

To The Districting Commission: RE 31st Council District

Greetings to the NYC Districting Commission:

My name is Valerie L. West, and I am the District Leader in the 31st Assembly District, Part A. The 31st Council District is part of my representation. It is very important to keep the Council District as a whole. This includes Arverne, Arverne by the Sea, Brookville, Edgemere, Far Rockaway, Rosedale, Laurelton and Springfield Gardens.

Last year the State Legislature and Congressional seats went through a redistricting process and as we saw in the last Primary Election was a disaster and that caused a lot of people not to vote. They were displaced to other sites far away from their homes. We do not want that to happen with the 31st Council District.

The 31st Council District was drawn up in 1980 and has worked well for all. I believe that our chosen Councilmember has the total amount of voters in her district, and we do not want to change that.

We have had many disasters such as Super Storm Sandy , Hurricane Ida and COVID 19, and this incredible diverse neighborhood worked closely together to overcome all obstacles. WE DO NOT WANT TO BE SEPARATED.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE 31ST COUNCIL DISTRICT STAY AS IT IS AT PRESENT.

Much work has already been done even by our present Councilmember regarding the JFK Redevelopment Project. JFK

is a big economic driver in the 31st Council District and should remain in the district. We in the Rockaways encounter all the health and hazardous problems from JFK, so it is important that we reap some of the benefits of having JFK Airport in the 31st Council District.

I encourage the Commission to take heed of my request as they continue their Districting process.

Thank you.