

Winifred Armstrong Testimony
To the Districting Commission, October 6, 2012
On behalf of the Park West Neighborhood History Group
www.upperwestsidehistory.weebly.com

We ask that in considering new City Council Districts, Park West Village be kept intact. The present proposals of the Districting Commission divide a community built as a Village, and which we have worked over the 50 years of its existence to maintain and enjoy as a community.

We are roughly 5000 people, living in 2500 apartments, in seven buildings between 97th and 100th Street along Central Park West and Columbus Avenue on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. Park West Village was built on the ashes of another Old Community, as one of the urban renewal projects of Robert Moses. Its express intent was to attract a multi-ethnic, middle class working community to this multi-economic neighborhood. It succeeded....and I think by now we can say it is we who live there who have made it succeed.

Our resident civic groups include people from "both sides of the street." We were conceived as a neighborhood, and are well served by a Library, Police and Fire Station down 100th Street, and a Community Board (7) who knows us well.

Please do not divide us down the middle, as your proposals now do.

I attach a brochure we prepared ***Park West Village: History of a Diverse Community*** which will give you a further sense of our community's past, present and future.