



**35<sup>th</sup> Street Association**  
**37-60 85<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Jackson Heights, New York 11372**

December 5, 2012

Speaker Christine C. Quinn  
New York City Council  
250 Broadway - Suite 1856  
New York, New York 10007

Re: Redistricting

Dear Speaker Quinn:

You only have to look at the Queens Council Redistricting map to see that the lines between the 25<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> District have been gerrymandered. The 21<sup>st</sup> district protrudes into the 25<sup>th</sup> like the edge of a rough cut saw. As our local paper noted the "25<sup>th</sup> District would take up *nearly all* of Jackson Heights..." That is the problem, only a few blocks of Jackson Heights are placed in the 25<sup>th</sup> District.

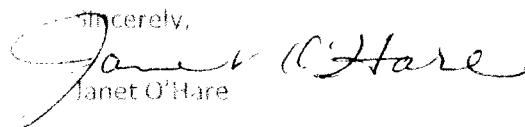
We have lived in a divided Jackson Heights too long. Not only is the neighborhood divided but the New York City Historic District and the National Register Historic District are divided into two council districts.

The most important decision you can make regarding redistricting is to assure that neighborhoods, as defined by the residents and grassroots community organizations, remain intact. When a neighborhood is divided into two or more council districts, the residents' power is effectively diminished. When just a few blocks are put into another district the residents are without any voice.

The Jackson Heights Beautification Group is our neighborhood organization whose boundaries are the BQE on the west, Northern Blvd. on the north, Junction Blvd. on the east and Roosevelt Avenue on the south. The Jackson Heights Historic District and the National Register Historic are both within these boundaries. The remedy is simple; bring the line now running along 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue down to Roosevelt Avenue. Both Junction Boulevard and Roosevelt Avenue are major geographical divides. It makes eminent sense to draw the lines there and preserve our community and voice.

Therefore we request that the district lines be drawn to preserve the community of Jackson Heights. Do not steal our political voice.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
  
Janet O'Hare

Cc: Council Members Dromm and Ferreras  
Enc: Maps



# NYCityMap

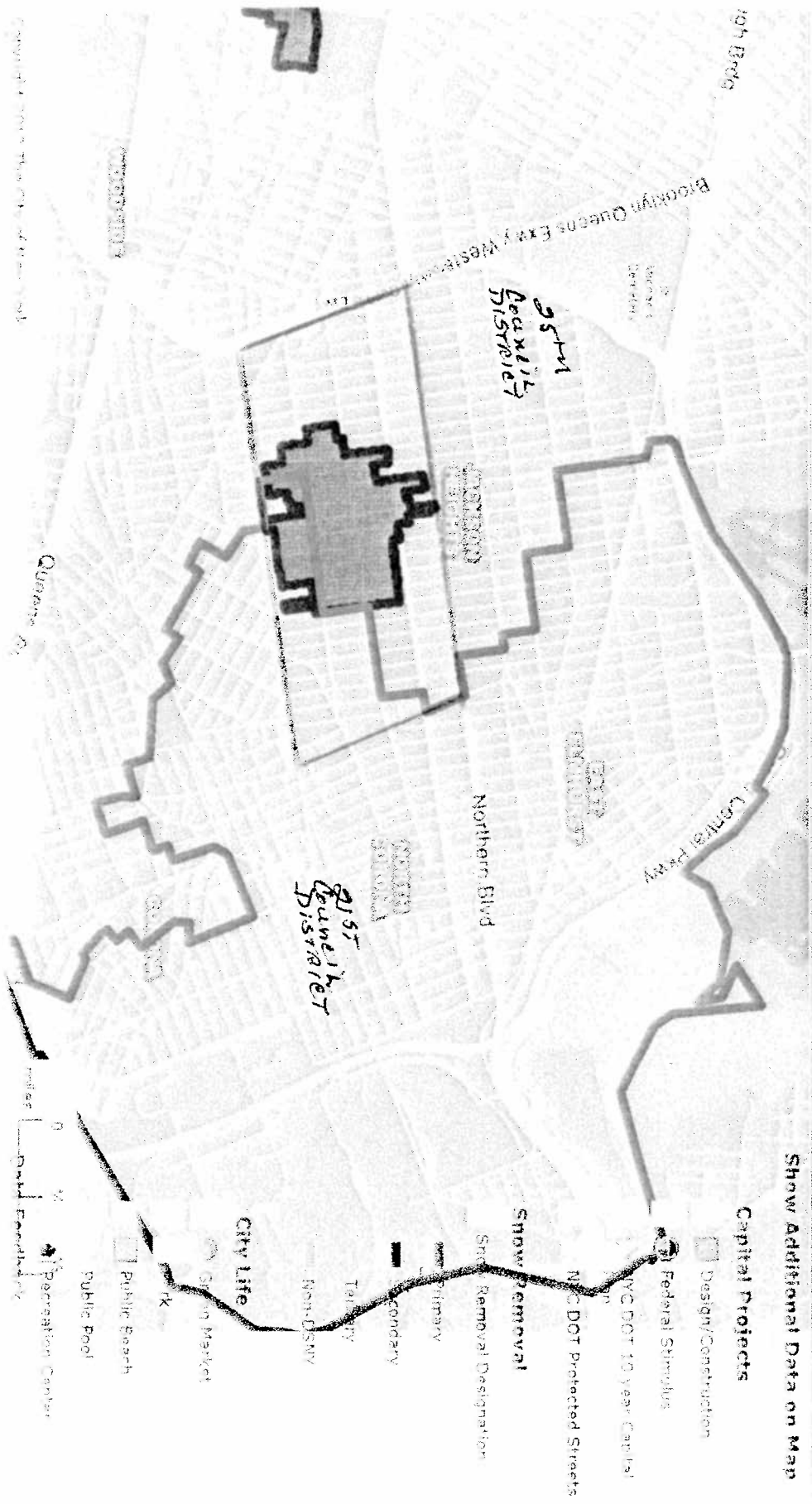
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*Astoria District*

*Jackson Heights  
Transition from Baccap*

## Hearings

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**From:** DONNA RAYMOND <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 13, 2013 11:00 AM  
**To:** Hearings  
**Subject:** redistricting in queens

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Donna M. Raymond, President of the North Queens Homeowners Civic Association of Jackson Heights, Inc.

At present my district is governed by Council Member Daniel Dromm and under your proposal you will split up this district causing great difficulties to my organization and others.

Under your proposal half of my members will be under Councilman Dromm And half under Councilman Vallone, not that we have any problems with Councilman Vallone but dividing a district that has been in existence for many years is totally out of reason and unjustified.

As the old saying goes "IF IT NOT BROKEN DON'T FIX IT". So please reconsider your proposal and do the right thing and leave well enough alone.

As we know your decision in based on the last census to which my district was totally under countered due the lack of participation of illegal immigrants.

Thanking you for your time and effort in making this right.

Donna M. Raymond

*Mary A. Vavruska*

*Jackson Heights, NY 11372*

January 14, 2013

NYC Districting Commission  
253 Broadway, 7th Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Honorable Members of NYC Districting Commission.

Thank you for once again coming to Queens County to hear our concerns. My name is Mary Vavruska. I reside at [REDACTED], Jackson Heights, Queens in Brulene Cooperative Apartments, and I am President of Brulene Cooperative. Adjacent to Brulene Cooperative are Southridge Section 1, 2, 3 and 4 Cooperative Apartments; and Northridge Section 1, 2, and 3 Cooperative Apartments. These cooperative apartments were developed in the early 1950's. Throughout this half century we have worked together on issues that affected our building maintenance and our quality of life.

Our proudest achievement in all these years is our NORC, Naturally Occurring Retirement Community, established in 1999. It is significant that eight separate cooperative corporations worked to create this NORC and have supported it through service and financial commitments. This effort clearly establishes us as a community within the Jackson Heights community. Our NORC provides services to our aging population so they can continue to enjoy the quality of life that our cooperative community provides.

Because of this commonality of interests we feel it important that all of the buildings within these cooperatives be in the same Councilmanic District. The present lines exclude the four Southridge 4 buildings that are located on the western side of Junction Boulevard between Northern Boulevard and 34th Avenue.

We request that the 25th Council District include the Brulene Cooperative, Southridge Section 1, 2, 3, and 4 Cooperatives and Northridge 1,2,and 3 Cooperatives.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Vavruska, Brulene Cooperative  
on behalf of the NORC Community of  
Brulene Cooperative,  
Southridge Section 1,2,3, and 4,  
Northridge Section 1, 2, and 3

Queensboro Houses Association  
Twelve Cooperative Communities  
37-39 84<sup>th</sup> Street, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

Chateaus  
Elm Court  
Greystones  
Hawthorne Court  
Linden Court  
Plymouth Court

Colonials  
Greenbrier  
Hampton Court  
Hicks-Stryker  
Laurel Court  
Willow

January 7, 2013

NYC Districting Commission  
253 Broadway 7<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
New York, New York 10007  
Attn: Jonathan Etricks

Members of the Commission:

As president of a group of approximately 85 original co-op buildings in Jackson Heights, which date back to the 1920's, it is my duty to inform you of our primary concern regarding redistricting.

We believe that the most important decision regarding redistricting is to assure that neighborhoods, as defined by the residents and grassroots community organizations, remain intact. When a neighborhood is divided into two or more council districts, the residents' impact on community issues is severely handicapped and community spirit is diminished.

Jackson Heights has been divided into two council districts – District 21 and District 25 since the last census. Not only does this divide our group, it divides the neighborhood, the Jackson Heights Historic District and the National Register Historic District. The "new" lines have made that division even greater. Please note the enclosed map.

The Jackson Heights Beautification Group, our primary neighborhood organization, has as its boundaries: the BQE on the west, Northern Blvd. on the north, Junction Blvd. on the east and Roosevelt Avenue on the south. The Queensboro Houses Association, the Jackson Heights Historic District and the National Register Historic District are all within these boundaries, which clearly define a cohesive neighborhood. The value of neighborhood pride, spirit, concern and joint effort should be enhanced, not diminished, by political decisions.

Therefore, however the district lines are re-drawn, we urge you to consider our concerns and keep our neighborhood intact. The residents of Jackson Heights should be enabled, not hindered, by district lines. Thank you for your serious consideration of our request.

Respectfully,

*Greenbrier President*

Queensboro Houses Association  
Twelve Cooperative Communities  
37-39 84<sup>th</sup> Street, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

Chateaus  
Elm Court  
Greystones  
Hawthorne Court  
Linden Court  
Plymouth Court

Colonials  
Greenbrier  
Hampton Court  
Hicks-Stryker  
Laurel Court  
Willow

December 5, 2012

City Council Member Danny Dromm  
City Council Member Julissa Ferreras

Dear Danny and Julissa,


As president of our group of approximately 85 original co-op buildings in Jackson Heights, which date back to the 1920's, it is my duty to inform you of our opposition to the "new" district lines in our neighborhood.

We believe that the most important decision regarding redistricting is to assure that neighborhoods, as defined by the residents and grassroots community organizations, remain intact. When a neighborhood is divided into two or more council districts, the residents' impact on community issues is severely handicapped.

With the lines, currently requiring your vote, Jackson Heights is even more divided into two council districts – District 21 and District 25 than it was previously. And one of the building complexes in our association remains alone in its District. Not only does this divide our group, it divides the neighborhood, the Jackson Heights Historic District and the National Register Historic District

The Jackson Heights Beautification Group, our primary neighborhood organization, has as its boundaries: the BQE on the west, Northern Blvd. on the north, Junction Blvd. on the east and Roosevelt Avenue on the south. The Queensboro Houses Association, the Jackson Heights Historic District and the National Register Historic District are all within these boundaries, which clearly define a cohesive neighborhood. The value of neighborhood pride, spirit, concern and joint effort should be enhanced, not diminished, by political decisions.

Therefore, we urge you to consider our concerns and keep our neighborhood and association members intact. The residents of Jackson Heights, should be enabled, not hindered, by district lines. Thank you for your serious consideration of our request.

Respectfully,  
  
Gloria Daini, President

For a Better Neighborhood II



## JACKSON HEIGHTS ACTION GROUP



P.O. Box 853, Jackson Heights, NY. 11372

New York City Districting Commission  
253 Broadway, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007  
(212) 442-6940

December 20, 2012

NYC Districting Commission  
Benito Romano, Chair

Sir: *Copies of this petitions were mailed to  
Executive Director Shirley Limongi Up to this day without any reply*

*I am writing with regard to the changes that took place the year 2002 to Council Districts 21 and 25 in Queens and how this affected the Jackson Heights community. The Jackson Heights Action Group (representing approximately 1800 households) believes ALL of Jackson Heights (at a minimum the 11372 zip code -bounded by the BQE on the west, Junction Boulevard on the east, Roosevelt Avenue on the south and Northern Boulevard on the North) should be included in ONE district - in this instance the 25<sup>th</sup> Council District. The current boundaries slices off a portion of our neighborhood and placed it in the 21<sup>st</sup> Council District. Attached boundaries drawing*

*In recent years, our community has been divided and gerrymandered at all levels of government, city, state and federal. This has drained our voice and weakened our representation in government. Our population has grown dramatically in recent years, and city services: Sanitation, transportation, buildings (driven by illegal conversions of private homes)-have not kept pace. If we are to maintain and improve the quality of life in our community it is imperative that ALL of Jackson Heights be represented in ONE district. Therefore, we find completely unacceptable that the south east JACKSON HEIGHTS portion continue to be part of Council District 21<sup>st</sup>*

*We would like all of Jackson Heights to be included in the 25<sup>th</sup> Council District so that our community can speak with one united voice and not divided. Most of all provide a real opportunity to Spanish voterto participate in the political process. We hope that this will be reflected in the final redistricting map*

Truly yours

*Ralph Moreno*  
Ralph Moreno, Executive Director  
Jackson Heights Action Group  
P.O. BOX 853 J.H. Station  
Jackson Heights N.Y. 11372



For a Better Neighborhood II



# JACKSON HEIGHTS ACTION GROUP

P.O. Box 853, Jackson Heights, NY. 11372



December, 2012

Shirley Limongi, Executive Director  
of The New York City Districting Commission

Dear

My name is Ralph Moreno, 47 years resident of Jackson Heights, Queens N.Y. I am the President and co-founder of the 41 year old Jackson Heights Action Group Civic non for profit organization, located at 37-35 93<sup>rd</sup> Street in Jackson Heights. I am a long time member of the C.B. # 3. Chair of Public among other positions. I am co-founder of the 115<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct located at 92-15 Northern Blvd in Jackson. President and member of Pct Police Council several times.

On behalf of the residents and registered voters I am requesting the Districting Commission to include in the City Council District 25 the area between 90<sup>th</sup> street to the North-west corner of Junction Blvd on Roosevelt Avenue From this point going north to meet the south border of 34<sup>th</sup> avenue on Junction Blvd of the Proposed City Council District 25<sup>th</sup>. At this corner turning West to 94<sup>th</sup> Street East corner, from this point South to meet Elmhurst Avenue and 94<sup>th</sup> Street, from this point going on Elmhurst Avenue West-South to meet the original description on 90<sup>th</sup> Street and Roosevelt Avenue. Please see attached drawing.

Ever since Nov 2002 we are requesting this change to our original condition to Mr William Floyd and Victoria Schneps there was not courtesy of an answer ... Jackson Heights has been divided at the will of individuals in government whom have their own priorities. In this section of Jackson Heights there is a great diversity of population including Spanish, left out of the democratic process. We are in the middle of no where. In this area the Latino population has been already gerrymandered by Congress (Gary Ackerman present time retired), Assembly and City Council At the time of elections has been a lot of confusion We want to be part of the DEMOCRATIC PROCESS.

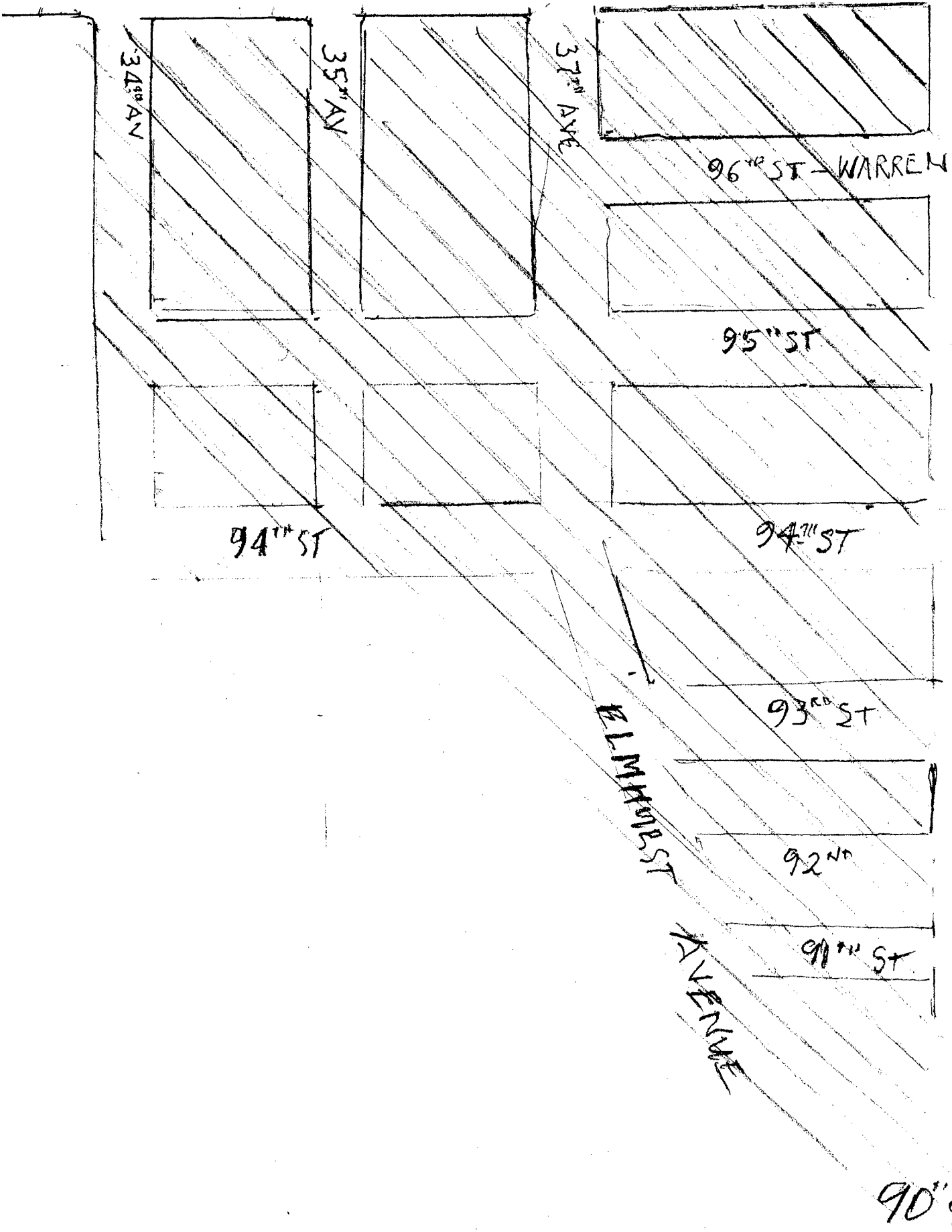
We want to be included under CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 25 JUST LIKE THE MOST OF THE POPULATION the same zip code etc. Also it is a social-cultural-structural issue. Besides Jackson Heights obtained a Historical District Land Marks Designation; the South-East section corner is part of the National Historic District of Jackson Heights

Truly yours

Ralph Moreno

P.O. Box 853 J.H. Station  
Jackson Heights N.Y. 11372

# JUNCTION BOULEVARD



ROOSEVELT AVE  
NORTH SIDE

December, 2012

Shirley Limongi ,Executive Director  
of The New York City Districting Commission

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Ralph Moreno  

  
Jackson Heights N.Y. 11372

JUNCTION BOULEVAR

