From: Ari Kagan > Sent: Friday, September 30, 2022 10:20 AM

To: Public Testimony
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Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd:

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Dear Members of NYC Districting Commission!

I am Council Member Ari Kagan, proudly representing the 47th District in Southern Brooklyn.

According to the City Charter, Council district lines should keep neighborhoods and communities of interest intact. They also should keep districts compact.

The last proposed map of the 47th District included Bay Ridge that is a part of the Community Board 10 - far away from Coney Island, Sea Gate, Warbasse, Beach Haven and Gravesend. I strongly disagreed with previously proposed lines of the 47th District. Bay Ridge, Fort Hamilton and Dyker Heights should not be included in the 47th District! These neighborhoods have very different demographics, issues and socioeconomic status. They are also located far away from Coney Island. I am very glad that the Commission rejected this plan. I am also very sympathetic to the idea of the newly proposed Asian American District in Brooklyn. But its shape should be determined without tearing down many neighboring communities.

The 47th Council District should unite Coney Island, Sea Gate and Warbasse Houses with neighboring communities. It should include Luna Park housing co-op and parts of Brighton Beach. These neighborhoods would be a natural part of the 47th District given the similar demographics, local issues, close proximity and their traditional inclusion into the same Community Board 13, the 60th Police Precinct, the 46th Assembly District, the 23rd State Senate District and the 8th Congressional District.

I strongly urge the Commission to include in the 47th District **parts of Brighton Beach**. This way new lines will naturally unite similar neighborhoods and communities of interest that historically were represented by the same local civic institutions, community groups and elected officials.

The 47th Council District should include parts of Brighton Beach, entire Coney Island, Sea Gate, Warbasse, Luna Park, Beach Haven, as well as parts of Gravesend, Bensonhurst and most of Bath Beach. See my proposed map of the 47th District below.

Thank you for your time and consideration..

Council Member Ari Kagan

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