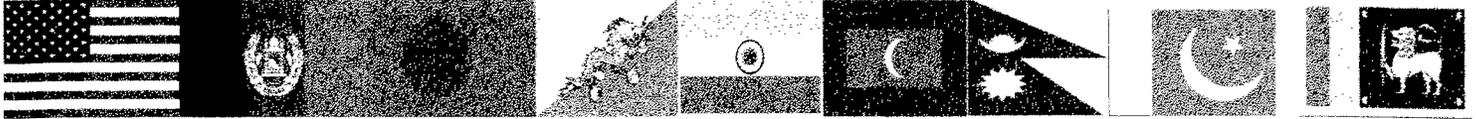


ALLIANCE OF SOUTH ASIAN AMERICAN LABOR (ASAAL)

P.O. BOX 1698, NEW YORK, NY 10008

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October 10, 2012

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

Dear Commissioners:

The Alliance of South Asian American Labor (“ASAAL”) is a community-based organization founded and lead by South Asian Americans from the trade unionist movement. We seek to share our experiences in politics and labor unions to create a more dynamic culture of civic participation in the wider South Asian American community. We are a membership-based organization with chapters in Brooklyn, Bronx and Queens.

We are very disappointed in the proposed Council district map for Queens. The neighborhoods of Richmond Hill and South Ozone Park continue to be divided by multiple Council districts, and this is unacceptable. This commission heard from several community members at the last hearing on the importance of keeping this community united, however it still proposed a map which continues this unfair treatment of a largely immigrant and minority community.

The Richmond Hill and South Ozone Park section of Queens has one of the densest concentrations of South Asian Americans in this city. This community of interest must be united and has enough population to be its own district. It is time that this community is united and its interests better served in the City Council.

We demand that you keep our community united and adhere to your duties under the Charter of the City of New York to preserve communities of interest.

Sincerely,

Mazeda Uddin
Chair, National Women’s Committee
ASAAL