

Brenda A. Wise

From: Susan Bane <sbravello@mac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:06 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County / Draft Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of **Columbia County**, and the proposed changes would have disastrous consequences for our county. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map groups our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality or relationship. This is unprecedented and would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources.

Columbia County is located along the Hudson River in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and the Department of Economic Development has placed Columbia County in the Capital District. Under the proposed map, Columbia County would be isolated from both regions and be the only county in CD19 on the east side of the Hudson River. Columbia County should be part of a contiguous district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties. Based on current 2020 Census data, the combined populations of Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties would be 748,393 people, which is within the range of +/- 10 percent of the average congressional district.

Columbia County has been excised from its peers and placed in a congressional district that shares little in common administratively. Our judicial, assembly, and senate districts have little, if any, overlap with other counties included in the proposed CD19. Effective government requires coordination and collaboration. The proposed map diminishes Columbia County's political power.

Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties have a common history, developing major agricultural and industrial centers because of their proximity to the Hudson River. There is no such common history with counties located in the middle and western portions of New York State.

The five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a great resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher

poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and concerns.

Our proximity to New York City has created a rich, year-round arts community, with many artists, painters, dancers, musicians, actors, galleries, and antique stores that all create a destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to many exurban communities of Albany, not Ithaca or Binghamton. Columbia County is tethered economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map ignores these connections, and in doing so, denied our county of effective representation.

Please preserve Columbia County as a unified community of interest with our neighboring counties. We share similar agricultural, historic, artistic, and economic challenges and opportunities with Dutchess, Ulster, Rensselaer, and Greene Counties as part of the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake.

Very truly yours,

Susan Bane, MD
Claverack, NY

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Masha Zager <mashazager@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:04 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Comments on redistricting for Special Master

Dear Jonathan Cervas,

As residents and taxpayers of Greene County, NY, we are very upset about the newly defined redistricting map. Separating Columbia and Greene Counties neglects the history of our twin counties working together. Currently we share a hospital, community college, mental health resources, addiction recovery resources, and Cornell Cooperative Extension, to name a few services. We are a low-income and high-addiction-rate county. At the same time, we are rapidly growing due to the increased influx of residents into the Hudson Valley, of which Greene County is a vital part.

Greene County is also included in the description of the Capital Region - <https://esd.ny.gov/regionaloverviews/capital/insideregion.html>, which includes Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren, and Washington Counties. Multiple organizations exemplify this connection, including ACE Collective - Alliance for the Creative Economy (ACE), a project of the Center for Economic Growth (CEG). ACE is dedicated to promoting and growing the Creative Industries in the 8-county Capital Region - <https://www.upstatecreative.org>.

Our economic, social and tourist interaction with our longstanding partner, Columbia County, is exemplified by the name of our local Community College, Columbia-Greene Community College. This partnership is further emphasized by how many organizations are shared by the "Twin Counties" of Columbia County and Greene County.

While we are divided by the Hudson River, we share the responsibility for the estuaries and other environmental aspects of the shores of the Hudson River.

Separating Greene County from Columbia County, the Hudson River, and Capital Region, in any capacity, is unthinkable for Greene County residents. The Hudson Valley is a part of the Catskill Mountains, which is the heart of Greene County.

We understand that this process to redraw maps has had to happen quickly, but please do not discount the vital relationship between Columbia and Greene County, or our relationship to the Hudson Valley and the Capital Region. This is our home.

Please reconsider this map.

Thanks for your attention,

Masha Zager
Kim Graves

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Brenda A. Wise

From: E. Saunders <elsaunders8@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:08 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

As a 26 year resident of Columbia County, I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. The proposed changes make absolutely no sense for our county, which is located along the Hudson River to the West and the Massachusetts border to the east. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley region as well as other county neighbors to the north and west. Grouping our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality, would make it the ONLY county east of the Hudson to be left out of NY19. Based on current 2020 Census data, the combined populations of Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties would be 748,393 people, which is within the range of +/- 10 percent of the average congressional district.

The special master's map has placed ur county in a congressional district with which it has little in common administratively as evidenced by the absence of any connection to our longtime judicial, assembly, and senate districts in the newly proposed NY19 map. Effective government requires coordination and collaboration. The proposed map diminishes Columbia County's political power, and one can only think that either reflects a bias AGAINST our political make-up or a POOR UNDERSTANDING of our economy and culture.

Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties have a common history, developing major agricultural and industrial centers because of their proximity to the Hudson River. There is no such common history with counties located in the middle and western portions of New York State.

The five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a great resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and pportunities.

Our proximity to New York City has created a rich, year-round arts community, with many artists,

painters, dancers, musicians, actors, galleries, and antique stores that all create a destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to many exurban communities of Albany, not Ithaca or Binghamton. Columbia County is tethered economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map ignores these connections, and in doing so, denies our county of effective representation.

Please preserve Columbia County as a unified community of interest with our neighboring counties. We share similar agricultural, historic, artistic, and economic challenges and opportunities with Dutchess, Ulster, Rensselaer, and Greene Counties as part of the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake.

Very truly yours,

Eleanor Saunders
28 Upper Hollow Rd
Hillsdale, NY 12529

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Rebecca Stowe <bstowe100@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:09 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of Columbia County, and the proposed changes would have disastrous consequences for our county. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map groups our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality or relationship. This is unprecedented and would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources.

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Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake.

Very truly yours,
Rebecca Stowe

Please excuse typos and enjoy auto-corrections

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Brenda A. Wise

From: kirsten everberg <keverberg@mac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:09 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

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Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake.

Very truly yours,
Kirsten Everberg
Columbia County
12050

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Pamela Wood <nypwood@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:10 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting map for NY State

To whom it may concern,

I currently live in Rep. Nadler's district, and was very disturbed to learn that the district map has been redrawn to a square that takes in a large piece of Rep. Maloney's district on the Eastside. I have lived on the Upper Westside in some variation of my Congressional district for 56 years. Never have I experienced such a bizarre redistricting on that level.

I have two concerns about the shape of this district. First, the Eastside and the Westside have very different cultures, concerns and perspectives. Secondly, the map pits two experienced and capable representatives against each other. How is that useful for our democracy?

I am frankly appalled at the new maps. I have since learned that in many other districts, the same effect of having current representatives needing to run against each other for a seat. In addition, districts with similar concerns have been chopped up. I do recognize there was some gerrymandering, especially with regard to Staten Island and Long Island. Was there another way to handle this problem than by a total redistricting for the entire state? The person who did the new map either is not really knowledgeable about NY State or has an agenda of his own.

These maps are not going to increase public trust in our political process, already at a low subsequent to the 2020 election. In addition, August primaries are going to reduce political participation to a low level. This process has diminished my trust in the system.

I have found the technology of the redistricting map to be challenging. I have not located a map that shows the State Senate map. So I don't have a comment on that, except to say, why isn't that more available? It would be hard to come up with a State Senate district map any odder than the one in which I currently reside. Senator Serrano=East Bronx, East Harlem, Roosevelt Island and a chunk of the Upper Westside. I do hope that at least will be improved.

Sincerely,

Pamela Wood
252 West 76 Street
New York, NY 10023

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Brenda A. Wise

From: john liebmann <jliebmann9@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:11 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Congressional Redistricting and Maps in NY State

The revised maps that were presented recently threaten to make matters worse, not better, for New York State voters. Responding to a Court decision finding partisan intent in redrawing Congressional districts, this iteration appears to not account for communities of interest and, in the process, has the potential to sow confusion, cynicism and alienation.

For example, In Lower Westchester and the Bronx, two new Congresspersons, just beginning their public service, would be forced to run against each other rather in their own districts. Each won hard fought elections several years ago which I followed at the time. Both are people of color. It is inconceivable to me that this situation where they would now occupy the same district would be the outcome of a redistricting process.

More work is needed to ensure that the democratic process in NY State can proceed in a fair, and not just expedient, way. New York State needs to take the time to get this right. Thank you

Sincerely,

John Liebmann
39-38 48th Street
Sunnyside, NY 11104

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Nancy Craine <ncraine@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:12 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Cayuga County

Please place Cayuga County in a CNY and Finger lakes district.

Thank you,

Nancy Craine

Cayuga County resident entire life

Sent from my iPad

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Jo-Anne Williams <jrbilotti@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:12 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

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Columbia County has been excised from its peers and placed in a congressional district that shares little in common administratively.

Thank you for your time!
Jo-Anne Williams

Sent from Mail for Windows

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Suzanne Burger <suzanne@drsburger.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:12 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: New District Map

To Whom It May Concern,

I am deeply upset with the newly proposed, newly drawn Congressional map and urge a return to the map that existed prior to this year. I worked hard to help my Congressman, Mondaire Jones, be elected in 2020. I am a resident of White Plains and have been very happy with his work in D.C. I would hate to lose him as I would, based on this new map, be moved to the 16th Congressional District.

I also feel that this newly drawn map shifts too much in the direction of favoring GOP candidates. It does not seem to reflect the New York that I know. Even if the lines drawn up by the Democrats are thrown out, please consider staying with what had worked for many election cycles.

Best,
Suzanne
66 Stratford Avenue
White Plains, NY 10605

Brenda A. Wise

From: Philip Turner <philipsturner@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:12 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Re: Redistricting in NYS

Dear Judge McAllister,

As a voter in New York City and State, I am writing to object to the proposed redistricting map put forward by Special Master Jonathan Cervas. If adopted, the maps would interfere with the rights of representation of many minority communities. Mr Dervas has shown more interest in preserving geographic continuity than true democratic representation. I hope you will disallow the proposed map and find a better way to accomplish redistricting.

Thank you,

Philip Turner
315 W. 102nd Street
#4B
NY NY 10025
917-293-0901

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Ramond Lin <ramondlin542@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:13 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Congressional Map - Western NY

To whom it may concern,

I believe that this map is deeply disappointing for upstate communities. The issues I have with upstate New York is that it divides metro areas as defined by the Census Bureau. Western New York's metro has been divided, dividing communities of interest. Buffalo's metro area historically has been a strong interconnected region, emanating from the city. However, under the proposed plan, the metro area has been divided between North and South, and CD-26 includes all of rural Niagara County. This dilutes the voices of both rural, urban, and suburban communities in both CD-26 and CD-23. I would move CD-26 to a least scenario from the past map, with the addition of the town of Niagara and the town of Wheatfield. My proposed CD-23 taking over the rest of Erie and Wyoming Counties, with the towns of Jerusalem and Starkey included from Yates Counties. The rest of Niagara County should be taken by CD-24. In addition, I would remove CD-25 from Orleans County, which is not a suburban community to the city of Rochester as shown in its Metropolitan Planning area. I would instead include the town of Victor in Ontario County, which has shown to be an outlying community that has a bus service into Rochester. Doing this switch is almost equal in population, so no additional changes are necessary. Thank you for listening to my congressional map proposals and comments.

From,
Ramond

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Cheryl Lasher <cheryl.lasher@risse-albany.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:13 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

Please keep Amsterdam and Saratoga together with Albany/Schenectady/Troy in the same congressional district. They have so much more in common with other cities than the very rural Adirondack districts. Saratoga is officially part of the federal SMSA so there is no reason to separate it. Amsterdam is working on the same issues of employment, immigration, English as Next Language, and so much more as the Tri-Cities.

Cheryl Lasher
57 Homestead St.
Albany, NY 12203

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Paul Gregory <paul.gregory@fandgarch.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:14 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: RE CD 19 Proposed District Map
Attachments: Letter Re CD 19 4-18-22.pdf

att

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*****PLEASE NOTE*****

SEND ALL FURTHER E-MAIL MESSAGES TO

PAUL.GREGORY@FANDGARCH.COM

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SPECIAL MASTER – REDISTRICTING NEW YORK

May 18, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of **Columbia County**, Hillsdale, NY. The proposed changes would, if allowed to stand, separate Columbia County from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map combines Columbia County with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which we have no commonality or relationship. The proposed change to Congressional District 19 though geometrically consistent, would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources.

Columbia County is located along the Hudson River in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and the Department of Economic Development has placed Columbia County in the Capital District. Under the proposed map, Columbia County would be isolated from both these regions and be the only county in CD19 on the east side of the Hudson River. Columbia County should be part of a contiguous district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties. Based on current 2020 Census data, the combined populations of Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties would be 748,393 people. This is within the range of +/- 10 percent of the average congressional district.

Columbia County has no judicial, assembly, and/or senate districts which overlap with other counties included in the proposed CD19. Effective government requires coordination and collaboration. The proposed map diminishes Columbia County's political power and its ability to govern effectively.

Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties have a common history, that resulted in major agricultural and industrial centers because of their proximity to the Hudson River. There is no such common history with counties located in the middle and western portions of New York State.

The five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and concerns.

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destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to the many exurban communities of Albany. Columbia County is tethered economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north and south not to Ithaca or Binghamton. The proposed map ignores these connections, and in doing so, denies our county effective representation.

Please preserve Columbia County as a unified community of interest with our neighboring counties. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to be fairly represented in Congress. The proposed CD19 would have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region. We urge you to reconsider the proposed CD 19.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Gregory". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" and last name "Gregory" clearly distinguishable.

Paul Gregory

44 Stagecoach Road

Hillsdale, NY 12529

Brenda A. Wise

From: Betty Braton <ebraton@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:16 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Proposed State Senate District 15
Attachments: Letter re proposed SD15.pdf

Dear Sirs,
Please see the attached letter which constitutes my comment in regard to the proposed map for State Senate District 15 map promulgated by the court's Special Master that was released on 5/16/22.
Betty Braton

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Betty Braton
159-54 95 St.
Howard Beach, NY 11414
(917 566 5592)
EBraton@aol.com

May 18, 2022

Hon. Justice Patrick McAllister
Special Master Jonathan Cervas
Dear Justice McAllister & Special Master Cervas:

I am writing to you in an effort to point out to you some of my community's concerns about the draft State Senate District maps that were released on Monday, May 16, 2022. It is my understanding that they are to be finalized on May 20, 2022. I am and have been a registered voter at the above address since 1966. I have experienced the negative impact reapportionment can have on a community when its representation is diluted by dividing communities at various times during the years since. Residents of Howard Beach have been split between different Congressional Districts and different State Senate Districts at various times.

Although I am writing this letter as an individual and am expressing my own views, I do believe most of my neighbors in Howard Beach would agree with the points I am expressing. To put that statement into a context for you I am the Chairperson of NYC Queens Community Board 10. I have chaired that Board since 1990. I have been an active community resident in Howard Beach for over a half century and have served in various capacities in many community organizations all throughout that time on a myriad of civic concerns and issues. I have considerable experience in gathering then understanding and evaluating the views and opinions of my 25,000+ neighbors.

The version of the maps that I have been able to view online are very difficult to read from a geographical perspective although there is considerable information with them from a demographic perspective. My comments that follow are based on geography and how geography creates communities of interest and defines communities beyond their racial, ethnic, religious, partisan, and other demographic indicators.

I am respectfully requesting that you look at the map for State Senate District 15 that was in effect following the 2010 Census until now and the proposed map for Senate District 15 released yesterday and make some changes to it that will undo what will cause a disservice to the people who reside in the geographical area defined by the postal geographical zip code area known as 11414. This zip code area is located in Southwest Queens and encompasses in full the NYC Queens community known as Howard Beach. **Specifically, I request that you return all of the census blocks located within Census Tracts 62.01, 62.02, 884, and 892 that now appear to be being removed from SD 15 to it so that our entire community is kept intact and whole in the same district with communities to our north with which we have shared interests and community connections.**

All of NYC is, in a general sense, a collection of communities each with their own identities and shared interests. While community boundaries may not be always legally defined within NYC as they are in the rest of the state, all NYC residents also live in individual geographical communities with shared interests.

In NYS there appear to be 1,782 zip code geographies, about 1,580 of them are outside of NYC. About 200 of them are within NYC. All of the zip codes outside of NYC are identified by their community post office names. That is not the case within NYC. In NYC, mail going to anywhere in New York County is addressed to Manhattan, NY zip code whatever. Mail going to Bronx County is addressed to Bronx, NY zipcode whatever. Kings County and Richmond County mail addresses follow suit addressed to Brooklyn, NY and Staten Island, NY.

That is not the case in Queens County. Here in Queens our people identify their communities by their individual community names for the purposes of addresses and mail. That is how we in Queens identify our neighborhoods. Historically, from the time zip codes first came in to use there have been some pitched community battles over the ensuing years with the Post Office anytime any efforts were made to alter how we identify where we live and define our neighborhoods. The chart below shows how the Queens zip codes identify our communities.

Zip Code	City	County	Population	Zip Code	City	County	Population
11368	Corona	Queens County	112088	11101	Long Island City	Queens County	31366
11385	Ridgewood	Queens County	107796	11417	Ozone Park	Queens County	31321
11373	Elmhurst	Queens County	94437	11423	Hollis	Queens County	30104
11377	Woodside	Queens County	83825	11102	Astoria	Queens County	29747
11355	Flushing	Queens County	80967	11414	Howard Beach	Queens County	28313
11375	Forest Hills	Queens County	73034	11429	Queens Village	Queens County	27454
11691	Far Rockaway	Queens County	68543	11361	Bayside	Queens County	27201
11434	Jamaica	Queens County	64304	11416	Ozone Park	Queens County	26744
11437	Jamaica	Queens County	64299	11104	Sunnyside	Queens County	25114
11372	Jackson Heights	Queens County	62854	11427	Queens Village	Queens County	24560
11435	Jamaica	Queens County	59605	11356	College Point	Queens County	23494
11354	Flushing	Queens County	53684	11592	Arverne	Queens County	22074
11419	South Richmond Hill	Queens County	48369	11694	Rockaway Park	Queens County	21202
11420	South Ozone Park	Queens County	47470	11411	Cambria Heights	Queens County	20719
11365	Fresh Meadows	Queens County	44738	11426	Bellerose	Queens County	20524
11374	Rego Park	Queens County	43507	11436	Jamaica	Queens County	19167
11413	Springfield Gardens	Queens County	41650	11360	Bayside	Queens County	18954
11421	Woodhaven	Queens County	41251	11415	Kew Gardens	Queens County	18891
11367	Flushing	Queens County	41207	11428	Queens Village	Queens County	18836
11357	Whitestone	Queens County	39407	11362	Little Neck	Queens County	18343
11378	Maspeth	Queens County	38524	11004	Glen Oaks	Queens County	15028
11418	Richmond Hill	Queens County	38405	11366	Fresh Meadows	Queens County	14360
11379	Middle Village	Queens County	37991	11693	Far Rockaway	Queens County	12944
11417	Saint Albans	Queens County	37857	11363	Little Neck	Queens County	7096
11106	Astoria	Queens County	37690	11109	Long Island City	Queens County	5980
11433	Jamaica	Queens County	37021	11697	Breezy Point	Queens County	3674
11105	Astoria	Queens County	36983	11005	Floral Park	Queens County	1759
11358	Flushing	Queens County	36515	11430	Jamaica	Queens County	206
11364	Oakland Gardens	Queens County	36215	11451	Jamaica	Queens County	no pop
11103	Astoria	Queens County	35995	11425	Jamaica	Queens County	no pop
11422	Rosedale	Queens County	32761	11424	Jamaica	Queens County	no pop
11370	East Elmhurst	Queens County	31580	11371	Flushing	Queens County	no pop
11369	East Elmhurst	Queens County	31481	11359	Bayside	Queens County	no pop
				11351	Flushing	Queens County	no pop



It makes no sense to remove almost all of 11414 from SD15. **It makes no sense to place parts of one community of 27,000 people into 3 different Senate Districts without any understanding of the impact on the people who live in those pieces that have been divided one from another.**

I offer the following information to help you understand what I mean. Next month our Howard Beach community comprised of all of 11414 will be celebrating our community's 125th Anniversary. It is geography that has shaped us since our community's very beginnings.

The origins of Howard Beach can be traced to four key 19th century ingredients that converged in 1897.

1. The attractiveness of Hawtree Creek and its environs.
2. Construction of the Long Island Railroad line across the creek and Jamaica Bay to Rockaway.
3. The arrival of William J. Howard, the founder and namesake of Howard Beach.
4. The incorporation of Queens towns and villages into NYC.

Howard Beach is a middle class suburban neighborhood in Southwestern Queens. Howard Beach was established in the 1890's by William J. Howard. Howard was a Brooklyn glove manufacturer who had goat farms in Queens. He formed the Howard Estates Development Company in 1909, and by 1914 Howard transformed a farm into a small neighborhood (on land presently part of the airport). That area was east of present-day Crossbay Blvd. and Shellbank Basin and Hawtree Basin. East of Hawtree Basin was Hamilton Beach, a current-day small subsection of Howard Beach which had its beginnings also as a fishing community.

Mr. Howard operated a 150 acre goat farm on meadow land near current-day Aqueduct Racetrack/Resorts World Casino. In 1897, he bought more land west of what today is the rail line and filled it in. The following year he built 18 cottages and opened a hotel near the water, which he operated until it was destroyed by fire in October 1907. He gradually bought more land and formed the Howard Estates Development Company in 1909. He then dredged and with the material dredged to create Shellbank Basin and Cross Bay Blvd. filled the land until he was able to accumulate 500 acres by 1914. He laid out several streets, water mains and gas mains, and built houses.

The Long Island Rail Road established a station named Ramblersville in 1905 and a Post Office by the same name opened soon thereafter. A casino, beach, and fishing pier were added in 1915 and the name of the neighborhood was changed to Howard Beach on April 6, 1916.

Entity Details

ENTITY NAME: HOWARD BEACH ASSOCIATION, INC.	DO# ID: 13515
FOREIGN LEGAL NAME:	FICTITIOUS NAME:
ENTITY TYPE: DOMESTIC, NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION	DURATION DATE/LATEST DATE OF DISSOLUTION:
SECTION OF LAW:	ENTITY STATUS: ACTIVE
DATE OF INITIAL DO# FILING: 02/08/1916	REASON FOR STATUS:
EFFECTIVE DATE INITIAL FILING: 02/08/1916	INACTIVE DATE:
FOREIGN FORMATION DATE:	STATEMENT STATUS: NOT REQUIRED
COUNTY: NEW YORK	NEXT STATEMENT DUE DATE:
JURISDICTION: NEW YORK, UNITED STATES	NFP CATEGORY: NON-CHARITABLE

On February 8, 1916 this corporation was formed. To my understanding from records of it I have seen and read, it was formed to manage some of the aspects of Howard Estates which was at its inception a private community. After that ended the organization morphed into the community's civic

association. It functioned as such until the mid 1990s when it ceased meeting as there were other organizations all involved in the same public civic activity. I am the last person who served as its elected president. I was its president from the mid 1970s until the mid 1990s.

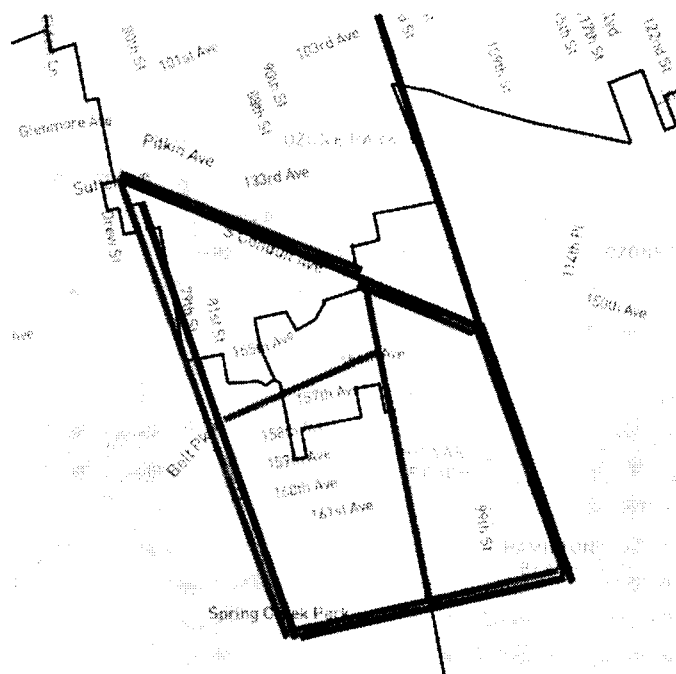
Howard Beach's development continued through the early 1900s, but was limited to the areas east of Cross Bay Boulevard near the LIRR station that is today a subway station. Collectively, that area and Hamilton Beach are commonly referred to as "old" Howard Beach. The rest of what is today's Howard Beach consisted mostly of empty marsh land.

After World War II, Queens went through a major suburban building boom leading to the marsh land west of Cross Bay Boulevard to be filled in. This led to the development of many more homes. This area is now known collectively as "'new" Howard Beach." In the early 1950s, farm land to its north was developed with the building of more homes. The area continued to be developed through the 1960s and 1970s as Cross Bay Boulevard became the area's main shopping district.

The distinctions between "Hamilton", "Old" or "New", or Lindenwood within our should lead no one to conclude Howard Beach as a whole is not one community with a shared history, shared interests and a strong sense of community identity. Those distinctions are in their essence nothing more than our community vernacular to tell each other and those from other neighborhoods where our home is geographically located.

There are 3 public schools and 1 parochial school in Howard Beach along with various pre-schools. There are children in each of them from all parts of the community. There are 2 Catholic Parishes that serve us. Parts of their geographies crisscross the whole area. There are 3 Jewish congregations and they all have congregants from all parts of the community as do the 2 Protestant churches located with our community. Currently we have a small but growing Muslim population served by mosques in neighboring Ozone Park. It would not surprise me that sometime in the near future our faith community will grow to accomodate it here.

I mention our homes, schools and churches as they are together one of the major factors that unite all of us in Howard Beach as one community with one very major shared interest to stay as a whole zip code within the same borough, the same state legislative districts, and the same NYC council district. Virtually all of the zip code 11414 area was devastated in 2012 by Superstorm Sandy. Almost all of our homes, all of our schools, and churches and most importantly about 20,000 of our people were severely impacted. There are numerous needs still unmet as we work together as a community with our representatives on all of the necessary resiliency efforts to insure our community's very existence in the future. Chopping our community up in a manner that requires us to deal on very complicated matters with additional public offices and officials will complicate further our efforts. Chopping our community up between districts impacted us badly on many less serious issues in the years before 2012 when a prior redistricting put portions of it in different districts and even different boroughs. We do understand that the size of Congressional Districts may at times neccessitate that. However, the size of a State Senate district in our view does not neccessitate chopping up our community. In the case of the proposed SD15 even the nature of that chopping shows no regard for our community and our people's sense of history, place, and community and our needs.



This is what the special master's map has generated for us. The red line is the outline of zip code 11414. The blue line just represents the rail line as it goes north of us. The 3 polygons outlined in green show how our community situated fully within a single zip code with a population of less than 30,000 people is chopped up to be in 3 different State Senate districts, 1 which is in a different county.

It is unconscionable and wrong, I respectfully ask that you do not approve the proposed SD15 unless adjustments are made that keep all of our community intact and within the 15th SD together with the communities to our north with which we have long-standing ties and numerous shared interests rather than to put most of our people into differing districts to our east and west where we have not shared interests or community ties and where there are significant geographical barriers.

I urge you to ensure that all blocks and block groups within the following 31 Census Tracts all located in Queens that have all been in SD15 for the last decade remain in SD15. The

4 tract numbers in red are the 4 populated Howard Beach tracts.

Tracts 12, 44.01, 62.02, 884.6, 18, 40.02, 2, 4, 14, 16, 8, 10, 20, 22, 30, 32, 34, 36, 50, 38, 40.01, 42, 52, 54, 58, 62.01, 86, 88, 641.01, 892.01.



The map below depicts them and clearly shows they are geographically compact and contiguous. Any look at the collective demographic data for them will show that it is a diverse area in keeping with the overall diversity found in Queens and it would comprise a very sensible southern segment for SD15.

The total Population of the census blocks shown within these 31 Tracts is approximately 113,700
 White 25.7% Black 7.7%
 Asian 19.8% Hispanic 43.5%
 All Other 6.3%

Total Minority Population 74.3%
 Approximately 38.5 thousand housing units
 46.5% of which are 1 & 2 family homes

59.2% of which are 4 family or less units with the majority of the total housing units having been constructed pre-1950

All are within 4 zip codes (Howard Beach 11414; Ozone Park 11417; Ozone Park North 11416; Woodhaven 11421)

The northern boundary is the Forest Park corridor, the eastern boundary is the rail line, the southern boundary is the north shore of Jamaica Bay, and the western boundary is the Queens/Kings County line.

Any population adjustments necessary would be possible by reexamining the outlying edges of the

northern segment of SD15.

I realize this letter is lengthy and I urge you most strongly to consider favorably the various points I have tried to make as sufficient grounds to alter what is proposed to be the new SD15 to include all of Howard Beach 11414 into it.

Very truly yours,
Betty Braton

Betty Braton

Brenda A. Wise

From: Lisa Raymond-Tolan <liliraytolan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:16 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: New maps

I am horrified by these new district maps - they throw our voting process into disarray, undermine the voting power of Black New Yorkers and pit Democrat incumbents needlessly against each other.

I urge you to reconsider.

Lisa Raymond Tolan
Brooklyn

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Gloria <glorfran1@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:18 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep 2 Senators for City of Syracuse

Please keep 2 Senators for the City of Syracuse!!

Gloria Francisco

Sent from my iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Ellen Goldner <ellenguja12@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:18 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of **Columbia County**, and the proposed changes would have disastrous consequences for our county. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map groups our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality or relationship. This is unprecedented and would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources.

Columbia County is located along the Hudson River in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and the Department of Economic Development has placed Columbia County in the Capital District. Under the proposed map, Columbia County would be isolated from both regions and be the only county in CD19 on the east side of the Hudson River. Columbia County should be part of a contiguous district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties. Based on current 2020 Census data, the combined populations of Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and

Greene Counties would be 748,393 people, which is within the range of +/- 10 percent of the average congressional district.

Columbia County has been excised from its peers and placed in a congressional district that shares little in common administratively. Our judicial, assembly, and senate districts have little, if any, overlap with other counties included in the proposed CD19. Effective government requires coordination and collaboration. The proposed map diminishes Columbia County's political power.

Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties have a common history, developing major agricultural and industrial centers because of their proximity to the Hudson River. There is no such common history with counties located in the middle and western portions of New York State.

The five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a great resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and concerns.

Our proximity to New York City has created a rich, year-round arts community, with many artists, painters, dancers, musicians, actors, galleries, and antique stores that all create a destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to many exurban communities of

Albany, not Ithaca or Binghamton. Columbia County is tethered economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map ignores these connections, and in doing so, denied our county of effective representation.



Please preserve Columbia County as a unified community of interest with our neighboring counties. We share similar agricultural, historic, artistic, and economic challenges and opportunities with Dutchess, Ulster, Rensselaer, and Greene Counties as part of the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake.

Very truly yours,

Ellen Goldner

80 Crestview Drive

Valatie, NY 12184

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Melina Carnicelli <mcarnice@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:19 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: include AUBURN and Cayuga Cty in CNY district

As former Mayor of Auburn, I strongly urge Auburn, NY be included in the CNY region in the State Senate district map! Auburn is part of the Syracuse MSA and CNY/Finger Lakes region IS our geographic identity. I urge this change because adequate representation, affiliation to our regional economic partners, and historical identity matter.

Sincerely,

Melina Carnicelli, Former Mayor
Auburn, New York
315 277 0271

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Sheri Donley <skrise3@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:19 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Voter district maps

Dear Honorable McAllister:

Please be advised that I do not support any maps that would violate the New York State Constitution. The gerrymandered maps are completely unacceptable, regardless of favored party affiliation.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the representation of all New York State voters.

Sincerely,
Sheri Donley

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Susan Richardson <sarocket42@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:19 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

As a longtime (nearly 60 year) resident of Saratoga Springs and Albany, I can speak personally to the strong connection among all the cities and contiguous communities of the Capital Region. As well, I have worked in the cities of Troy, Saratoga Springs, Menands, and Albany for extended periods of time, regularly traveling among them for both work and entertainment. We are one strongly connected community; culturally, civically, and politically, as well as in our work lives. The strength of our connection is demonstrated by our long-established designation as the Capital District and Region. It would be a severe disservice this area and its residents to split the long-existing 20th district at all, and supremely so as proposed by the redistricting proposed by the Court-appointed Special Master.

Please reconsider this plan and ensure that the 20th Congressional District will be maintained as it has been.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of this appeal.
Susan Richardson
75 Brookline Ave
Albany, NY 12203

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Rena Blumenthal <renablumenthal@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:20 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep all of Kingston in the same district!

Dear Judge McCallister,

I am writing to ask that you reconsider splitting the city of Kingston, NY, in Ulster County, into two separate Congressional Districts.

Kingston has a poverty rate of almost 20%, one of the highest in the Hudson Valley. For residents who depend on common governance, municipal services and institutions, being split into two different districts will clearly become a problem. And since Members of Congress don't have to live in the district they represent, this vulnerable urban community could easily end up being represented by two people who don't even live in their district.

Please put the City of Kingston back together again by putting all of it into District 18.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,
Rena Blumenthal
New Paltz, New York

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Brenda A. Wise

From: David King <david.kingxvi@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:20 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Greene County Proposed NYS district map

This is completely outrageous and wrong. Greene County has been purposely sectioned off and cut off from its logical demographic and geographic area — Greene County is part of the Hudson Valley — notice that it is the **ONLY** county treated this way.

I have been a resident of the village of Catskill since 2003.

Greene County needs to stay connected and be part of Columbia County, with which it shares so much infrastructure, with many people working in Columbia County.

David King
Catskill

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Jaime Alicea <jaliceasyr@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:22 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Proposed NY Senate Districts

Good afternoon,

I'm writing as a resident of the city of Syracuse to oppose the proposed NY adémate Districts. As a city we need to continue to have two senators representing the city. This will be advantageous for the residents of the city.

Sincerely,
Jaime

Sent from my iPhone

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Theresa Piraino <tml41dmb@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:24 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep two senators for City of Syracuse

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a city resident and wish to convey my opposition to the re-districting plan making Senator May the sole representative in the city. Syracuse is large enough and has a multitude of need which would benefit from the advocacy of two senators representing its residents and businesses. Please consider keeping both May and Mannion to represent the city of Syracuse.

Thank you!

Theresa Piraino

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Bart Thibadeau <bartthib@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:26 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of Columbia County, and the proposed changes would have disastrous consequences for our county. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map groups our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality or relationship. This is unprecedented and would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources.

Columbia County is located along the Hudson River in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and the Department of Economic Development has placed Columbia County in the Capital District. Under the proposed map, Columbia County would be isolated from both regions and be the only county in CD19 on the east side of the Hudson River. Columbia County should be part of a contiguous district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties. Based on current 2020 Census data, the combined populations of Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties would be 748,393 people, which is within the range of +/- 10 percent of the average congressional district.

Columbia County has been excised from its peers and placed in a congressional district that shares little in common administratively. Our judicial, assembly, and senate districts have little, if any, overlap with other counties included in the proposed CD19. Effective government requires coordination and collaboration. The proposed map diminishes Columbia County's political power.

Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties have a common history, developing major agricultural and industrial centers because of their proximity to the Hudson River. There is no such common history with counties located in the middle and western portions of New York State.

The five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a great resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and concerns.

Our proximity to New York City has created a rich, year-round arts community, with many artists, painters, dancers, musicians, actors, galleries, and antique stores that all create a destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to many exurban communities of Albany, not Ithaca or Binghamton. Columbia County is tethered economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map ignores these connections, and in doing so, denied our county of effective representation.

Please preserve Columbia County as a unified community of interest with our neighboring counties. We share similar agricultural, historic, artistic, and economic challenges and opportunities with Dutchess, Ulster, Rensselaer, and Greene Counties as part of the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake.

Very truly yours,

Sent from my iPad

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Judith DAILEY <juditd160@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:28 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise

I am so disappointed that Lydia's is being relocated after all the years of trust and respectful service to the community 🙄 of loyal friendship and filling the needs of our neighbors we are so hurt by this slap in the face.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Aisha D. <aishaslp@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:29 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: The Redistricting is unjust!

My name is Aisha Demosthenes

As a Member of the historic Lakeview, NY (11552/11570) community I am making a plea that Lakeview be kept in one district. We are a predominantly black community with a rich history that needs to be respected and maintained. I feel the newly drawn lines are intended to divide us and our votes. This will have catastrophic effects on our community during elections. I demand immediate action. Please reconsider the lines immediately

~Aisha D.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Claire Parde <CParde@columbiahealthnet.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:30 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Comment on proposed State Senate Redistricting map

Good afternoon:

I hope this message finds you well.

I am writing to offer a comment regarding the proposed State Senate redistricting map. Specifically, I would like to remark upon the proposal to split Columbia and Greene Counties into two Senate districts, lumping Greene County with the Southern Tier.

Greene County does not currently, and never has identified with the Southern Tier. In fact, it has little relationship with even our closest neighbors in that region, Delaware and Schoharie Counties (this is likely a function of topography, as the Catskill Mountains make travel to even these adjacent counties difficult). Instead, Greene County has and continues to be closely aligned with Columbia County, its neighbor immediately to the east; while the Hudson River divides the two, they are connected by the Rip Van Winkle Bridge, which greatly facilitates travel, trade, and other types of exchange. Often referred to as "the Twin Counties," Columbia and Greene Counties share major healthcare and educational institutions, such as Columbia Memorial Health (including its acute-care facility, Columbia Memorial Hospital, and network of primary and specialty healthcare providers) and Columbia-Greene Community College; even cultural institutions, such as Olana State Historic Site (in Columbia County) and the Thomas Cole House (in Greene County) collaborate and are now linked by the Hudson River School Art Trail (<https://www.hudsonriverschool.org/hudsonriverschoolarttrail>). Moreover, there are numerous private, not-for-profit organizations that serve residents of both counties. An incomplete list follows:

- The Mental Health Association of Columbia Greene
- Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia Greene
- Catholic Charities of Columbia Greene
- Twin County Recovery Services (the Twin Counties' sole OASAS-licensed treatment provider)
- And my own organization, the Healthcare Consortium

Historical, cultural, friendly, familial, and professional relationships regularly cross county lines. For these reasons, I believe that Columbia and Greene Counties should remain in the same State Senate district.

Thank you for your consideration of this comment.

Regards,
Claire Parde
Executive Director
The Healthcare Consortium
325 Columbia St Suite 200
Hudson NY 12534
Office: 518.822.8820
Cell: 518.751.6509
Fax: 518.828.1479
cparde@columbiahealthnet.org
www.columbiahealthnet.org



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Brenda A. Wise

From: gail giles <ggiles63@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:30 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of Columbia County, and the proposed changes would have disastrous consequences for our county. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map groups our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality or relationship. This is unprecedented and would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources.

Columbia County is located along the Hudson River in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and the Department of Economic Development has placed Columbia County in the Capital District. Under the proposed map, Columbia County would be isolated from both regions and be the only county in CD19 on the east side of the Hudson River. Columbia County should be part of a contiguous district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties. Based on current 2020 Census data, the combined populations of Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties would be 748,393 people, which is within the range of +/- 10 percent of the average congressional district.

Columbia County has been excised from its peers and placed in a congressional district that shares little in common administratively. Our judicial, assembly, and senate districts have little, if any, overlap with other counties included in the proposed CD19. Effective government requires coordination and collaboration. The proposed map diminishes Columbia County's political power.

Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties have a common history, developing major agricultural and industrial centers because of their proximity to the Hudson River. There is no such common history with counties located in the middle and western portions of New York State.

The five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a great resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and concerns.

Our proximity to New York City has created a rich, year-round arts community, with many artists, painters, dancers, musicians, actors, galleries, and antique stores that all create a destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to many exurban communities of Albany, not Ithaca or Binghamton. Columbia County is tethered economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map ignores these connections, and in doing so, denied our county of effective representation.

Please preserve Columbia County as a unified community of interest with our neighboring counties. We share similar agricultural, historic, artistic, and economic challenges and opportunities with Dutchess, Ulster, Rensselaer, and Greene

Counties as part of the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake.

Very truly yours,

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Maureen Byrne <mbyrne222222@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:24 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: District Maps

Dear Jonathan Cervas,

As a resident and taxpayer of Greene County, NY, I am very upset about the newly defined redistricting map. Separating Columbia and Greene Counties is very inefficient, and neglects the history of our twin counties working together. Currently we share a hospital, community college, mental health resources, addiction recovery resources, and Cornell Cooperative Extension, to name a few. We are already a low income and high addiction county, historically in the low ranking numbers of the state in poverty. Though we are rapidly growing due to the increased influx into the Hudson Valley of Upstate NY, of which Greene County is a vital part. Please reconsider this map.

Greene County is also included in the description of the Capital Region

- <https://esd.ny.gov/regionaloverviews/capital/insideregion.html> - which includes Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren, and Washington Counties. Multiple organizations exemplify this connection, including ACE Collective - Alliance for the Creative Economy (ACE), a project of the Center for Economic Growth (CEG). ACE is dedicated to promoting and growing the Creative Industries in the 8-county Capital Region - <https://www.upstatecreative.org>.

Our economic, social and tourist interaction with our longstanding partner, Columbia County, is exemplified by the name of our local Community College, Columbia-Greene Community College. This partnership is further emphasized by how many organizations are shared by the "Twin Counties",

Columbia County and Greene County.

While we are divided by the Hudson River, we share the responsibility for the estuaries and other environmental aspects of the shores of the Hudson River, even though we may not be on the same side of the Hudson.

Separating Greene County from Columbia County, the Hudson River, and Capital Region, in any capacity, is unthinkable for Greene County residents. This is a community element, as well as something distinguished in many publications, now and throughout the past. The Hudson Valley is a part of the Catskill Mountains, which is the heart of Greene County.

We understand that this process to redraw maps has had to happen quickly, please do not discount the vital relationship between Columbia and Greene County, nor our relationship to the Hudson Valley and the Capital Region. This is our home.

Best Regards,

Maureen Byrne, Ph.D.
27 King street #2
Catskill. NY 12414

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Marie Vergona <marie.vergona@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:30 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep Amsterdam in NY 20

As a resident of the city of Amsterdam, NY, I am strongly opposed to the draft Congressional map that would remove my community from a Congressional district centered in New York's Capital Region. Amsterdam strongly identifies with the greater Capital Region and has strong economic and transportation ties to communities like Schenectady, Albany, Troy, and Saratoga Springs. Many of our residents work and have families in these communities, and just this month it was announced that the Capital District Transportation Authority would be expanding it's service into Amsterdam. Placing Amsterdam into a district that stretches to the Canadian border with communities that have much different needs than our own will ultimately be detrimental to our community. I urge you to include Amsterdam in the proposed 20th Congressional District when you finalize the Congressional maps.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: pdemetruis <pdemetruis@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:31 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Please Don't make things worse

Working poor Whites and people of color deserve representation too!

just because it was leaning Democratic -it was better than this map that disengaged working people and empower unscrupulous anti environment money grabbers NOT ACCEPTABLE.

I notice these but I'm sure there's more.

Upstate: Onieda county

Nyc: Sunset park, Crown Heights, Bronx, Yonkers, Queens.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Amy Gold <amyrgold@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:31 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

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Columbia County has been excised from its peers and placed in a congressional district that shares little in common administratively. O

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Tom Illari <tjillari@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:31 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: ReDistricting

Dear Jonathan Cervas,

As a resident and taxpayer of Greene County, NY, I am very upset about the newly defined redistricting map. Separating Columbia and Greene Counties is very inefficient, and neglects the history of our twin counties working together. Currently we share a hospital, community college, mental health resources, addiction recovery resources, and Cornell Cooperative Extension, to name a few. We are already a low income and high addiction county, historically in the low ranking numbers of the state in poverty. Though we are rapidly growing due to the increased influx into the Hudson Valley of Upstate NY, of which Greene County is a vital part. Please reconsider this map.

Greene County is also included in the description of the Capital Region - <https://esd.ny.gov/regionaloverviews/capital/insideregion.html> - which includes Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren, and Washington Counties. Multiple organizations exemplify this connection, including ACE Collective - Alliance for the Creative Economy (ACE), a project of the Center for Economic Growth (CEG). ACE is dedicated to promoting and growing the Creative Industries in the 8-county Capital Region - <https://www.upstatecreative.org>.

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We understand that this process to redraw maps has had to happen quickly, please do not discount the vital relationship between Columbia and Greene County, nor our relationship to the Hudson Valley and the Capital Region. This is our home.

Best Regards,

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Hank Linhart <hlinhart@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:32 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Electoral maps

Dear NY Courts,

I am writing to oppose the new redistricting of NY Congressional districts.

The proposed map reflects a profound misunderstanding of population and geography.

I support a new impartial practical redistricting.

Henry Linhart

1363 RT 23 C

East Jewett, NY

12424

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Brenda A. Wise

From: carlbeck@optonline.net
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:32 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; superior@nycourts.gov; cervas.@mu.edu
Subject: Redistricting Map

Sir or Madam:

NY-16 must retain the northeast Bronx communities of Co-Op City, Edenwald and Williamsbridge with lower Westchester

-The special master's proposed map decreases the Black voter population by about 17%, this dilutes the voting power of Black people in NY-16, further marginalizing them and making it difficult for them to elect candidates that best represent their interests.

-The northeast Bronx's predominantly Black community was splintered into three congressional districts: Co-Op City is mapped into NY-14, Williamsbridge and Baychester into NY-15 and Edenwald kept in NY-16. This directly dropped the Black voter population in NY-16 and split these communities of interest.

Carole Beckford

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Brenda A. Wise

From: lynne horton <lilhoney54@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:32 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: CD 16 Co Op City

Co-op City is being redistricted out of CD16 and into CD14.

As you know, there is a law in place to prevent the "Vote Dilution" effect of this planned redistricting of Co-op City from CD16 to CD14 :

"Section 2 of the VRA, codified at 42 U.S.C. § 1973 prohibits drawing election districts in ways that improperly dilute minorities' voting power."

As a Co-op City resident, I urge you to rethink and redraw our district.

Thank you

[name address etc/

Sent from my iPhone

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