

DISTRICT OFFICE  
65 EAST BROADWAY  
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LEGISLATIVE OFFICE  
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NEW YORK, NY 10007



THE COUNCIL  
OF

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

**CHRISTOPHER MARTE**

COUNCIL MEMBER, 1<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT, MANHATTAN

COMMITTEES

AGING  
CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS  
EDUCATION  
PARKS AND RECREATION  
RESILIENCY AND WATERFRONTS  
STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION

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SUB-COMMITTEES

LANDMARKS, PUBLIC SITINGS, AND  
DISPOSITIONS  
SENIOR CENTERS AND FOOD INSECURITY

E-MAIL: [District1@council.nyc.gov](mailto:District1@council.nyc.gov)

September 28, 2022

Dear Redistricting Commission,

I would once again like to express my support of the lines you have drawn for City Council District 1. With the addition of Vladeck Houses and a slightly lower Northern border, our district will continue to encapsulate the diversity that makes our city great. The Latino population of the Lower East Side has been shrinking due to the impacts of gentrification for generations, and the addition of the Vladeck Houses to District 1 helps to mitigate this impact. Where my family, and many Dominicans, made their home along the tenements on either side of Delancey, is now unaffordable and mostly occupied by young white professionals. By including Vladeck Houses in District 1, which it is already surrounded by, it helps balance this demographic change.

I am the first Latino to represent City Council District 1, and I do not want to be the last. We have worked hard to unite the diverse communities in District 1 to show that a Dominican can represent the Chinese community, the Jewish community, and the many other ethnic and racial minorities that are in our district. But it takes time to build these bridges, and effort to maintain them. The Latinos of the Lower East Side can sometimes feel resentment to the neighbors they perceive as pushing them out. Allowing them to have a greater presence in a District they essentially already live in — where they shop, where they go to school, where they use the park are all in District 1 — will help to ease this tension and restore some of the balance that's been off-kilter to the rapid gentrification District 1 has experienced in the past two years.

I would once again like to propose keeping NoHo in District 1, as it has much in common with SoHo which is already in my district. The City rezoned them as part of a single application, and

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they share a similar balance of unique residential apartments, such as loft laws and low-income artists aging in place, and large retail. I recommend keeping the streets Bleecker, Bond, Great Jones and the southern portion of East 4 Street between Bowery to Broadway in District 1. For many of the same reasons I believe we should include Silver Towers into District 1: from Broadway to Laguardia Place and moving that Northern border to Bleecker Street instead of West Houston. With these changes, District 1 population would be 176,626, which is under the 5% deviation mark. Here is a link to the map: <https://districtr.org/plan/142730>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher Marte".

Christopher Marte  
New York City Council Member  
District 1, Lower Manhattan

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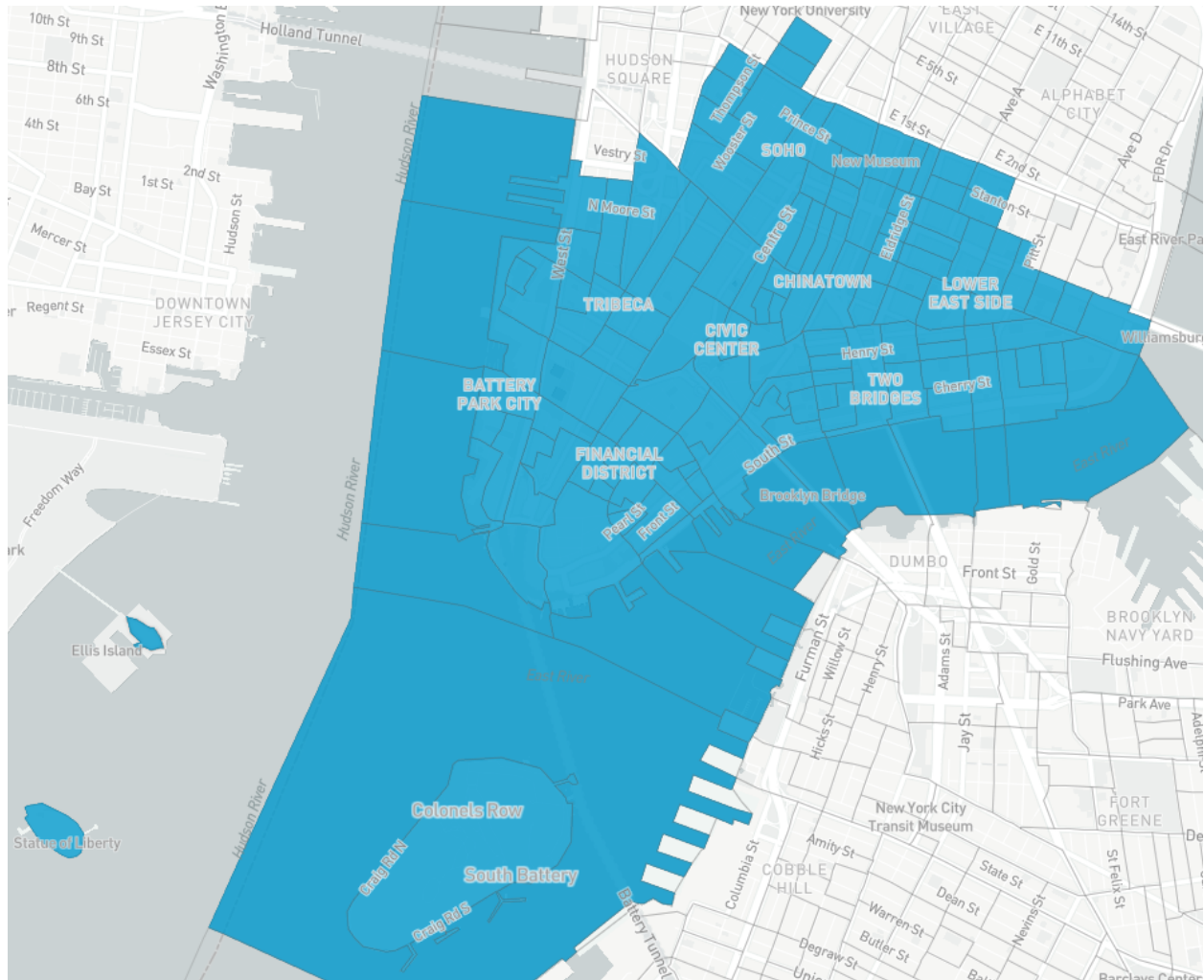


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Map population total: 177,007