

Dear Commission Members:

My name is Frank Toner, I am President of the Rocky Hill Civic Association which represents an area of Eastern Queens known as Bellerose Manor. Our Association is also a member of a Coalition of organizations known as Eastern Queens United. We formed this association last year in part to advocate for sensible drawing of electoral lines that would keep communities together. Our communities are similar in make-up, we are all very nicely diversified. We have the same police district and Community Board. We are composed mostly of one and two family homes and cooperatives. We have similar goals on area development and community issues.

The entirety of my association and the Associations that are members of Eastern Queens United are located in the 23rd district. My request is simple. Please keep us all in the same district—do not break up our areas.

I understand that the new districts may be bigger than our present district. If it does need to be expanded I ask that you try to add one community as best you can without breaking it up. I believe that all efforts should be made to keep our communities together. It is in communities that our democracy begins and they should be respected.

Thank you,

Frank Toner

rhca@verizon.net