

August 21, 2012

Flushing Library

Redistricting Hearing – Testimony from the North Flushing Civic Association

Good Afternoon/Evening Everyone:

The North Flushing Civic Association is a homeowners association consisting of about 90 blocks just north of Northern Boulevard in the Flushing area of Queens toward Whitestone. See Map #1. Our civic boundaries are within the purple lines, council boundaries are the heavy black lines. District 19 is to the right, District 20 to the left. As you can see, almost all of our civic association area is currently in District 20 except for 17 blocks on our easternmost boundary which is in District 19.

Look at Map #2 where the zoning is colored in yellow. This map shows that we have a large yellow swath of R2-A which is really part of the R2-A zone to the East in District 19. The R2-A zones extend all the way over to Little Neck Bay and into Douglaston. We think that the District 19 West boundary should be shifted to the heavy black line on Map 2 to include this R2-A zone and the lower zones of R4A, R3-1 and R3-2 above it. This change would better represent the zoning and housing stock in the area.

Look at map #3 and you will see how the yellow color indicates how the lower residential zones extend way over to the bay and beyond. A shifting of the District lines accordingly makes sense.

These changes have been made in a full report submitted to the Queens Civic Congress. The highly-detailed full report is attached to my testimony. The Queens Civic Congress is an umbrella organization of over 100 civic and homeowners associations in Queens. The full report proposes District line changes for Districts 19, 20, 23 and 24. The lines have been redrawn to group together same zoning, housing stock and community names to better serve the populations living there. A study of the population shifts is also included. The population changes are within the numbers required for each District.

It is important for the North Flushing Civic area to be included in District 19 because we share the same common issues and interests with the low-density residential community that we do with the higher apartment zones in District 20 in this area. In fact, we oftentimes attend each other's civic association meetings because we know each other and we are so alike. We have homes with garages, driveways and yards. We shop locally. Representatives who live in District 19 would better represent us.

We have little in common with District 20 that includes the Mitchell Linden apartment complex on Union Street, and the apartment and commercial area on Northern Boulevard. We have little in common with the rest of District 20 to the south which includes downtown Flushing which is a mix of commercial and multi-story apartment and condo complexes. Most of us never even go to downtown Flushing due to problematic parking and the congestion there.

We urge the commission to use the lines represented here when putting the final touches on District lines. We will be much better served by these important District line changes.

Thank you.

Tyler D. Cassell
President

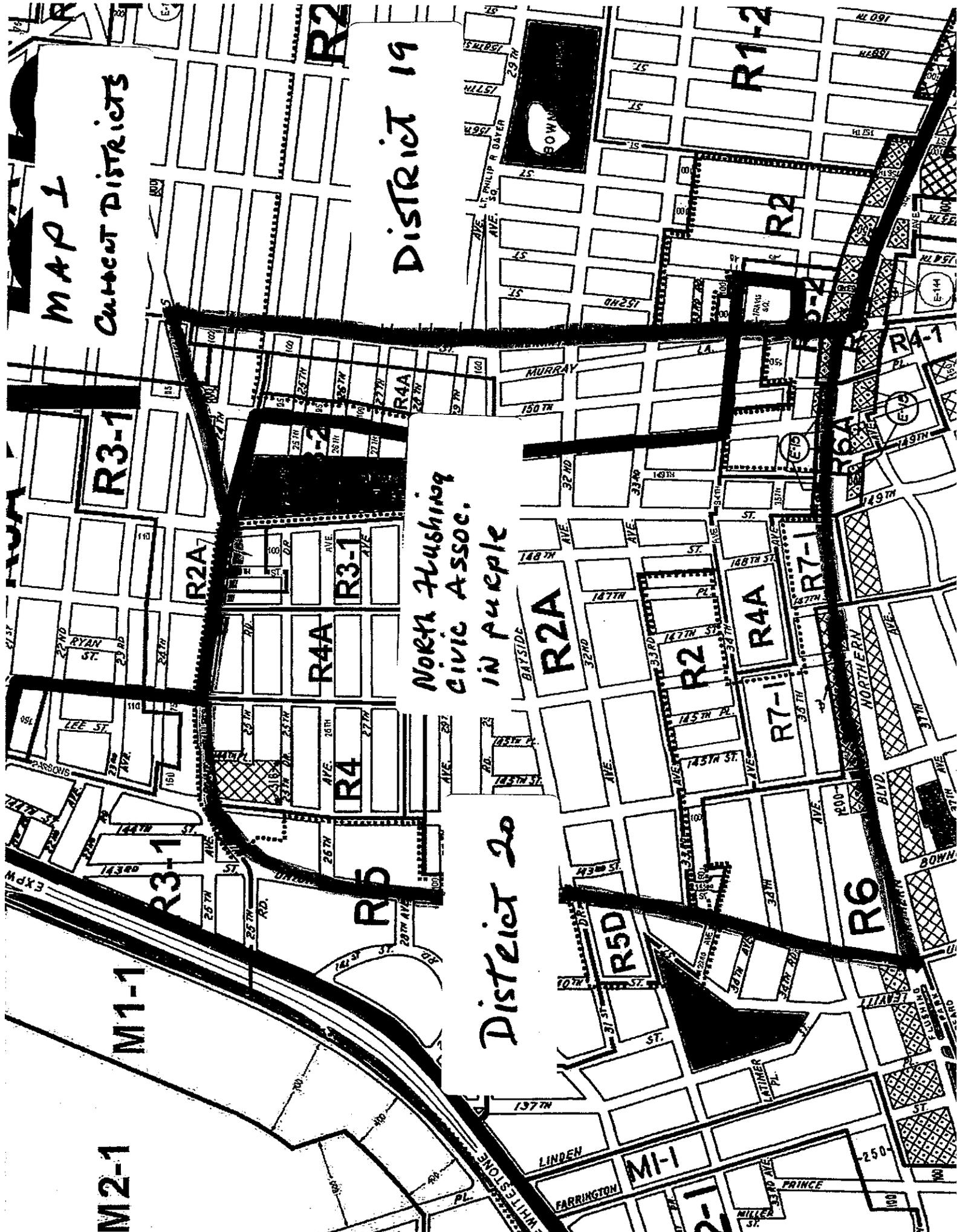
MAP I

CURRENT DISTRICTS

District 19

North Hushing
Civic Assoc.
in purple

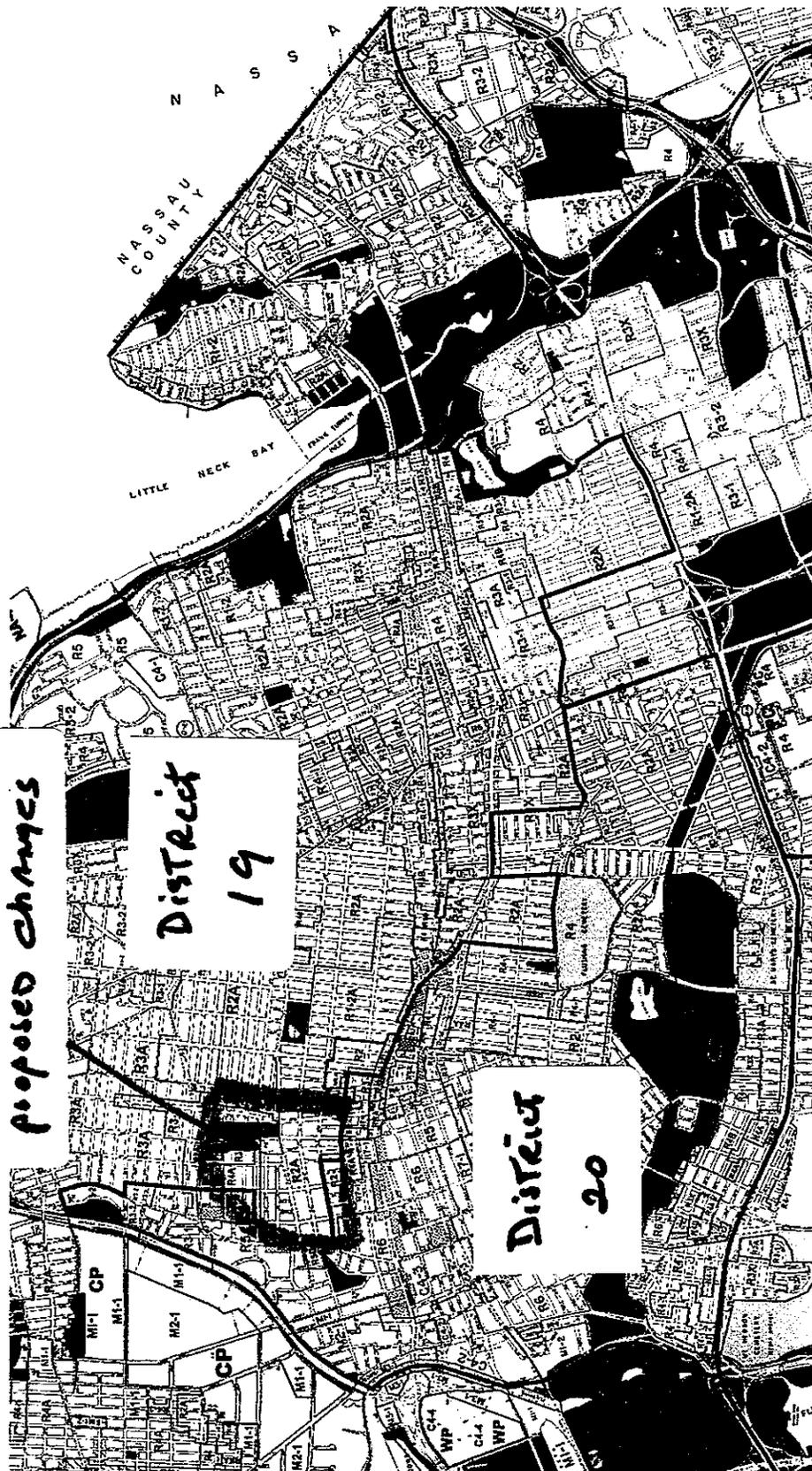
District 20



**MAP 3
Larger View**

**NORTH FLUSHING
CIVIC ASSOC.
PROPOSED CHANGES**

District 19 and 20



**District
19**

**District
20**