

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Sarah Jackson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 15, 2022 1:58 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting

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To whom it may concern,

I have been a resident of Roosevelt Island (RI) for many years and the redistricting proposal to make RI a part of Queens is wrong for many reasons. Historically, RI was built to be a part of the island of Manhattan and serve the city, which it does day in and day out through our added workforce and monetary support. Additionally, lumping blocks belonging to the Upper East Side (UES) to also be a part of Queens makes no sense because it is literally connected within the larger island of Manhattan and doesn't even touch Queens. No one on RI is a Queens resident and we shouldn't be considered one, we belong in the Manhattan district, so I encourage you to make these revisions. Thank you.

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**Sarah Jackson, M.S.** | she / her  
PhD Candidate | Industrial - Organizational Psychology  
Florida International University  
[Email](#) | [Website](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Sue Susman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 15, 2022 8:24 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] redistricting (or not) for 50 West 97th Street

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My 245-unit building at 50 West 97th Street has been part of the 7th Council District for many years. Our Council Member's office is on 141st Street - not something we pass in our daily comings and goings. That is in contrast to the District 6 office on Columbus between 87th and 88th Streets.

So I always post the 6th District's email notices to my own email lists to the Upper West Side and to the tenants in the building (I'm president of the Tenant Association). The 6th District events are a lot more relevant to us - and tenants here are more likely to participate.

For that reason, I urge instead of ending the 6th district at what appears to be 94th Street (although it's hard to tell under the thick black line of the map), you extend it to at least West 97th Street.

Thank you.

Sue Susman  
[UWSiders@googlegroups.com](mailto:UWSiders@googlegroups.com) email list

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Hillary Woodward <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 18, 2022 3:54 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Rezoning of UES with Queens

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I live in Manhattan at 77th and 1st in Julie Menin's district and am outraged at the proposal to rezone us with Queens. The UES is very different from Queens and needs to remain in a Manhattan zone.

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Patricia Smith <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 18, 2022 12:46 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Hells Kitchen

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Don't dismantle Hells Kitchen district by divvying us up between Hudson Yards and UWS and Midtown. We will be a secondary, edge concern for all 3.

Patricia

**Patricia Smith**  
Senior Manager, Global Partner Marketing

E [REDACTED] | W [commvault.com](https://commvault.com)

M [REDACTED]



#### **Our Values**

We connect, We inspire, We care, We deliver

[REDACTED]

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**From:** NYC Redistricting  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 19, 2022 11:41 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Feedback about Preliminary Plan #1

[REDACTED]  
NYC Districting Commission

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**From:** Alexander Ross <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 18, 2022 2:45 PM  
**To:** NYC Redistricting <NYCRedistricting@redistricting.nyc.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Feedback about Preliminary Plan #1

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Hello -

I am writing to express my STRONG concern about including my block on the far east side of Manhattan in a Queens district. The concerns of my family and my neighbors will not be addressed by a council member whose constituents primarily live in another borough.

It was my understanding that district maps could not be drawn to cross borough boundaries and they should not be.

**Keep the entire Upper East Side neighborhood within the same district.**

Respectfully,  
Alex

—  
Alexander Ross



[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
E. 62nd St. #16DE, NY, NY 10065

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Barbara Mutterperl <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:01 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting of District 5 Manhattan

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How can you split up a community of interest so absurdly. To take one block to East River and add it to Queens makes no sense. Please reconsider.

Barbara Mutterperl  
[REDACTED] E 77 St 10075  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Caity <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 19, 2022 2:27 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Your ridiculous map

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To whom it may concern:

To move the blocks of the UES to Queens is ridiculous. We are not a part of queens. If we wanted to be considered ANY part of that, we would move there. Do better.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Carla Tanz <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:21 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] OPPOSE!

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HI -

I vehemently oppose the redrawing of the UES district maps. This first draft makes no sense.  
UES Resident



[REDACTED]

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**From:** Carol Elbaz <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:24 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Keep Roosevelt Island

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In Manhattan district! The will strongly affect our quality of life!  
Carol Elbaz

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Erica Bersin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:17 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Keep Community District 5 on the UES intact

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Dear NYC re-Districting Committee,

I will get right to the point. Your group didn't adhere to your own, or the NYC Charter, districting requirements in the newly drawn draft. See CD 4 & 5 specifically. It breaks up our communities, small businesses, and schools. This is akin to comparing Peoria, IL to Manhattan.

Slide 9 in the following presentation

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/districting/downloads/pdf/20220622-primer-deviation-guide-release.pdf>

1. Keep neighborhoods and communities intact
  2. Keep districts compact
  3. Limit crossover districts
  4. Avoid splitting voters of the same political party for purposes of diminishing effective representation of such voters
  5. Avoid oddly shaped districts
- The districting committee flatly ignored your own requirements and the NYC charter requirements for CD 4 & 5. In February of 2021, I moved from the UWS to the UES specifically to live in CD5.
  - Moving the hospitals to CD26 with Queens is also not in keeping with the district committee requirements & NYC charter.
  - Moving CD5 means having the actual East River in the middle of the district.
  - None of the above is keeping the neighborhoods intact, doesn't keep districts compact, doesn't limit crossover districts, doesn't avoid splitting voters of the same political party for purposes of diminishing effective representation of such voters
  - AND definitely does NOT avoid oddly shaped districts

What makes your group uniquely qualified to draw district maps?

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/districting/about/commission-members.page>

Each community has their own identity (two examples congestion pricing and the 210 foot maximum building height in Manhattan - EULAR).

The UES has nothing in common with Queens. Not only do we lose our identity, but also appropriate representation. The hospitals are also part of our identity on the UES and have been part of our district for decades, if not generations. You are also proposing to separate the hospitals from the healthcare provider offices which would be in a different CD. Further, we lose the ability to govern what happens with hospitals just a block away from where we live.

As well, PS 158 & 217 will be negatively impacted being on the UES joining CD26 in Queens where again there are completely different needs of children in each of the neighborhoods.

Have you considered what happens to the parks and waterfront on the Eastside? How does this make any sense for these locations on the UES being governed by Queens?

Is the Queens representative going to go to the Manhattan borough president for needs when they split us up? How will the budget be fairly distributed e.g. participatory budgeting when the UES would only make up 27% of CD26? And logistically, will representatives have offices in both Queens and the UES? If you only care about money, this makes no sense financially.

Moreover, you upend the community boards, e.g. Community Board 8 would encompass three districts.

CD5 has nothing in common with CD26 and has completely different needs and issues. Moving CD5 to CD26 means that we will not have appropriate representation for our neighborhoods.

Finally, I envision that this will greatly disenfranchise voters, where NYC has notoriously low turnout for local elections. I fear it will be even worse if the district lines move forward as proposed.

None of this makes ANY sense.

I urge you to revisit the district lines for CD 4 & 5 and keep our communities intact per your committee and NYC Charter requirements.

Thank you,  
Erica Bersin

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 19, 2022 7:07 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting of UES Manhattan into District 26 of Queens

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I live in Manhattan at 77<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> in the sliver that is proposed to be redistricted into District 26 with Queens. I am outraged at this proposed redistricting. Manhattan is not the same as Queens and should not be redistricted with Queens. Our interests are different. We are the Upper East Side and should be districted with the Upper East Side. This is a clear violation of the City Council maps. Please withdraw the proposal.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** lana.jvnvc <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:14 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Keep Roosevelt Island Part of Manhattan

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While I am unable to attend to testify to the commission in person, I feel compelled to reach out as a resident of Roosevelt Island for over 25 years now.

With this proposed redistricting, there's fundamental changes to the cost of living, quality of life and opportunities for Roosevelt Islanders. This changes school districts, negatively impacts property value, and negatively impacts cost of living on Roosevelt Island.

Roosevelt Islanders are Manhattanites, our history and the way this city has categorized/recognized Roosevelt Island from its inception (a history we're proud of and have built our economy around!):

1. The original purposeful intent was that Roosevelt Island be always considered a part of Manhattan. Roosevelt Island was Created to be a "Manhattan Utopian Community" by Mayor Lindsay.
2. Roosevelt Islanders pay property taxes in Manhattan.
3. Roosevelt Island property valuations are predicated upon it being part of Manhattan.
4. Roosevelt Island schools are in DOE District 2 in Manhattan.
5. Area code for Roosevelt Islanders is 212 not 718.
6. Zip Code for Roosevelt Island is 10044, a Manhattan zip code.
7. The MTA considers Roosevelt Island part of Manhattan.
8. Included as part of the flat rate taxi fare as Manhattan, impacting cost of living and connectivity to Roosevelt Island (an issue further exacerbated with constantly [disrupted](#) metro connections).
9. Part of Manhattan Public Library System. Queens is a separate Library system.

For over 50 years the people who have been fortunate enough to live on Roosevelt Island identify themselves as Manhattanites. This is part of our history and identity. Don't make this change.

Thank you,  
Lana

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:39 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] keep our UES district intact

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We are not happy about the proposed merger with Queens.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Judith Berdy <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2022 5:29 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Keep Roosevelt Island in Manhattan

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This island has always been Manhattan and never Queens.

1. The original purposeful intent was that Roosevelt Island be always considered a part of Manhattan. Roosevelt Island was Created to be a "Manhattan Utopian Community" by Mayor Lindsay.
2. Roosevelt Islanders pay property taxes in Manhattan.
3. Roosevelt Island schools are in DOE District 2 in Manhattan.
4. Area code for Roosevelt Islanders was 212 not 718.
5. Zip Code for Roosevelt Island is 10044, a Manhattan zip code.
6. The MTA considers Roosevelt Island part of Manhattan.
7. Included as part of the flat rate taxi fare as Manhattan
8. Part of Manhattan Public Library System. Queens is a separate Library system.

*Judith Berdy*  
*President, Roosevelt Island Historical Society*  
[REDACTED] Main St., #1704  
New York, NY 10044  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Miriam Widmann <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2022 11:15 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment on proposed redistricting - 5th District

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I learned about the proposed redistricting, for NYC Council, through Patch.com. I live on 79th St between York and East End Avenue and would be separated from the Yorkville neighborhood and moved to a new district that is mainly in Queens and Roosevelt Island. I strongly object to this plan. My interests are best represented by a council member who represents Yorkville. This is where I live, shop, walk, etc. I am working mostly from home now (4 days per week). I walk everyday along the East River esplanade and through Carl Schurz Park. I pay attention to all of the changes in my neighborhood - to areas that need repair, new improvements, stores that close and open, bus routes, subway stops, green markets, changes to traffic signals that impact pedestrians crossing streets, etc. A council member from Queens will not focus on the little sliver of Manhattan that is pulled away from a district where it belongs. We were served well by Ben Kallos, and are served well by Julie Menin. Please do not change the district map!

Miriam Widmann  
[REDACTED] East 79th St, Apt 6B  
New York, NY 10075

Sent from my iPad



[REDACTED]

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**From:** Nikola Durkovic <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2022 2:22 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Roosevelt Island

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Hi there,

Roosevelt Island has always been part of Manhattan. It was created to be “Manhattan Utopian Community” by Mayor Lindsay.

That fact is big part of our identity.

We, the Islanders, pay property taxes in Manhattan. Our schools are in District 2 in Manhattan. Our area code is 212.

MTA sees us as part of Manhattan. NYPL too.

It is nonsense to make RI part of Queens.

Thank you.

Nikola Durkovic  
[REDACTED] Main Street, apt 738  
NYC, NY 10044

The original purposeful intent was that Roosevelt Island be always considered a part of Manhattan. Roosevelt Island was Created to be a “Manhattan Utopian Community” by Mayor Lindsay.

2. Roosevelt Islanders pay property taxes in Manhattan.
3. Roosevelt Island schools are in DOE District 2 in Manhattan.
4. Area code for Roosevelt Islanders was 212 not 718.
5. Zip Code for Roosevelt Island is 10044, a Manhattanzip code.
6. The MTA considers Roosevelt Island part of Manhattan.
7. Included as part of the flat rate taxi fare as Manhattan
8. Part of Manhattan Public Library System. Queens is a separate

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Anastasia von Raison <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 11:02 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Redistricting of Roosevelt Island/District 5

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Good morning,

I find it perplexing to have parts of the Upper East Side, Sutton Place, and Roosevelt Island, where I have been residing for the past 15 years, be redrawn as part of a larger district in Queens.

I strongly prefer the current lines of District 5. The new lines cover an even broader population with huge differences in economic, social, and political factors. They include communities with distinct needs and concerns. The concerns of Sutton Place and parts of the UES are much different than in Sunnyside and LIC. This would require even more work for the staff of the City Council Member. The new lines for District 5 should absolutely cover more.

I work in City government and in Long Island City. Our agency has projects across all five boroughs. I have interacted with Council Members and their staff and know how important it is for them to be present and service their communities. To have a larger district, mostly in Queens, suddenly cover parts of Manhattan while shrinking the current lines do not make sense at all. Please consider the work of the City Council Member and their team.

I strongly urge this Commission to reconsider.

Thank you for your time and attention,  
Anastasia von Raison

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Arianna Gutierrez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 4:42 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please keep Roosevelt Island as part of Manhattan

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Hello,

Please keep Roosevelt Island as part of Manhattan.

The original purposeful intent was that Roosevelt Island be always considered a part of Manhattan. Roosevelt Island was Created to be a "Manhattan Utopian Community" by Mayor Lindsay. Additionally, Roosevelt Islanders pay property taxes in Manhattan and are schools are in DOE District 2 in Manhattan.

We are currently included as part of the flat rate taxi fare as Manhattan and are a part of Manhattan Public Library System. Queens is a separate Library system.

We already lack direct representation due to the current governance structure of the island.  
Please don't make the issue worse by further blurring the lines about what district we belong to...

Thank you in advance,  
Arianna Gutierrez  
Constituent and resident at [REDACTED] main st Roosevelt island ny 10044  
Phone: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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**From:** Chris O'Neill <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 7:11 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Keep Roosevelt Island Part of Manhattan

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Good morning--

As a resident of Roosevelt Island for over a decade, I'm writing to express my concern over and disagreement with the proposed redistricting of Roosevelt Island, moving it from Manhattan District 5 to Queens District 26.

Among the reasons I believe this to not be in the best interest of residents of Roosevelt Island are both property value and property taxes. Residents pay property taxes in Manhattan, and after years and years of waiting, many residents have finally been able to purchase their apartments, at prices which were certainly in part based on the buildings being in Manhattan. Should residents choose to sell at some point, for better or worse being part of the Manhattan district certainly fetches a better sale price, an understandable concern given that purchases were made with the district being part of Manhattan.

Another reason I'm opposed to the redistricting is that it would essentially be a type of reverse-gerrymandering, forced gentrification of District 26. While Roosevelt Island is quite diverse in population, in general the socioeconomic status of residents is largely different than that of District 26, and adding this population to that one would greatly change the face of that district, creating a possibly louder voice in local politics that doesn't quite represent the district as a whole. Roosevelt Island was created by Mayor Lindsay to be a Manhattan Utopian Community, and it should stay that way.

Thank you for your time,

Chris O'Neill

[REDACTED] Main St. #402  
New York, NY 10044

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Nathanson, Constance A. <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 9:41 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Roosevelt Island

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Hello,

I would like to add my voice to advocates for retaining Roosevelt Island in District 5 as part of Manhattan. I have lived on the island for over 20 years and have always considered myself as in Manhattan. More practically, we are institutionally part of Manhattan. Roosevelt Islanders pay property taxes in Manhattan, our school and library districts are in Manhattan, MTA and taxi services identify us as part of Manhattan. Are there any good reasons for disrupting these longstanding arrangements? I haven't heard any.

Thank you for your attention.

Constance A. Nathanson  
[REDACTED] Main St., Apt. 1014  
New York, NY 10044

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Kevin Smith <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 5:24 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Marble Hill Redistricting

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To Whom It May Concern:

We are alarmed to hear from the Riverdale Press about the plan to split Marble Hill between the Bronx and Manhattan yet again. The State Supreme Court had already adjudicated that Marble Hill is in the Borough of Manhattan and we would like the entire neighbourhood to remain in one, and only one council district. By law, this should be in Manhattan, not the Bronx. We will take the redistricting map to court if you split us up again against the already adjudicated case resolved in Marble Hill's and Manhattan's favour. We are tired of being played with by the political powers that be in The Bronx. This is indecent. Moreover, it is illegal. Please take this seriously. Marble Hill is the only neighbourhood in New York City in this position and we know we have the political power to overturn this illegal redistricting, something we do not wish to do. But we insist on you respecting our rights. Ask Maria about who I am. She knows me when she served as private counsel to the Ambassador and Consul General for the Dominican Republic. We are not pleased with this. Thank you very much.

Kind regards,

Mr. Kevin Smith

Executive Director

Marble Hill Alliance

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

[REDACTED]

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**From:** LISA BARENSE [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 11:24 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Annexing Sutton Place to Queens

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Please vote against the proposed council redistricting. I can't imagine how Sutton Place and Yorkville could be effectively represented by a Queens councilperson who primarily represents a large swath of Queens and LaGuardia Airport. It would not appear that these very disparate communities could possibly share many if any interests.

It would seem impossible for a Queens based councilperson to be familiar with these two UES communities and their concerns. We have just elected a new councilperson who seems involved and active in our community. I would not like to see her removed as our representative at this time.

Why even split the UES into two parts with a border running north-south? Why not split Districts 4 & 5 along 57th like the separate neighborhoods they are? Midtown East and UES? And why carve out a small piece of the UES and attach it to a huge Queens district. The proposed redistricting makes no sense whatsoever.

Thank-you.  
Lisa Barense  
[REDACTED] E 57th St

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Matthew Katz <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 12:28 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council redistricting

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I wish to urge you to maintain Roosevelt Island in Manhattan District 5 and to abandon any question of shifting us to Queens District 26. Since the creation of Roosevelt Island in the late '60s, we have been a part of Manhattan in various crucial ways; it is part of our identity. I'll list some of the issues that have occurred to us:

1. The original purposeful intent was that Roosevelt Island be always considered a part of Manhattan. Roosevelt Island was created to be a "Manhattan Utopian Community" by Mayor Lindsay.
2. Roosevelt Islanders pay property taxes in Manhattan.
3. Roosevelt Island schools are in DOE District 2 in Manhattan.
4. Area code for Roosevelt Islanders was 212 not 718.
5. Zip Code for Roosevelt Island is 10044, a Manhattan zip code.
6. The MTA considers Roosevelt Island part of Manhattan.
7. Included as part of the flat rate taxi fare as Manhattan
8. Part of Manhattan Public Library System. Queens is a separate Library system.

In addition, we are, have always been, part of Community Board 8 where we are known and understood. I urge you to resist this egregious error. Regards,  
Matthew Katz



[REDACTED]

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**From:** Richard Meyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 5:24 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Moving Roosevelt Island

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The residents of Roosevelt Island have long considered themselves as living in Manhattan. So, apparently, does the MTA, the public school system, and the post office. Our area code also identifies Roosevelt Island as part of Manhattan and the late mayor John Lindsay called it a "Manhattan Utopian Community." While it may not be utopia, it should remain part of Manhattan. Actually, it should remain as part of Manhattan council district 5.

Respectfully,

Richard Meyer

[REDACTED] Main Street

New York, NY **10044**

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** tim wong <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 7:31 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] redistricting for Roosevelt Island

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Dear Madames/Sirs

I am a resident of Roosevelt Island. Have lived on the island for 25 years.

The reason that we came to the island has not changed.

! thing that we liked was knowing that when the development started Mayor Lindsay wanted the island as part of Manhattan.

BEing in School District 2 was important as both of our now grown children went to NYC public schools.

Our public library has served us well and we want that to stay part of the Manhattan public library system.

I am unable to attend the public hearings. I send this email as a demonstration that the island should not be redistricted into Queens.

It was never intended and it would not be a welcome change.

thank you  
tim wong

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Nathan J. Lichtenstein <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 22, 2022 9:51 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Hell's Kitchen Redistricting

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Hello,

The proposed redistricting map turns Hell's Kitchen into nothing more than electoral shrapnel. Diluting the representation of our neighborhood into becoming political afterthoughts for three separate council members goes directly against the city charter.

Please keep our neighborhood politically intact and fairly represented.

Regards,

Nathan J. Lichtenstein  
[REDACTED] W 55th St.

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 22, 2022 9:59 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Cc:** spopeny@gmail.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] My thoughts as a RI resident

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Hello,

I can't attend due to some health issues but want to share my thoughts about this absurd idea.

I've lived in Rivercross, a co-op building on Roosevelt Island, for over 35 years, own my apartment, and pay property taxes (most above the annual IRS deduction). When my husband died in 2003 I went through the nightmare of having to change lots of things, which literally became a full time job, not only for the time spent making the changes but then dealing with the follow-ups of messes in government and corporate errors, accountability and corrections.

If we are redistricted, here are some of the things every individual and families will have to deal with for continuing to live here:

Notification of the change of town name and zip code on our mailing address to the following:

- Family members -immediate and distant
- Friends
- Voter registration
- Bank accounts
- Investment accounts, such as retirement and college savings
- Social Security
- Credit cards
- Passport
- Driver's license
- Automobile registration
- Email accounts
- Insurance companies
- Medical facilities (Doctors, labs, pharmacies, etc.)
- Phone companies and ISPs
- Food services (groceries, restaurants and other delivery services)
- Government services such as IRS, USPS, Medicare, Veterans organizations)
- Unions
- Professional organizations
- Personal memberships (i.e. AARP, AAA, hobby groups, religious organizations)
- School choices may cause problems because of the change to districts.

Notification of change of phone numbers because of the area code change to the above list

It doesn't end with just one notification. Many of them require legal involvement, such as lawyer's letters or intervention. The entire process will also involve not only time and aggravation, but also the expense of fees, postage, computer supplies and time, most of which are not even tax deductible.

I really don't think that redistricting will change which political friends get elected! There's an old saying, which companies such as Coca Cola learned the hard way and nearly went out of business when they introduced the "new Coke":

**IF IT AIN'T BROKE, DON'T FIX IT, AND IF IT'S FIXED DON'T BREAK IT!**

In summary, then, leave us alone and don't change our district!

Raye G. Schwartz

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Sylvan Klein <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 23, 2022 8:36 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Roosevelt Island

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As a long time resident of Roosevelt Island I hope your committee will address and remedy its initial redistricting map, to place the island into a non-Manhattan city council district.

Our local school, library and tram are affiliated solely with The Borough of Manhattan.

We are currently represented by a state Senator, assembly member, Borough President and community board with Manhattan.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sylvan Klein

[REDACTED] Main Street #19D  
Roosevelt Island, 10044

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

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**From:** A.S. Unterweiser [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 24, 2022 12:22 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Roosevelt Island Redistricting

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I am writing to raise an objection to the relocation of Roosevelt Island from District 5 in Manhattan to District 26 in Queens.

Since the community here was created, it has been considered part of Manhattan. Our area code is 212; our ZIP code is 10044. The MTA, DOE, TLC, and Public Library System all consider Roosevelt Island to be part of Manhattan.

Most importantly, the people of Roosevelt Island -- for more than 50 years -- have considered themselves Manhattanites. The districting should reflect that.

Thank you.

A.S. Unterweiser  
[REDACTED] River Road  
NYC 10044

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Christine LeBeau <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 9:51 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] UES Council 5 proposed maps

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To whom it may concern,

Last Friday I was made aware of new maps that have been proposed for my council district, Council 5. I have lived on the Upper East Side for over 30 years. As long-term residents of this neighborhood, my husband and I have well-established ties of common interest and association. Our apartment is on East 73rd Street, just east of 1st Ave. If this proposed map is approved, our block would become the western edge of a district in Queens that is utterly unfamiliar to us. This makes no sense!

The proposed map breaking apart the UES is in clear violation of the New York City Charter. "A district shall not cross borough or county boundaries." How exactly would this work? Would my new CM open a second office in Manhattan? I don't know Queens terribly well, but what I do know, is that things are spread out and getting around in Queens is much easier if you have a car. I do not own a car.

I am a volunteer gardener with the Upper Greenside Association and a NY City Parks Department Tree Steward. The Upper Greenside has received funding from Council 5 in previous years. I help take care of trees and tree islands on First Avenue that are along the bike lane. I volunteer to help beautify the Upper East Side because I have a stake in my neighborhood. The new map would put my neighborhood volunteer work in a different neighborhood than the one I live in, even though it is literally just on the other side of First Avenue. My husband, a musician, regularly performs at the UES's most famous museum, and he programs one of their weekly music programs. He volunteers with me in tree care, and he frequently works as an Election Poll Worker on the UES because he also has a stake in our neighborhood, our community.

I strongly feel that our votes in a Queens district would be diluted and disenfranchised, especially when it comes to participatory budgeting. I can't envision a CM based in Queens making faraway blocks in Manhattan a priority for the allocation of resources. Quite frankly, I don't know why a district in Queens would want to take on the governance of neighborhood blocks in Manhattan or Roosevelt Island. Would Queens Council 26 want to take on the challenge of funding the renovations to our East River Esplanade? Would a Queens district be actively engaged with the senior citizens on the UES that rely on the John Jay Park and outdoor pool for exercise and socializing? I can't fathom that the iconic hospitals of the UES's hospital row would no longer be governed by the UES.

Lastly, I strongly believe that we should have a say in what happens on the UES, because we live on the UES. The blocks between 1st Avenue and York Avenue are where the least affluent residents of the UES are concentrated. By cleaving these blocks from the UES, and dumping them on Queens, you are further consolidating wealth in Council 5.

How would this redistricting effect building height zoning laws for my block and neighboring blocks? What would be the impact on garbage collection, recycling, composting, rat abatement? Where would we go to vote? And what happens to the schools? I don't think the ramifications of this redistricting have not been thought out. I ask that you do not approve the redistricting map that would put the eastern edge of the UES and Roosevelt Island in to Queens Council 26.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best wishes,  
Christine LeBeau

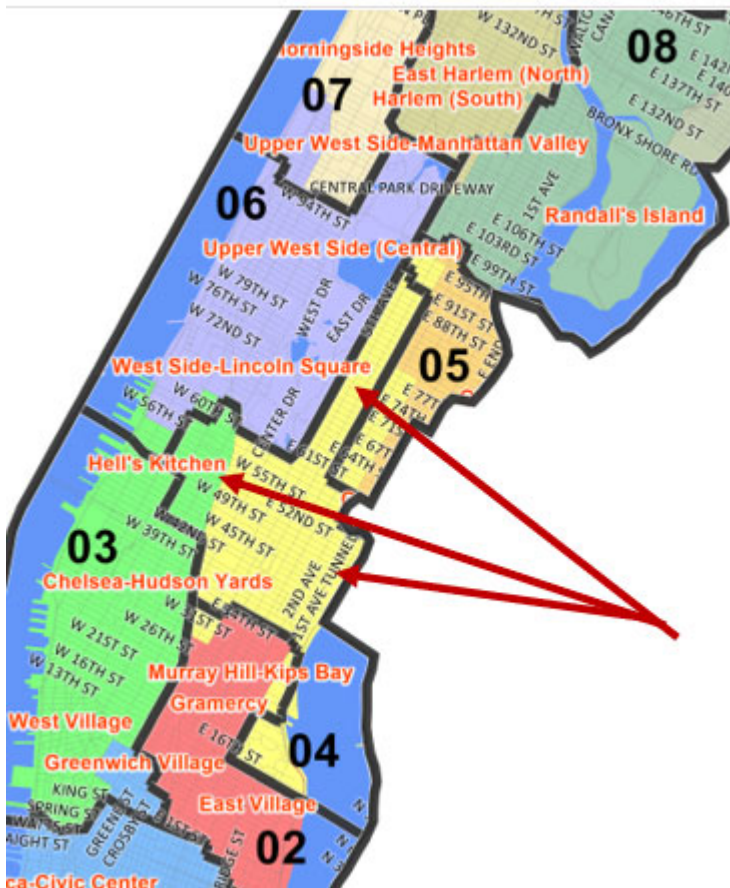
[REDACTED] East 73rd St. Apt. 4C  
New York, NY 10021



**From:** Patricia Paddock <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 5:23 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] new district map feedback

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There's a whole section that is NOT #5, #4, or #3. If it's meant to be #4, then apparently we have folks living in the east river who can vote, need services, etc.



It also makes no sense to align this section with the district to the west (Hell's Kitchen--which I believe many are trying to call Clinton these days), and not to the sections south/north (#2 or #5) of it instead. The city is divided in it's very addresses by East and West. I imagine that folks in the west 40s (Hell's kitchen and Times square, for example) have unique issues tied to their geography and the transportation and industry in that geography--and that they bear little relationship to the issues arising from the geography, transportation, and industry issues in the far east 40s (Tudor City and Sutton place for example).

It aslo makes no sense to separate out one part of east 61st street -- east 88 street from the rest of the east side of those same streets!



[REDACTED]

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**From:** Collina, David <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 3:50 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Rebalancing Council District populations - Roosevelt Island should remain part of Manhattan

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Dear Madam / Sir,

Hope this email finds you well.

It has come to my attention that as part of the rebalancing of Council District populations Roosevelt Island, the lovely place where I live, is intended to move to the borough of Queens.

I wanted to express my deep dissatisfaction and disagreement with this proposal. Roosevelt Island should remain part of Manhattan for the following reasons:

1. The original purposeful intent was that Roosevelt Island be always considered a part of Manhattan. Roosevelt Island was Created to be a "Manhattan Utopian Community" by Mayor Lindsay.
2. Roosevelt Islanders pay property taxes in Manhattan.
3. Roosevelt Island schools are in DOE District 2 in Manhattan.
4. Area code for Roosevelt Islanders was 212 not 718.
5. Zip Code for Roosevelt Island is 10044, a Manhattan zip code.
6. The MTA considers Roosevelt Island part of Manhattan.
7. Included as part of the flat rate taxi fare as Manhattan
8. Part of Manhattan Public Library System. Queens is a separate Library system.

Most importantly, for over 50 years the people who live on Roosevelt Island are satisfied living under the borough of Manhattan, so there is absolutely no reason to change.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cheers,  
David Collina

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[REDACTED]

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**From:** Jacqueline Lowry [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 4:52 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Hells Kitchen

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To Whom It May Concern:

I was dismayed to hear recently of the plans to redistrict my City Council District, Hell's Kitchen into 3 parts. This cannot be! This is a cohesive neighborhood that has come together in the past 30 years after being decimated in the bad ol' '70's. We have been working hard to improve our community, one that is the an important support to Broadway and Times Square. Many theatre professionals live here and we treasure what our neighborhood has become. Only recently, we canvassed and voted for our City Councilmember Erik Bottcher and we supported him because of his vision for where we live. Don't do this! Keep Hell's Kitchen whole!

*Dr. Katherine Teets-Grimm, M.D.*

██████ Main Street

*Roosevelt Island, NY 10044*

Tel: ██████████

Fax: (212) 750-5500 ██████████

July 26, 2022

Re: Opposition to Redistricting Roosevelt Island

To: Whom it may concern:

I was quite shocked to hear that Roosevelt Island might be redistricted to Queens, primarily because emergency services come from Queens. This is because the only car access is from Queens. However, in every way, Roosevelt Island is bonded to Manhattan since its inception, and even EMS takes patients to Manhattan as long as it is safe to do so. Here are several reasons why we are so bonded to Manhattan:

- Majority of residents receive their medical care in Manhattan
- Majority of residents who work outside the home, work in Manhattan. This includes members of the UN and diplomatic community and employees of Weill Cornell, Memorial Sloan Kettering, and NYU. These medical facilities own buildings and apartments on Roosevelt Island.
- Our school is part of District 2 in Manhattan
- Our children who do not go to PS/IS 217, usually attend schools in Manhattan
- Many residents are without cars and go to Manhattan to eat and shop
- There is easy access to Manhattan via tram and subway.
- We have a great relationship with Community Board 8 and with elected officials in Manhattan.

It is interesting to me that this has become a subject of discussion after so many years since Roosevelt Island was developed as a Manhattan community. I do not see any positive change if we are redistricted to Queens. I hope you will seriously consider our position on this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Katherine Teets Grimm, M.D.



*A Not-for-Profit Corporation*

east sixties neighborhood association, inc.

P.O Box 1855

New York, NY 10021

Tel 212-713-5826 • [www.esna-nyc.com](http://www.esna-nyc.com)

TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission

FROM: (name) **DAVID M. ALPERN** (address) [REDACTED]

DATE: July 27, 2022

RE: Redistricting a portion of NYC Council Manhattan District 5 to Queens District 26

VIA EMAIL TO: [PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov](mailto:PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov)

MAIL TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission, 253 Broadway-4<sup>th</sup> Fl, NYC 10007

Good day Chair Walcott,

The plan presented for 54 blocks of the Upper East Side and Roosevelt Island is not acceptable to the residents of the East Sixties. We believe it violates the charter requirements of keeping neighborhoods compact and intact. This plan would make CD26 an oddly shaped district with practical difficulties: they are - would the Council Member have a district office in Manhattan as well as on Roosevelt Island; would the Council Member cover Community Board meetings in Board 8 & 6 and have full membership on both Borough Boards, and finally we believe this part of Community District 8 would have a diminution of representation. While other Districts have physical boundaries in more than one borough, they are directly adjacent to one another. They do not have a river separating them as in this proposed plan. The issues in CD26 are not the same as in CD5. And there are several well-established neighborhood associations whose membership would be torn asunder.

The issues that involve City Agencies such as Transportation, Sanitation, Parks etc. are different in the two council districts. Then there are two other major issues that would tear our community apart. The **first** is the hospital corridor with their buildings for the major institutions many of which would be in CD26 under the new plan. But many of their offices and allied buildings and staff and doctors would be located in/or live in CD5 making it difficult for discussing issues constantly arising. Not to mention the effect on "bench to bed" translational medicine research. The **second** is Community District 8 ranks 47<sup>th</sup> out of 59 Districts for the least amount of park space in the city. This plan would remove: from CD 5 24 Sycamores Park; ¾ of Honey Locust Park—with ¼ remaining in D5; most of our East River Esplanade and Andrew Haswell Green Park Phase 1 & 2A—2B is under construction at this time. Phase 3 has not yet started and will likely cost \$25 Million dollars to complete. Will a Council Member in CD26 spend that kind of money for an area that represents only 27% of the voters in her/his District? Most of the funding will probably be spent in the Queens part of the district.

We strongly recommend that you study and implement Community Board 8's resolution and plan, as it takes into account the number of residents in all the adjoining districts.

Our Neighborhood Association depends greatly on our Council Member and her office staff, which is easy to reach by a short bus ride. I strongly urge the New York City Districting Commission to reconsider this ill-conceived plan and not divide an indivisible and cohesive neighborhood.

*"Celebrating the Spirit of Neighborhood"*

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Steven Certilman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 7:52 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting  
**Attachments:** Proposed Redistricting Map.docx

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Hello

I can simply say that this plan Carrie's more than a whiff of gerrymandering. It is not necessary to make the change and the benefits of your collective perception of improvement are outweighed by the actual loss of confidence in the electoral system the plan will stimulate.

Steven Certilman  
[REDACTED] E 65th Street 14A  
New York, NY 10065

Typos by Apple





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east sixties neighborhood association, inc.

P.O Box 1855

New York, NY 10021

Tel 212-713-5826 • [www.esna-nyc.com](http://www.esna-nyc.com)

TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission

FROM: (name) SYLVIA CLARK (address) 2.62<sup>nd</sup> ST. -4T, NY, NY 10065

DATE: July 27, 2022

RE: Redistricting a portion of NYC Council Manhattan District 5 to Queens District 26

VIA EMAIL TO: [PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov](mailto:PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov)

MAIL TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission, 253 Broadway-4<sup>th</sup> Fl, NYC 10007

Good day Chair Walcott,

The plan presented for 54 blocks of the Upper East Side and Roosevelt Island is not acceptable to the residents of the East Sixties. We believe it violates the charter requirements of keeping neighborhoods compact and intact. This plan would make CD26 an oddly shaped district with practical difficulties: they are - would the Council Member have a district office in Manhattan as well as on Roosevelt Island; would the Council Member cover Community Board meetings in Board 8 & 6 and have full membership on both Borough Boards, and finally we believe this part of Community District 8 would have a diminution of representation. While other Districts have physical boundaries in more than one borough, they are directly adjacent to one another. They do not have a river separating them as in this proposed plan. The issues in CD26 are not the same as in CD5. And there are several well-established neighborhood associations whose membership would be torn asunder.

The issues that involve City Agencies such as Transportation, Sanitation, Parks etc. are different in the two council districts. Then there are two other major issues that would tear our community apart. The **first** is the hospital corridor with their buildings for the major institutions many of which would be in CD26 under the new plan. But many of their offices and allied buildings and staff and doctors would be located in/or live in CD5 making it difficult for discussing issues constantly arising. Not to mention the effect on "bench to bed" translational medicine research. The **second** is Community District 8 ranks 47<sup>th</sup> out of 59 Districts for the least amount of park space in the city. This plan would remove: from CD 5 24 Sycamores Park; ¾ of Honey Locust Park—with ¼ remaining in D5; most of our East River Esplanade and Andrew Haswell Green Park Phase 1 & 2A—2B is under construction at this time. Phase 3 has not yet started and will likely cost \$25 Million dollars to complete. Will a Council Member in CD26 spend that kind of money for an area that represents only 27% of the voters in her/his District? Most of the funding will probably be spent in the Queens part of the district.

We strongly recommend that you study and implement Community Board 8's resolution and plan, as it takes into account the number of residents in all the adjoining districts.

Our Neighborhood Association depends greatly on our Council Member and her office staff, which is easy to reach by a short bus ride. I strongly urge the New York City Districting Commission to reconsider this ill-conceived plan and not divide an indivisible and cohesive neighborhood.

*"Celebrating the Spirit of Neighborhood"*



[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Vicente Mello <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 7:00 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting a portion of NYC Council Manhattan District 5 to Queens District 26

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east sixties neighborhood association, inc.  
**P.O Box 1855**  
**New York, NY 10021**  
**Tel 212-713-5826 • [www.esna-nyc.com](http://www.esna-nyc.com)**

TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission  
FROM: Vicente Mello 350 east 62nd street Apt 2N

Good day Chair Walcott,

The plan presented for 54 blocks of the Upper East Side and Roosevelt Island is not acceptable to the residents of the East Sixties. We believe it violates the charter requirements of keeping neighborhoods compact and intact. This plan would make CD26 an oddly shaped district with practical difficulties: they are - would a Council Member have a district office in Manhattan as well as on Roosevelt Island; would the Council Member cover Community Board meetings in Board 8 & 6 and have full membership on both Borough Boards, and first we believe this part of Community District 8 would have a diminution of representation. While other Districts have physical boundaries in more than one borough, they are directly adjacent to one another. They do not have a river separating them as in this proposed plan. The issues in CD26 are not the same as in CD5. And there are several well-established neighborhood associations whose membership would be torn asunder.

The issues that involve City Agencies such as Transportation, Sanitation, Parks etc. are different in the two council districts. Then there are two other major issues that would tear our community apart. The **first** is the hospital corridor with their buildings for the major institutions many of which would be in CD26 under the new plan. But many of their offices and allied buildings and staff and doctors would be located in/or live in CD5 making it difficult for discussing issues constantly arising. Not to mention the effect on "bench to bed" translational medicine research. The **second** is Community District 8 ranks 47<sup>th</sup> out of 59 Districts for the least amount of park space in the city. This plan would remove: from CD 5 24 Sycamores Park; ¾ of Honey Locust Park—with ¼ remaining in D5; most of our East River Esplanade and Andrew Haswell Green Park Phase 1 & 2B is under construction at this time. Phase 3 has not yet started and will likely cost \$25 Million dollars to complete. Will a Council Member in CD26 spend that kind of money for an area that represents only 27% of the voters in her/his District? Most of the funding will probably be spent in the Queens part of the district.

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*"Celebrating the Spirit of Neighborhood"*

Vicente

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** DIANE MICHELL <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2022 10:53 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed changes

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"If it's not broken, don't fix it"

This is ridiculous. Leave the districts as they are. It makes absolutely no sense to put what are physically in Manhattan into another borough

Diane Michell

Sent from my iPhone XR

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Nancy Idaka Sheran <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2022 11:07 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Cc:** Nancy Idaka Sheran  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] My map submission for Manhattan south of 115th Street (partial)

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Hello,

Disliking the gerrymandered appearance of the map for my neighborhood (Murray Hill), I created a map of Manhattan (partial) south of 115th Street. When I saved it, I shared it to the gallery. I created each district with approximately 173,000 population, and tried to maintain neighborhoods as I know them, as best I could.

The URL was stated to be <https://districtr.org/plan/136363>. I was not able to get back to the map. Are you able to see it?

Thank you for this opportunity.

Nancy Sheran  
[REDACTED] E 36th St Apt 2B  
New York, NY 10016  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** B Beverly <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2022 8:59 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony for the City Council District remapping

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Dear Districting Commission members:

I'm submitting a map ( <https://distrctr.org/plan/136457> ) and written testimony that focus on ways to keep the mid-Manhattan neighborhoods in District 3 (Hell's Kitchen/Theater District/Chelsea) distinct from District 4 (UES/Midtown East/Turtle Bay), District 5 (Yorkville/Lenox Hill), and District 6 (UWS).

I suggest that:

- The true bound between the Theater District and the Midtown East financial district is 6th Avenue (not Broadway).
- The UES hotel and luxury residence corridor stretches down 57th Street, which is the natural northern bound of Hell's Kitchen.
- The waterfront developments that stretch down to 50th St are most naturally aligned with those immediately to the north on the UWS.

These bounds are important because:

- The character and needs of the small businesses in the food services and entertainment sector in District 3 are quite distinct from the less entertainment-focused businesses further east and north.
- The limits of District 3 aren't extended north to 56th Street and east to 6th Avenue to fully capture its LGBTQ and Latino communities.

Thank you for reviewing my testimony and for the important work that you do.

Best regards,

Benjamin Beverly  
[REDACTED] West 54th Street

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Michael and Virginia <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2022 2:12 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: NYC Districting Commission City Council redistricting process

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July 29, 2022

NYC Districting Commission

"THE CITY" July 29th newspaper reported "Your new City Council district is being drawn right now. If you want to weigh in on the redistricting process for your neighborhood.

The article stated as follows: "For years, local Asian political activists have organized and lobbied for better representation in the city, including in the redistricting process for state-level seats that took place earlier this year and last fall". Also, "the commission has to keep many factors in mind, including: fair representation of racial groups, keeping neighborhoods and communities intact, avoiding districts that cross borough lines and keeping each district's population roughly equal".

My concern is that the Commission Members should not plan any redistricting based on the population of racial & ethnic backgrounds to appease any group especially crossing borough boundaries & combining them together to accomplish it -- i.e. Queens/ Manhattan - Brooklyn/Manhattan.

I reside and own a Co-op apartment in Manhattan in District 4 - represented by Council Member Keith Powers. I don't think a Council Member should be representing residents in two boroughs. My way of life, community in Turtle Bay, Manhattan and neighborhood issues are different from neighborhoods & issues in Queens and Brooklyn.

I don't normally have any faith in unelected appointed politicians/representatives to have on their mind - the good & welfare of residents & voters. Maybe this 15 member commission won't yield to what's best for politicians and leave residents on the back burner. I hope so.

Regards,

Michael Zullo  
[REDACTED] East 49th Street, Apt. 4A  
NYC 10017  
[REDACTED]



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east sixties neighborhood association, inc.

P.O Box 1855

New York, NY 10021

Tel 212-713-5826 • [www.esna-nyc.com](http://www.esna-nyc.com)

TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission

FROM: Name PIERRE-OLIVIER LAMARCA Address: [REDACTED] EAST 60<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10021

DATE: July 27, 2022

RE: Redistricting a portion of NYC Council Manhattan District 5 to Queens District 26

VIA EMAIL TO: [PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov](mailto:PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov)

MAIL TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission, 253 Broadway-4<sup>th</sup> Fl, NYC 10007

Good day Chair Walcott,

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*"Celebrating the Spirit of Neighborhood"*

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** ra potasznik <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2022 8:32 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] John Jay Pool

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As a swimmer am concerned about maintaining John Jay Pool on the E. side & should not be made part of Queens-this is an E side amenity and needs to stay on the E. Side for proper maintenance and advocacy,

Thank you for your consideration.

Rachel Potasznik Esq.  
[REDACTED]





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east sixties neighborhood association, inc.  
**P.O Box 1855**  
**New York, NY 10021**  
**Tel 212-713-5826 • www.esna-nyc.com**

TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission

FROM: Name

Address:

DATE: July 27, 2022

RE: Redistricting a portion of NYC Council Manhattan District 5 to Queens District 26

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*"Celebrating the Spirit of Neighborhood"*

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** chris chen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2022 8:14 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting a portion of NYC Council Manhattan District 5 to Queens District 26

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> TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission  
> FROM: Christina Chen ([REDACTED] East 64th Street)  
> DATE: July 31, 2022

>  
> Good day Chair Walcott,

> The plan presented for 54 blocks of the Upper East Side and Roosevelt Island is not acceptable to the residents of the East Sixties. We believe it violates the charter requirements of keeping neighborhoods compact and in tack This plan would make CD26 an oddly shaped district with practical difficulties: they are - would the Council Member have a district office in Manhattan as well as on Roosevelt Island; would the Council Member cover Community Board meetings in Board 8 & 6 and have full membership on both Borough Boards, and finally we believe this part of Community District 8 would have a diminution of representation. While other Districts have physical boundaries in more than one borough, they are directly adjacent to one another. They do not have a river separating them as in this proposed plan. The issues in CD26 are not the same as in CD5. There are several well-established neighborhood associations whose membership would be torn asunder.

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> Best regards,  
> Christina Chen

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**P.O Box 1855**  
**New York, NY 10021**  
**Tel 212-713-5826 • www.esna-nyc.com**

TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission  
FROM: James and Irena Knee ■■■ E 63rd St E5D New York, NY 10065  
DATE: July 27, 2022  
RE: Redistricting a portion of NYC Council Manhattan District 5 to Queens District 26  
VIA EMAIL TO: PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov  
MAIL TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission, 253 Broadway-4<sup>th</sup> Fl, NYC 10007

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*"Celebrating the Spirit of Neighborhood"*

**From:** Jeffrey rodman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2022 6:06 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] STOP the Eastside Redistricting

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TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission  
FROM: Jeffrey Rodman [REDACTED] East 64th Street W9H NYC 10065  
DATE: July 27, 2022  
RE: Redistricting a portion of NYC Council Manhattan District 5 to Queens District 26  
VIA EMAIL TO: PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov  
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Thank you for your consideration for the People.



[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Ken K <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2022 6:17 PM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting a portion of NYC Council Manhattan District 5 to Queens District 26

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TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission  
FROM: Ken Kwok ([REDACTED] East 64th Street)  
DATE: July 31, 2022

VIA EMAIL TO: [PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov](mailto:PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov)

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Best regards,  
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**New York, NY 10021**  
**Tel 212-713-5826 • www.esna-nyc.com**

TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission

FROM: Leslie Sweet, [REDACTED] East 63rd Street, NY, NY 10065

DATE: July 31, 2022

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*"Celebrating the Spirit of Neighborhood"*



A Not-for-Profit Corporation  
east sixties neighborhood association, inc.  
**P.O Box 1855**  
**New York, NY 10021**  
**Tel 212-713-5826 • www.esna-nyc.com**

TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission

FROM: (name) (address)

DATE: July 27, 2022

RE: Redistricting a portion of NYC Council Manhattan District 5 to Queens District 26

VIA EMAIL TO: PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov

MAIL TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission, 253 Broadway-4<sup>th</sup> Fl, NYC 10007

Good day Chair Walcott,

The plan presented for 54 blocks of the Upper East Side and Roosevelt Island is not acceptable to the residents of the East Sixties. We believe it violates the charter requirements of keeping neighborhoods compact and in tack This plan would make CD26 an oddly shaped district with practical difficulties: they are - would the Council Member have a district office in Manhattan as well as on Roosevelt Island; would the Council Member cover Community Board meetings in Board 8 & 6 and have full membership on both Borough Boards, and finally we believe this part of Community District 8 would have a diminution of representation. While other Districts have physical boundaries in more than one borough, they are directly adjacent to one another. They do not have a river separating them as in this proposed plan. The issues in CD26 are not the same as in CD5. There are several well-established neighborhood associations whose membership would be torn asunder.

The issues that involve City Agencies such as Transportation, Sanitation, Parks etc. are different in the two council districts. Then there are two other major issues that would tear our community apart. The **first** is the hospital corridor with their buildings for the major institutions many of which would be in CD26 under the new plan. But many of their offices and allied buildings and staff and doctors would be located in/or live in CD5 making it difficult for discussing issues constantly arising. The **second** is Community District 8 ranks 47<sup>th</sup> out of 51 Districts for the least amount of park space in the city. This plan would remove: 24 Sycamores Park; ¾ of Honey Locust Park—with ¼ remaining in D5; most of our East River Esplanade and Andrew Haswell Green Park Phase 1 & 2A—2B is under construction at this time. Phase 3 has not yet started and will likely cost \$25 Million dollars to complete. Will a Council Member in CD26 spend that kind of money for an area that represents only 27% of the voters in her/his District? Most of the funding will probably be spent in the Queens part of the district. **This would result in CD 5 having the least amount of Park space in NYC.**

We strongly recommend that you study and implement Community Board 8's resolution and plan, as it takes into account the number of residents in all the adjourning districts.

Our Neighborhood Association depends greatly on our Council Member and her office staff, which is easy to reach by a short bus ride. I strongly urge the New York City Districting Commission to reconsider this ill-conceived plan and not divide an indivisible and cohesive neighborhood.

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# TOBY AND JONATHAN SCHAFER

DATE: July 31, 2022  
TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission  
FROM: Toby and Jonathan Schaffer, [REDACTED] East 64th Street, Apt E6F, NYC, NY 10065  
RE: Redistricting a portion of NYC Council Manhattan District 5 to Queens District 26

EMAIL TO: PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov  
MAIL TO: Dennis M. Walcott, Chair NYC Districting Commission, 253 Broadway-4th Fl, NYC 10007

Good day Chair Walcott,

The plan presented for 54 blocks of the Upper East Side and Roosevelt Island is not acceptable to the residents of the East Sixties. We believe it violates the charter requirements of keeping neighborhoods compact and intact. This plan would make CD26 an oddly shaped district with practical difficulties: they are - would the Council Member have a district office in Manhattan as well as on Roosevelt Island; would the Council Member cover Community Board meetings in Board 8 & 6 and have full membership on both Borough Boards, and finally we believe this part of Community District 8 would have a diminution of representation. While other Districts have physical boundaries in more than one borough, they are directly adjacent to one another. They do not have a river separating them as in this proposed plan. The issues in CD26 are not the same as in CD5. There are several well-established neighborhood associations whose membership would be torn asunder.

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We strongly recommend that you study and implement Community Board 8's resolution and plan, as it takes into account the number of residents in all the adjoining districts.

Our Neighborhood Association depends greatly on our Council Member and her office staff, which is easy to reach by a short bus ride. I strongly urge the New York City Districting Commission to reconsider this ill-conceived plan and not divide an indivisible and cohesive neighborhood.

[REDACTED] EAST 64TH STREET, APT. E6F, NEW YORK CITY, NY 10065

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]