

[REDACTED]

From: Shahbaz Wattoo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 7:44 PM
To: Public Testimony
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting 47 & 48

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My name is Muhammad Shahbaz and I have been a resident of CD 48 since 2008 and during this entire period of time we the Pakistani American Community/ Muslim American feel alienated because we as a community could not get any resources during this entire time.

We need to have similar benefits available to other communities. We need to have more opportunities to educate our children and provide opportunities to them so they become productive members of our combined communities.

Muslim American Community is often ignored or has no real political power in the 48th Council District where other communities are much larger. Including Brighton Beach (from Coney Island Avenue to Ocean Parkway) into the 47th Council District will dramatically increase the influence and role of the Muslim American community because it will unite Muslim Americans in Brighton Beach, Coney Island, Beach Haven, parts of Bensonhurst and Bath Beach.

In the current set up we are part of CD 48 and we are unable to get proper representation since we are not a large enough community. If our area of residence is included in CD 47 we will have much larger representation and we will have some say in the electoral process.

Sincerely,
Muhammad Shahbaz

[REDACTED]
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