

July 7, 2022

## Public Testimony

I am writing to you as a business leader within the Rockaway Parkway Merchants Corridor Association. It is the wish of our association to be located within the 46<sup>th</sup> Council District and be united with the rest of Rockaway Parkway commercial corridor which serves the neighborhood of Canarsie.

Currently, our association is divided into two New York City Council district, the 46<sup>th</sup> (between Glenwood Road and Shore Parkway) and 42<sup>nd</sup> (between Avenue D and Glenwood Road). The representative of the 42<sup>nd</sup> district primarily serves the people of East New York and Brownsville, while the member representing the 46<sup>th</sup> district serves the vast majority of the Canarsie community where most of our customers reside, and the biggest share of our businesses are located.

To date since our merchant organizing efforts we launched in June 2020, we have not received any assistance from the 42<sup>nd</sup> district. We have tried to get their support but have not been successful. We have received support and assistance from the 46<sup>th</sup> district on our clean and green initiatives.

Access to the rest of the 42<sup>nd</sup> district is difficult for our merchants and patrons, and many of our businesses cater to the unique needs of Caribbean-American customers who primarily reside within the 46<sup>th</sup> Council District.

Therefore, I would like to reiterate our desire once again to be located within the 46<sup>th</sup> Council District, so our member businesses and majority of our shoppers can be all located within one united district.

Sincerely,  
Norine Medas