

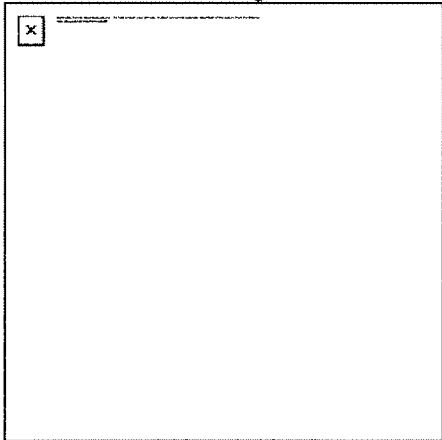
Hearings

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2012 4:12 PM
To: Hearings; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Redistricting Letter Addendum

Dear Commissioners,

In addition to my original request, I would like to voice my support for the counter proposal of the Queens Civic Congress which makes a good effort to address our concerns. Once again, thank you for your consideration to this matter-----Michael Feiner,
BHCA President

Dear Redistricting Committee:



With regards to the proposed 19th and 24th council districts, I am very much opposed to the idea. The community of Bayside Hills must remain as it was originally intended, one whole district, and definitely not a divided one.

It is difficult enough to get legislation passed to serve our needs, and splitting us up in this proposed fashion would be totally unfair to us.

In addition, the slightest hint of pandering to certain ethnic groups is something our wonderful neighborhood definitely does not want or need. Indeed what's going on here is surely more than just a slight hint.

Considering this opposition has the support of City Councilmen Mark Weprin and Dan Halloran, neighboring community boards, civic associations including the umbrella organization Queens Civic Congress, I strongly urge you to reconsider the two district plan for Bayside Hills.

As of now, at least two members of the Bayside Hills Civic Association Board of Directors plan to appear at your Wednesday, October 10th hearing at LaGuardia Community College protesting the redistricting of Bayside Hills. Thank you for your consideration in this matter-----Michael Feiner, President - Bayside Hills Civic Association, baysidehills.info -

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bayside-Hills-Civic-Association/114168665267892>

Cc: The Bayside Hills Civic Association Board of Directors

The BHCA Facebook Coordinator for placement in the BHCA Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bayside-Hills-Civic-Association/114168665267892>

Bayside Hills Civic Association Board of Directors

The Community of Bayside Hills,

Queens Civic Congress

Richard Hellenbrecht

Paul Graziano

Hearings

From: Bayside Hills Civic Association [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 10:25 PM
To: Hearings
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Bayside Hills Redistricting

From: Armando [REDACTED]
Date: October 9, 2012, 7:43:42 PM EDT
To: Armando Coutinho [REDACTED]
Subject: Redistricting

Dear Redistricting Committee,

I have reviewed the new redistricting map as currently proposed, and as the Vice-President of the Bayside Hills Civic Association, I am strongly opposing it.

Under the new proposal, Bayside Hills would be broken up and sliced in half, becoming two separate Districts; 19 and 23.

Splitting up communities is unfair and directly impacts its ability to prosper. Not keeping communities "whole" makes it difficult to service its needs. A community should be judged and addressed as a whole, not as the sum of two parts, with a different set of rules, rights, officials and representation.

I realize that the Committee has worked very hard and must have taken much into consideration before arriving at this current proposal. However, breaking and splitting up communities for ANY reason, should not be done simply by redrawing a few lines on a map. Today's actions affect tomorrows future. The proposed redistricting would have an obvious detrimental effect on Bayside Hills and communities like it.

This letter is not intended to complain but to encourage open communication between all parties involved in order to yield positive results. I hope that the Committee is receptive to suggestions and ideas that may lead to accomplishing the redistricting objective while optimally still serving the communities it directly affects.

The Queens Civic Congress, which represents all civic associations in Queens County, has reviewed the Committee's current proposed plan. They developed and proposed a new plan that makes a lot more sense. Their plan proposes different boundaries for the borough, including breaking the borough into districts of proper size while still recognizing the needs of other areas as well. The QCC proposal is more of a full plan that solves the entire problem for all districts in the Borough of Queens. It satisfies the objective of redistricting while being sensitive to the communities affected by the redistricting.

Bayside Hills, which is represented by their own Civic Association since 1936, has operated under one neighborhood, one community and one voice since that time. And that is the way it should stay.

Sent from Armando Coutinho's iPhone

Hearings

From: bayside hills [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 08, 2012 10:38 PM
To: Hearings
Subject: Round One maps showing Bayside Hills split between districts 19 and 23

Dear Commissioners,

I was shocked when the "Round One" maps showed Bayside Hills split in half, with the northern half going into District 19 and the southern half into District 23. Bayside Hills has existed as a distinct community since 1936. Proof of this is the existence of the Bayside Hills Civic Association since that time. If the existence of a civic association does not define a neighborhood, then what else would? At some point many years ago, additional single family homes were added to the area of our association, but we remained an area of single family homes, on similar sized plots with our children attending the same schools, being policed by the same police precinct, attending the same churches, using the same Long Island Rail Road station, the same post office, and sharing the same 9/11 memorial. Together, we fought to secure R2A zoning for our area.

We continue to function as a cohesive neighborhood, even as our neighborhood has come to include many, many people of different ethnic and religious backgrounds. We are all the same in terms of how we live, what we do, and the principles we live under. Any differences in the way residents of Bayside Hills live based on their ethnicity or country of origin, are tiny when compared to the similarities brought about by the history and customs of the area we live in, the common architecture of our homes, and our mutual respect for one another.

Previously, the southernmost row of blocks in our area were assigned to District 23, which from our viewpoint was an unfortunate error. The "Round One" maps, which split our area through the heart of historic Bayside Hills represent a situation that is far worse. While we do understand that you have numeric constraints that place bounds on your ability to form borders at what appear to be logical locations, we can only assume that you realize that putting all of Bayside Hills into District 19 is the right thing to do. Fortunately, the authors of the Queens Civic Congress plan, not only show the proper boundaries for Bayside Hills, but also break our borough into districts of the proper size, while recognizing the needs of other areas as well.

Neighborhoods should be seen as areas of historic development, which have been formed by natural boundaries, man made obstructions, and cohesive architecture. I am puzzled by those who want to gerrymander our neighborhoods based on other factors.

Therefore, I urge you, not only on my own behalf, but as Zoning Chairman of the Bayside Hills Civic Association to adopt the QCC plan.

Thank you,

David Goldstein

Zoning Chairman, Bayside Hills Civic Association

Hearings

From: P [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 7:54 PM
To: Hearings
Subject: United we stand

To Whom It May Concern:

I want to go on record stating that I am vehemently opposed to the redistricting proposal. I feel is goes against everything that this country has come to stand for, "unified diversity" if you will. Our strength lies in our willingness to assimilate and work together for the common good. These measures are divisive, seeking to separate us according to race and/or religion in many instances. Attempting to go further with this unorthodox plan will set equality back decades.

Sincerely,
Eileen Feiner
Member Bayside Hills Civic Association
Board of Directors