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THE COUNCIL  
OF

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

**JUSTIN BRANNAN**

COUNCIL MEMBER, 43<sup>RD</sup> DISTRICT, BROOKLYN

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September 28, 2022

NYC Districting Commission  
253 Broadway, 3rd Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Chair Walcott and Members of the NYC Districting Commission,

I would first like to thank the Commissioners and staff for the great work and tremendous undertaking of creating a revised plan for 51 new Council Districts. I was pleased that the Districting Commission was especially responsive to the thousands of New Yorkers who testified, and that the Commission created a revised plan that reflected much of what they had to say.

I am writing regarding the revised New York City Districting plan that was voted on, and rejected by the Commission on Thursday, September 22, 2022. I understand that whatever plan is ultimately approved may incorporate some changes, however I want to express my support for certain elements of the plan that was voted down, which I believe successfully delivered fair lines for southern Brooklyn.

Firstly, I want to reiterate my support for the creation of a new, AAPI-majority district in Brooklyn, and I believe the lines designed to do so in the revised plan deliver on that goal in a way that makes sense. I particularly appreciate that the revised version of this district was drawn without dividing historic communities of interest in Sunset Park. I also appreciate that Bay Ridge, the diverse and civically engaged neighborhood I call home, was kept whole in this plan, and more successfully drawn in with neighborhoods and communities of shared interest than in the initial map. To my mind, the revised plan voted down by the commission did the best job of any proposal I have seen at creating an AAPI-majority district, while also ensuring surrounding districts keep communities of interest intact.

In this process, where small changes to district lines in one part of the city can have profound cascading effects on the map as a whole, there will never be a way to completely please all New Yorkers. But I strongly believe we cannot afford to let the perfect be the enemy of the good. I urge you to preserve the lines proposed in the revised plan for southern Brooklyn, which I believe deliver fairness to our communities, to the greatest extent possible

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J Brannan".

*Councilman Justin Brannan, 43<sup>rd</sup> District  
Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights, Bath Beach, and Bensonhurst*