



Joseph M. DeStefano
Mayor

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City of Middletown

16 James Street, Middletown, New York 10940
Established 1888

May 3, 2022

Dr. Jonathan Cervas, Special Master
c/o Steuben County Supreme & County Court
3 East Pulteney Square
Bath, NY 14810

Dear Dr. Cervas,

We would like to express our strong and unified conviction that our mid-Hudson Valley cities of Middletown, Newburgh, and Beacon be grouped as communities of interest within a single Senate district.

Our three municipalities share more than just their former industrial pasts. They:

- I. Serve diverse populations of fewer than 30,000 residents;
- II. Are each undergoing significant revitalization of their economies, cultural centers, housing stock, and infrastructure;
- III. Are within comparable distances from New York City, forcing each community to navigate the pressures of upstate migration and gentrification;
- IV. Are proximate to and served by MTA commuter rail lines; and,
- V. Are directly linked within 30 miles along the I-84 corridor.

Furthermore, the cities of Beacon and Newburgh are directly connected by the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge and growing cross-river commuter ferry system, have been involved in ongoing talks surrounding new cross-river transportation initiatives, and both share the unbeatable commercial and recreational resource that is the Hudson River.

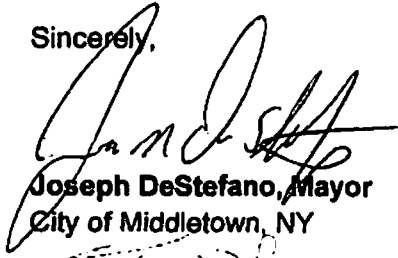
Simply put, the needs and experiences of our three cities are not unique. The state-level advocacy with which our needs are addressed should not be unique, either.

As legislative maps are finalized in coming weeks, we urge you, in your capacity as Special Master, to recognize the ways in which our three cities are inextricably tied, and the incalculable benefits of these three communities being served by a single voice in the upper chamber.

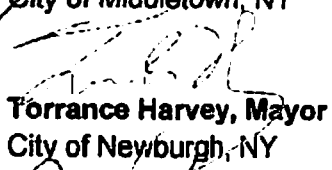
From advocating on behalf of our communities with DOT or MTA, to fighting for equitable spending in the state budget, to speaking out on development and other locally sensitive issues, we firmly believe our communities will receive much improved representation at the state level under a single State Senator, rather than three, as things currently stand.

We welcome any questions you may have, and we thank you for your service to New York State.

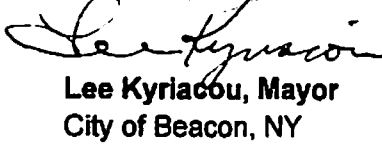
Sincerely,



Joseph DeStefano, Mayor
City of Middletown, NY



Torrance Harvey, Mayor
City of Newburgh, NY



Lee Kyriacou, Mayor
City of Beacon, NY