DISTRICT OFFICE

135-27 38TH AVENUE, SUITE 388 FLUSHING, NY 11354 TEL: (718) 888-8747 FAX: (718) 888-0331

CITY HALL OFFICE

250 BROADWAY, SUITE 1808 NEW YORK, NY 10007 District20@council.nyc.gov



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LANDMARKS, PUBLIC SITINGS,
AND DISPOSITIONS

September 28, 2022

Chair Dennis Walcott & Members

New York City Districting Commission

253 Broadway, 3rd Floor

New York, NY 10007

Dear Chair Walcott and Members of the NYC Districting Commission:

I am writing to express my concerns over the NYC Districting Commission's vote to reject its own Revised Plan of the 51 City Council district maps meant to reflect population and demographic shifts indicated by the 2020 Census.

The Districting Commission should be commended for conducting a robust public outreach campaign to ensure that the input of everyday New Yorkers was taken into consideration, as well as taking steps to ensure that the redistricting process was as apolitical as possible. That included months of analysis, as well the comments of more than 9,600 residents that were submitted via mail, e-mail, and during 35-plus hours of public hearings held in all five boroughs.

I commend the Commission's commitment to transparency, including its decision to release the Revised Plan for the public to review. It is clear the Commission worked in good faith to include changes and revisions that addressed many of the major concerns expressed regarding the preliminary maps that were released in July.

However, I am now concerned that the people whose testimony influenced those changes have now been silenced, and their thoughtful input will be disregarded when new City Council district maps are inevitably redrawn as required by law, whether by the Commission or another entity.

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I urge the Commission to reconsider its decision to reject the Revised Plan and move to adopt the maps, enabling the City Council to conduct its review as per the process outlined in the City Charter.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

mdulme

Sincerely,

Sandra Ung

Council Member