zhen | | [Redacted] | 2/3/12 |
| Chen Hui Lin | CHEN HUI LIN | [Redacted] | 2/3/12 |
| YU YE LIANG | Yu Ye Liang | [Redacted] | 2/3/12 |
| Ta Wah Sheu | | [Redacted] | 2/3/12 |
| Pak Lam Yu | Fok Lam Yu | [Redacted] | 2/3/12 |
| Juan Hua Zhao | JUAN HUA ZHAO | [Redacted] | 1/19/12 |
| Zong Ping Chen | DONG PING CHEN | [Redacted] | |
| Xin Ying Zhen | | [Redacted] | |



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| Print Name | Sign Name | Address | Date |
|----------------------------|------------------|---------|------|
| TAN Yun Di | TANYUNDI | | 1/13 |
| Xian & Liu | Xian & Liu | 14 | |
| HONG LIN | Linhoe | 2 | |
| Guilan Zhang | | 16 | |
| Peiming Huang | HP Peiming Huang | 10 | 1/15 |
| Jinhao Tan | Jinhao Tan | 166 | |
| Xiao-Hua Zhou | Xiaohua Zhou | | 1/15 |
| Xiao Mei Huang | | | 1/18 |
| Aihua Ruan | Aihua Ruan | | 1/18 |
| CHOI SUEE LEE | CHOI SUEE LEE | 2 | 3 |
| chen fang | chen fang | | 1/18 |
| Ma MEI MEI | Ma Mei Mei | | 1/18 |
| HAN JIAO SU | HAN JIAO SU | | 1/18 |
| Log chi Lai | Log chi Lai | | 1/18 |
| Xiao Tang | chen | 195 | |
| GAO ming | mi | 1950 | |
| JUN YU ZHOU | JUN YU ZHOU | | |
| 1534 W 21 st ST | | | |

| Comment | City | State | Zip | SignedOn | Name |
|---|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Because not only did I grow up there, I am an active participant of the Bensonhurst community. | Brooklyn | NY | 11214 | 1/16/2013 | Wah Lee |
| I would like my community to be represented by one City Council District. | Brooklyn | NY | 11214 | 1/16/2013 | Jung Huie |
| Voter dilution is one of the greatest obstacles to equality for Asian Americans in New York. The Commission's latest draft does almost nothing to give a voice to Bensonhurst's residents; it reflects neither the community's interests, nor demographics. The proposal by the Commission only helps incumbents. | Woodside | NY | 11377 | 1/17/2013 | James Hong |
| People should be able to elect someone that represents them. | New York | NY | 10013 | 1/17/2013 | Antony Wong |
| I would like the residents of Bensonhurst to have a greater voice in addressing the concerns in their community. | Brooklyn | NY | 11230 | 1/18/2013 | Derrick Lew |
| We need our tax dollars to work for us! | Brooklyn | NY | 11214 | 1/18/2013 | Chloe Chong |
| Why would you divide a district into four? It doesn't make sense. It's almost like dividing your car into four parts and hoping the car will still work. | Brooklyn | NY | 11224 | 1/18/2013 | Emily Chen |
| Don't let outside interests divide and weaken our community. | Brooklyn | NY | 11214 | 1/18/2013 | David Ng |

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------|----|-------|-----------|------------------|
| Don't dilute this community's voice and political clout! | New York | NY | 10003 | 1/19/2013 | jennifer kim |
| This is a blatant example of vote dilution that does not take into account ACS data of Bensonhurst's growing Asian American population. Unite Bensonhurst and give them a voice. | Flushing | NY | 11355 | 1/19/2013 | Phil Mok |
| It's just silly to divide a neighborhood into four sections. | Brooklyn | NY | 11214 | 1/19/2013 | Jason Wu |
| It is important to keep communities that share a common interest together- that is the essence of redistricting. | Brooklyn | NY | 11201 | 1/19/2013 | Elizabeth OuYang |
| This is important for me because I been representing myself with the origin of Bensonhurst for the majority of my life. It is a part of many inhabitants identities. Therefore, summarizing the importance of keeping Bensonhurst united. | Brooklyn | NY | 11204 | 1/20/2013 | Clement Li |
| Bensonhurst and this would mean a lot to her and I. | New Windsor | NY | 12553 | 1/20/2013 | Raymond Lu |
| We need to keep our community together who share common interests. We do not want to be divided. | Brooklyn | NY | 11214 | 1/21/2013 | chi loek |
| My friends' neighborhood! I practically hung out there. My friend's neighborhood, is also my neighborhood! | Brooklyn | NY | 11230 | 1/21/2013 | Kevin Park |
| My friend's neighborhood. I love it there, visited there | leathertown | NY | 11756 | 1/21/2013 | Abe Chung |

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|----------|----|-------|-----------|----------|
| ITS MY NEIGHBORHOOD! | Brooklyn | NY | 11204 | 1/21/2013 | Flora Ho |
|----------------------|----------|----|-------|-----------|----------|