

DeCillis, Michael

From: Fredenburg, Julia
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 4:50 PM
To: Public Testimony
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Changing district lines

From: Vikram singh [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 6:54 PM
To: NYC Redistricting <NYCRedistricting@redistricting.nyc.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Changing district lines

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Dear Redistricting Council and City Officials,

I write to ask that the district lines proposed for Queens Council District 26 and Manhattan Council District 4 which include portions of Sutton Place, the Upper East Side, and all of Roosevelt Island not be adopted for the following reasons.

First, the draft proposal violates four of the criteria set forth in City Charter Section 52 (1) (c) (d) and (e) and Section 52 (2). The violation of those criteria results in districts where:

- neighborhoods and communities of interest are not kept intact,
- the proposed district is not compact,
- the proposed district results in an extreme crossover district, and
- the proposed district is very oddly shaped.

Second, the proposed districts will create significant practical difficulties for the affected neighborhoods. Notably, will a Queens Council Member have a district office in Manhattan to serve the needs of the extraordinarily high percentage of seniors in Manhattan Community Districts? Will a Queens Council Member send representation to two additional Manhattan Community Boards? Will a Queens Council Member hold full membership on two Borough Boards? What is the likelihood that the Manhattan portion of the proposed district will ever prevail in a matter of Participatory Budgeting? Manhattan and Queens residents may hold vastly different positions on important matters of public policy including, but not limited to, congestion pricing. Which position will a Queens Council Member adopt?

A defining element of the East Side's neighborhood character is the presence of numerous medical and research facilities with sprawling, densely populated campuses. Manhattan elected officials have years of experience and expertise in addressing the compatibility of these institutions with surrounding residential areas. How effective will a Queens Council Member be in this regard?

Third and finally, this oddly-shaped, extreme crossover district will significantly and adversely impact the provision of municipal services and diminish the political voices of thousands of Manhattan's residents.

In the strongest terms possible, I urge the Commission to return to the drawing board and not adopt the proposed districts referenced above.

I thank you in advance for your consideration,

Please share this information with friends and encourage them to take action.

Thank you for helping to keep our Building safe and protecting our community's quality of life.

The Board of 233 East 69th Street