

**CB9M**

16-18 Old Broadway
New York, New York 10027
(212) 864-6200/Fax # 662-7396

COMMUNITY BOARD #9, MANHATTAN

October 31, 2012

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NYC Districting Commission
Attn: Jonathan Etricks
253 Broadway, 7th Fl.
New York, NY 10007

Dear Sir:

We the members of Community Board 9 Manhattan submit this letter to express concerns that we have regarding the preliminary maps drawn by the Districting Commission and urge you to strongly consider the following in your deliberation concerning the new lines.

Configuration of CD 7

We realize that the current configuration of CD7 must be changed because of the shifts in population in Upper Manhattan, however, we do not think that the preliminary map of CD 7 as drawn reflects lines with which community members would be satisfied.

The preliminary map proposed by the Commission unnaturally severs a portion of Hamilton Heights right through a residential brownstone neighborhood (142nd St). Additionally, this map cuts right through Trinity Cemetery and the buildings of The Church of the Intercession, historically associated with each other. The members of the Community Board and residents have expressed their desire to have the entire Community Board area included in one Council District without chopping Morningside Heights or Hamilton Heights into pieces.

Community Testimony/Requests for Additional Public Hearing

Given the fact that many CB9 members and residents (as well as residents of other Community Board Districts) took issue with the preliminary lines drawn by the Commission, we request that you schedule an additional round of hearings prior to submitting the maps to the City Council for a vote.

We greatly appreciate the time and effort the Commissioners and staff have devoted to this very important process, but we feel strongly that there must be additional and continued community input into the lines that once finalized will impact our future representation and access to resources for the next decade.

NYC Districting Commission
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Thank You

Sincerely,



Rev. Georgiette Morgan Thomas
Chair