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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2022 2:35 PM
To: Public Testimony
Subject: [EXTERNAL] IRNEL L. STEPHEN's Testimony about Re-Districting and 31st Councilmanic District

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My name is Irnel Stephen [I R N E L S T E P H E N]

Rosedale is my domiciled community..... I have lived in Rosedale since September 1974.... At that time and until the famous or infamous increase of the size of the City Council from less than 41 members to the present 52, the 113 th Precinct based in Rochdale Village covered Rosedale, Laurelton and most of Springfireld Gardens.

I am a long term Rosedale resident, seven times President and Board Chairperson of the Rosedale Civic Association currently Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the St Clare Catholic Academy, and actual Chairman Emeritus of the Rosedale Civic Association and Member of the Board of the Haitian-American Community Coalition, formerly the Haitian Centers Council.

Rosedale is the last suburban-like quaint community at the utmost South Eastern Queens section before the Green Acres Mall in Valley Stream of Nassau County .

It has the sole direct main land Queens vehicular link to the Lower Far Rockway area, and the only Evacuation Route in case of major Natural Disasters.

After the Sandy and related major Damages in Far Rockaway and some sections of mainland Queens, within the plans to prevent similar negative impacts for that region, a comprehensive study, design and architectural renderings of an **elevated road above current Brookville Blvd extension known as narrow "snake road" and sadly "official evacuation route"** were done.

Surprisingly, in spite of the "High Five" by the Governor and the State Legislative Leaders last April, and the "High Five" by Mayor Adams and the City Council Leadership recently. in both the State Budget and the City Budget there is no allocation of the needed joint funding to build the **necessary elevated road and real State Evacuation Route.**

The constituents of the 31st Councilmanic District are facing deadly dangers in any situation of Major Natural Disasters.... That district needs re-enforcement, not inutile breakup.

Rosedale and its smaller neighboring Brookville area were the home of the historic Idlewild Airport replaced in late 1950's and early 1960's by the now Worldwide known NY JFK International Airport. **PLEASE DO NOT DISRUPT THE 31st COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT.**

Yes, we suffer from the noise pollution of the air traffic, but we also must have for the Rosedale constituents and the neighboring residents the just social benefits including the jobs to keep their homes.

WHAT ARE THE BASIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ROSEDALE :

From its original Farm Community, modified later like Laurelton into part-time Summer Vacation Oasis, and in its present modern harmoniously integrated area (after the late 1960's and early 1970's troubling racial challenges) the Rosedale community is overwhelmingly **RESIDENTIAL** of mostly **HOME OWNERS**.....of primarily **ONE-FAMILY HOMES**, with reported **Average Median Income** similar to or slightly over **Laurelton's** .

The 116th Police Precinct actually in construction, when it is fully operational , will definitely cover Rosedale, Laurelton and the most eastern part of suitable neighboring community to be selected.

In conclusion, Rosedale, Laurelton. Springfield Gardens and the Lower Far Rockaway belong together and should remain together in one Councilmanic District.

PLEASE DO NOT DISRUPT THE HOMOGENEITY OF THE 31st NYC COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT

IRNEL STEPHEN
June 27, 2022