

Hearings

From: Henry Euler [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 05, 2012 12:00 AM
To: Hearings
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Testimony for Oct. 10, 2012 Queens Districting Commission Hearing

Auburndale Improvement Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 580331, Station A

Flushing, NY 11358

October 1, 2012

New York City Districting Commission

Attn: Jonathan Etricks

253 Broadway, 7th Floor

New York, NY 10007

To the New York City Districting Commission:

My name is Henry Euler and I am the First Vice President of the Auburndale Improvement Association, Inc. My civic organization has over six hundred members in the Auburndale, Flushing and Western Bayside communities. We have been in existence for over one hundred years.

We have examined the Commission's proposal for new district lines for the 19th, 20th and 23rd Council districts. Parts of our community are in each district. We were disappointed with some aspects of the Commission's proposal.

Some parts of the Auburndale community continue to be drawn into the 20th Council district. This district includes downtown Flushing and many densely populated parts of Flushing that include high-rise apartments. The parts of Auburndale included in the 20th district are neighborhoods made up of one and two family homes. These sections do not have the same issues and concerns that the densely populated parts of the 20th district have. These portions of Auburndale would be more properly placed in the 19th or 23rd Council districts. We are primarily referring to the section roughly bordered by Francis Lewis Blvd. on the east, the Long Island Expressway on the south, Utopia Parkway (or even to 162nd Street) on the west and 47th/46th Avenues on the

north. We request that the Commission take another look at this area and consider placing it in either the 19th or 23rd district, which are also made up of predominantly one and two family homes.

A revised districting plan to the Commission's proposal was submitted to the Queens Civic Congress at their request. Even though this revision does not include our above request, we still find merit in this revision. We agree with the streamlining of many of the boundary lines, the placement of the Mitchell-Linden area back into the 20th district and the extension of the 19th district westward to include the area of the North Flushing community made up of one and two family homes. This revision to the Commission's proposal was explained at the September meeting of the Queens Civic Congress and was approved unanimously by those present. Representatives were present from the Mitchell-Linden and North Flushing communities and they supported the changes.

We firmly believe that neighborhoods with like features and zoning designations should be placed together in common districts. We hope that the Commission will re-examine their proposal and tweak lines to ensure that communities with like interests are placed in like districts.

Thank you for giving my organization the chance to express our position and viewpoint regarding the new district Council lines.

Henry Euler, First Vice President

Auburndale Improvement Association, Inc.

Cc: Councilman Daniel Halloran, 19th district

Councilman Peter Koo, 20th district

Councilman Mark Weprin, 23rd district