



The Hell's Kitchen Neighborhood Association (HKNA) is a 501C-3 organization whose mission is to advocate for the New Yorkers living in Hell's Kitchen in the Community Board 4 catchment area.

I write to urge the Redistricting Commission not to further divide Hell's Kitchen between different Council Districts, but to keep the neighborhood intact and within the same council district within which it is currently located.

Currently, Hell's Kitchen (34th Street to 58th Street, west of 8th Avenue) lies almost entirely within the 3rd Council District. Hells' Kitchen shares that district with the Chelsea neighborhood (among others), with which it also shares Community Board #4. These two neighborhoods are both historically and presently connected in many respects, and face similar land use, transportation, and infrastructure issues. As such, it is beneficial that they are in the same City Council district.

Hell's Kitchen faces tremendous challenges in terms of development pressure and pressure upon its infrastructure. Were the neighborhood split between two or more Council Districts, or placed in a Council District with different neighborhoods with which it did not share so many of the same issues, its ability to seek a response to its collective concerns in the City Council would no doubt be diluted. Leaving the neighborhood whole in its representation in the City Council, and joined with the rest of Community Board #4 with which it shares much in common in terms of interests and concerns, will give the needs of this traditionally under-represented neighborhood the best opportunity to be represented in the City Council.

I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Treat

cc: City Council Speaker Christine Quinn