

Brenda A. Wise

From: Michael Murray <m.r.murray01@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:10 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: New State Senate District Lines Make No Sense

It makes no sense whatsoever to combine the part of Manhattan where I live -- zip code 10009 -- with parts of Brooklyn and Queens in a newly proposed version of state senate district 59.

I urge the Courts to throw out the proposed state senate district maps and state assembly district maps drawn up by Carnegie Mellon University Fellow Jonathan Cervas seemingly with complete disregard for creating districts that group together like areas with common interests, and instead chaotically combining areas that have little to nothing in common with one another to meet some obscure criteria perhaps known only to Mr. Cervas.

If there truly is a problem with the maps drawn up by the state legislature, then the state legislature should be directed to draw up maps that rectify the problems with the maps they drew up previously.

There is no excuse for allowing any single person to draw up state senate district maps and state assembly district maps without input from the people of New York, and the maps proposed by Jonathan Cervas are a slap in the face of representative democracy that can't be allowed to stand.

Yours truly,

Michael R. Murray
Registered Voter
310 First Avenue
New York, NY 10009-1703

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Karen Fetty <kfetty@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:10 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,

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Peter Criswell <Peter.Criswell@co.ulster.ny.us>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:10 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Don't fracture the City of Kingston!

Don't fracture the City of Kingston!

The City of Kingston, Ulster County's only city and the seat of our county government, should not be divided between two Congressional districts. Kingston is one community, a small and diverse city that has been wholly represented in Congress for its entire 250 year history. Dividing our representation into two will diminish our ability to impact national policies that concern our community, confuse our voters, and make it harder for residents to get the federal resources and services we need.

Splitting the northwest section of Kingston off into the proposed District 19 will also have the effect of diluting Ulster County's minority voices, which appears to be a clear violation of voter rights and constitutional protections. Our communities of color in the City of Kingston and the southern part of the county in the proposed District 18 must not be separated.

*Peter Criswell
Ulster County Legislator
District 7, City of Kingston
(845) 481-3264*

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Elena Coronges <coronge@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:11 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting

Hello,

I'm a resident of Stuytown and I understand we are now being lumped in with areas in Brooklyn and Queens for representation in the state senate. This makes no sense at all. We should be represented in conjunction with our neighbors in the East Village and Grammercy, Murray Hill & Kips Bay.

Please let me know how we can make sure our representatives are truly representing our areas and not residing in another borough. No one in BK or Queens understands the unique needs & liabilities of Stuyvesant Town.

Thank you

Elena Coronges

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Brenda A. Wise

From: pdeevee@optonline.net
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:11 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; StubenSuperior@nycourts.gov; Ceryas@CMU.edu
Subject: Redistricting of NE Bronx

This email is to implore that the Congressional redistricting of the Northeast section of the Bronx will not occur. (16th into the 14th) As it stands, the NE Bronx is one of the few areas that is affordable and inhabitable especially for persons of color. This redistricting will result in the marginalization of our communities and diminish our abilities to elect candidates who best represent our interests. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

A very concerned Northeast Bronx Citizen,

P. de Vere

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Ian MacNiven & Peggy Fox <macfox123@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:11 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Special Master/NY State Redistricting

Dear Jonathan Cervas,

As a residents and taxpayers of Greene County, NY, we are 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.

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,

Peggy Fox and Ian MacNiven

Athens, NY

Peggy L. Fox
Ian S. MacNiven

Gypsy Hollow:
P.O. Box 82
Athens, NY 12015
Phone: 518-943-7189
PLF's cell: 914-525-0988
E-mail: macfox123@gmail.com

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Brenda A. Wise

From: MARY BETH KERN <mbshantip@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:11 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Objection to being put in a new state senate district

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident of Stuyvesant Town in Manhattan, and I am writing to express my objection to my neighborhood being added to a new State Senate district that includes Brooklyn and Queens - the 59th District.

It doesn't make sense to be lumped in with other parts of the city like this. I strongly believe that we should be in a district with our geographic neighbors. And thus far, we have been well represented by Brad Holman.

Sincerely,

MaryBeth Kern

Sent from my iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Martha Bowers <martha@hookarts.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:11 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Comments on Special Master's Draft of New Congressional District 7
Attachments: Comments on Proposed Changes to Congressional District 7.pdf

May 18, 2022

Comments on Special Master's Draft of New Congressional District 7

Dear Justice McAllister,

I write to voice my deep concern and opposition to the proposed newly drawn congressional districts. As the Executive Director of the Red Hook based Hook Arts Media, a cultural organization that serves local youth, I have worked closely with District 7 Congressional leadership for many years. Our current Congresswoman, Nydia Velazquez, has long been a champion of the many issues shared by the minority communities within her district which include Red Hook, Gowanus, Sunset Park among others. These communities are home to many under-resourced families and individuals. Red Hook and Gowanus both have large populations that reside in NYCHA housing and face a myriad of issues that Congresswoman Velazquez is deeply familiar with and has fought to address. Carving up District 7 and mixing the communities of South Brooklyn and Staten Island will not benefit either area. These are not communities with shared interests nor shared histories.

The community of Red Hook is unique not only because of its location on the waterfront and susceptibility to the impacts of climate change, but also because it has benefited from the support and strong leadership provided by Congresswoman Velazquez and the coalitions built between many local nonprofits with shared missions. To redraw the congressional district as proposed would put some of the City's most vulnerable populations in South Brooklyn at a disadvantage and deny them the representation they most need to fight the ongoing challenges of systemic poverty, housing shortages, support for the vibrant web of small businesses that drive the economies of local neighborhoods and the ongoing efforts to combat the impacts of climate change.

I urge those in charge of drawing these new district lines to think about the severe toll these proposed changes would have on vulnerable populations and how it will divide communities with shared interests.

Signed,

Martha Bowers
Executive Director
Hook Arts Media

Martha Bowers *[She/Her/Hers]*
Founder & Executive Director
Hook Arts Media
formerly Dance Theatre Etcetera

T. 718.643.6790

F. 718.643.6733

480 Van Brunt Street, STE 203

Brooklyn, NY 11231

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May 18, 2022

Comments on Special Master's Draft of New Congressional Districts

I write to voice my deep concern and opposition to the proposed newly drawn congressional districts. As the Executive Director of the Red Hook based Hook Arts Media, a cultural organization that serves local youth, I have worked closely with District 7 Congressional leadership for many years. Our current Congresswoman, Nydia Velazquez, has long been a champion of the many issues shared by the minority communities within her district which include Red Hook, Gowanus, Sunset Park among others. These communities are home to many under-resourced families and individuals. Red Hook and Gowanus both have large populations that reside in NYCHA housing and face a myriad of issues that Congresswoman Velazquez is deeply familiar with and has fought to address. Carving up District 7 and mixing the communities of South Brooklyn and Staten Island will not benefit either area. These are not communities with shared interests nor shared histories.

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I urge those in charge of drawing these new district lines to think about the severe toll these proposed changes would have on vulnerable populations and how it will divide communities with shared interests.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martha Bowers", written over a horizontal line.

Martha Bowers
Executive Director
Hook Arts Media

Brenda A. Wise

From: Karen Fetty <fettygoldsmith@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:12 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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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,

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

ALFRED E. SMITH HOUSES RESIDENT ASSOCIATION, Inc.**史密斯居民協會通****ASOCIACIÓN DE RESIDENTES DEL RESIDENCIAL ALFRED E. SMITH, Inc.**

Congressional District 7 is a primarily Latino district drawn to connect the largest Latino communities in the Brooklyn area. The communities of Sunset Park, the Lower East Side,

and North Brooklyn. Based on the maps as they are drawn, Southwest Brooklyn is completely cutoff from rest of the community and rather than keeping the communities of interest together, the map as drawn breaks up another community of interest – black communities – by bringing Fort Greene and Clinton Hill. Further, the areas of Sunset Park and Red Hook are no longer connected to adjacent neighborhoods and communities to the north. Instead, they are placed in a district 11 that shares no commonality.

These communities of interest, while not compact, reflect the requirements of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) to keep these neighborhoods and communities of interest together.

They have been united for over 30 years and now the map as drawn completely disregards and disempowers these communities.

The definition of a community of interest as specified on the NY Independent Redistricting Committee is as follows:

A community of interest is a population which shares enough social and economic interests of importance that suggest said community should be included in a single district for effective and fair representation. These might include similar standards of living, shared methods and patterns of transportation, or similar economic and societal concerns. For example, the population of a rural area might have different shared interests from those living in an urban area, as might those living in an industrial area

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from the priorities shared by those living in a primarily agricultural area.

That definition encompasses exactly what community groups and individuals have raised during testimony and comments throughout this entire process.

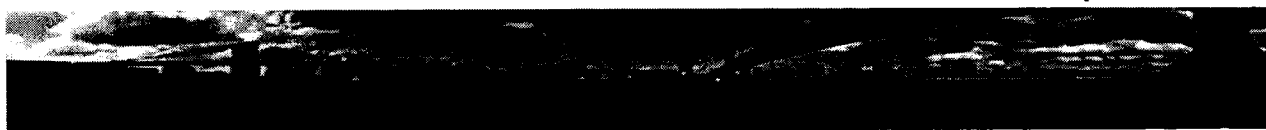
Minority communities share have shared the cultural and social dynamics of seeking to empower their respective communities, protecting their communities from a rise in hate and rhetoric, embrace the immigrant experience, and promoting the concerns related to climate change and violence on their communities. During the process, community members from

across the district urged the commission to keep these neighborhoods united.

Yet, the Special Master has sacrificed the empowerment of minority communities – whether Latino, black, or Asian – that are culturally linked in favor of compactness and competitiveness. While the compactness of the map looks clean, it continues the historical disenfranchisement of communities of color. Sadly, this comes shortly after 10 people were killed in Buffalo in a largely Black community because the attacker believed a racist replacement theory. The proposed map is a product of a racially flawed interpretation of prioritizing compactness over voting rights. The consideration for

compactness is to do it as “practicable” and shouldn’t override the primary consideration of drawing lines fair to minority voting rights.

This proposed map is simply unconstitutional and ignores the coalition of communities that have been recognized by courts and placed in the same congressional districts. Continuing to keep the Chinatowns of Lower Manhattan and Sunset Park, and their surrounding Latino communities united with North Brooklyn is especially important. In

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fact, keeping Sunset Park tied to its roots and that of its interested community together was one item that had bipartisan support within the commission. To see that changed by the Special Master is shameful. The map as drawn will have dire impacts on the communities, particularly Latinos who represent nearly 1 in 5 New Yorkers but lack meaningful representation across the entire state. The map should reflect their right to ensure access to candidates that represent their community's interests and needs. Fairness, not compactness, should be at the heart of this redistricting process. Therefore, I sincerely urge the map to be redrawn to keep these communities together. Thank you for your consideration,

Brenda A. Wise

From: Tamara Backer <tamara.backer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:13 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Congressional Redistricting

To the Special Master:

As a resident of the city of Saratoga Springs, 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. Saratoga Springs strongly identifies with the greater Capital Region and has strong economic and transportation ties to communities like Schenectady, Albany, Troy, and Amsterdam. Many of our residents work and have families in these communities. Placing Saratoga Springs 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 Saratoga Springs in the proposed 20th Congressional District when you finalize the Congressional maps.

I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Regards,

Tamara Tepper

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Fran Silverberg <fsilverberg@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:13 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: NY Redistricting

Comment:

How does it make any sense to add us (Stuyvesant Town Peter Copper Village) to a new district - the 59th? This includes chunks of Brooklyn and Queens.

What do we have in common with parts of the city we cannot walk to?

We should be in a district with our geographic neighbors!!

Respectfully,
Fran Silverberg
Tenant of Stuyvesant Town Peter Cooper Village

Sent from my iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Sarah Bassett <shbassett@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:13 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: This is ridiculous!

Why have the congressional districts been so altered as to make no geographic sense?
We need to be measured and sane in a world that is becoming more and more challenging.

Sent from my iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Meilani Montgomery <meilani_montgomery@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:13 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Redistricting Lakeview, NY

Dear NY Courts and/or such affiliated,

I'm writing this email to voice my concerns about the redistricting lines that was addressed in the community of Lakeview. As a Lakeview resident, and over 20 years, having my community and I in separate districts will not enable us to have a voice. Every citizen in America has the right to free speech and we want to be able to be one that we Would vote on such legislation together for the better of our community. Please reconsider the lines for redistricting so that we are together as one.

Thank You,
Meilani L. Montgomery

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Harriet Fraad <hfraad@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:13 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Our neighborhood

I live in Stuytown. We deserve to be represented along side of our neighbors who, by the way, are not in Brooklyn or Queens.

Dr. Harriet Fraad

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Lenore and Jack Reber <myquats@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:14 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: congressional districts

As a resident of the city of Saratoga Springs, 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. Saratoga Springs strongly identifies with the greater Capital Region and has strong economic and transportation ties to communities like Schenectady, Albany, Troy, and Amsterdam. Many of our residents work and have families in these communities. Placing Saratoga Springs 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 Saratoga Springs in the proposed 20th Congressional District when you finalize the Congressional maps.

We have worked positively with Paul Tonko on several environmental and voting issues. He is a great advocate for our region. We really need to keep the Capital region together. Stefanik is held in very low esteem, or even loathed by many residents in our area. We will suffer from the loss of Paul Tonko and it will be very difficult for us to work with this far-right representative.

Sincerely,
Lenore and John Reber
Saratoga Springs, NY

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Vanno, Philip A. <pvanno@ocgov.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:14 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: RE: State Senate Draft Maps - New Senate District 49

Please see the following commentson the New Senate District 49 from Oneida County Executive Anthony J. Picente Jr.

Thank you,

Philip A. Vanno
Assistant to the County Executive
Office: 315-798-5800
Mobile: 315-723-5465
Oneida County Office Building
10th Floor
800 Park Avenue
Utica, NY 13501

Dear Judge McCallister and Mr. Cervas,

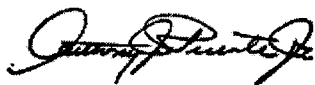
As drafted, the map created for the new Senate District 49 fails in its attempt to adequately represent Oneida County as one community which it most certainly is. The way the Senate District is currently drawn would have a negative impact on the region and the people I serve as County Executive.

It is important that our region have a partner in government who can be the sole representative in the state Senate for our area in Albany, especially someone who understands our region has shared values and needs. The new Senate District 49 should afford the County of Oneida's government the opportunity to work closely with that individual, something the current map fails to do.

As the County Executive of Oneida County since 2007, I know firsthand what unified representation of the Utica-Rome area means and how vital it is to have that continue. Utica, Rome and Oneida County as a whole, is one community of interest, and as is the case in the Congressional District for the NY 22, should stay that way.

I respectfully submit this comment to you so that you may reconsider the map you have drawn for the new Senate District 49.

Sincerely,



Anthony J. Picente Jr
County Executive

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Karen Fetty <karenfetty@protonmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:14 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 with [ProtonMail](#) secure email.

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Uri Hoch <urimaxx@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:14 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Comments on proposed congressional map

In regards to case-
Index number: E2022-0116CV
Harkenrider v. Hochul

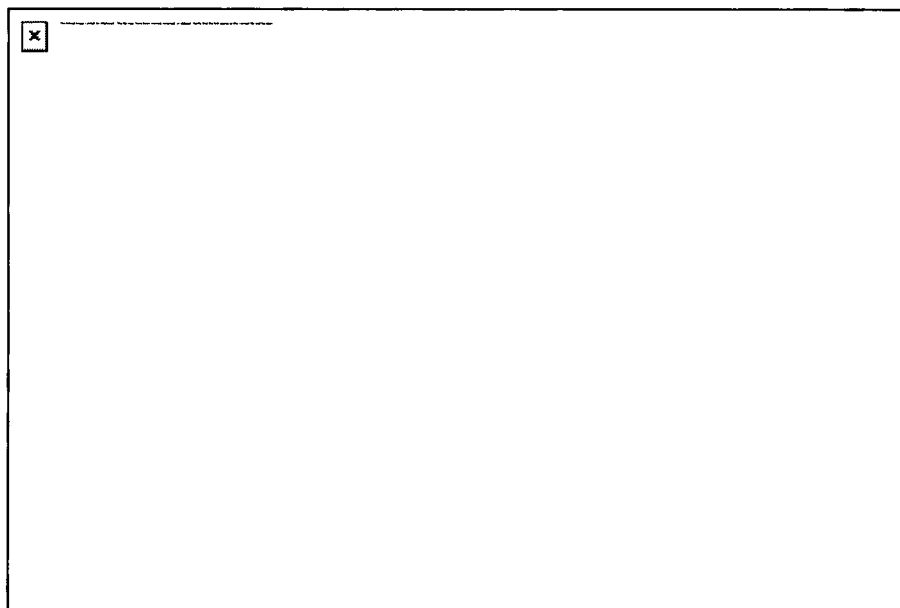
May 18th, 2022

Dear Special Master Cervas,

Thank you for the work you put into creating these maps for the state. Well done balancing many competing interests to create a map that has five toss up seats on it and four more seats within ten points. I would have drawn the 11th district slightly more towards the center to create a 6th toss up seat but the shift you added was still a plus.

One change I would make is to swap the southern part of Wakefield for the Riverdale section of the Bronx (see map below). This doesn't affect the hispanic majority in district 15 and I think the Riverdale section of the Bronx has more of a connection to district 16 than 15 do to its sizable Jewish population.

Thank you,
Uri Hoch
Westchester, NY 10583



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Brenda A. Wise

From: Andrea Maddison <amadd9999@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:15 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Lakeview Redistricting

My name is Andrea Maddison. 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.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Alison Carb Sussman <acarbsussman@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:15 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting

We should be in a district in common with our geographic neighbors, not lumped with chunks of districts in other boroughs that we cannot even walk to!!!!!!

Alison Carb Sussman
Stuvesant Town, Manhattan

Sent from my iPhone

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Yitz Rosenthal <yrosenthal@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:15 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: I strongly object to the splitting of the naturally cohesive Jewish community between different districts

My name is Yitzchak Rosenthal,

I am submitting this testimony in protest of the new maps that were released for the New York Senate. The Jewish communities of Kew Gardens Hills and Hillcrest were heavily involved in asking the Independent Redistricting Commission to keep these neighborhoods together. Furthermore, Pomonok Houses, and Electchester cooperative have always been part of our district, they are our neighbors, and many of our families originate from these public housing entities.

In the state legislature's plan, they took into account our testimony and made a district that combined most of the Jewish community in Central Queens. Kew Gardens Hills has been gerrymandered into a South East Queens State Senate District. Pomonok, Electchester and Hillcrest have been split off into a Flushing centered district. This is splitting our communities up. Communities of interest must be together in one district.

We ask that in your final draft you put the neighborhoods of Kew Gardens Hills, Pomonok, Electchester, and Hillcrest into the district you drew of central Queens with Forest Hills, Rego Park, Middle Village, and Glendale. Please remove Ozone Park and Richmond Hill as they are not the same communities of interest as we are to the neighborhoods mentioned above.

Sincerely,
Yitzchak Rosenthal

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Cathy Wilson <cathycwilson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:16 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting Against This!

Please reconsider redistricting people in Brad Holmans district with parts of Brooklyn and Queens!

We have been experiencing drastic changes and need someone who is familiar with our district.

Thank you

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Elana Michelson <michelsonelana@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:16 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: splitting Kingston

I have just heard of the proposed new district map that splits Ulster County in half and that, in a move that seems baffling to me, even splits Kingston. This is a serious mistake. As Kingston continues to evolve, many citizens are making huge efforts to connect its multiple communities, work toward decisions of benefit to all, and address the important issues of housing, health care, law enforcement, and economic development. Splitting the city into two separate districts will work against those efforts.

Please do all you can to alter any plans that divide the electoral voice of Kingston's citizens.

Thank you.

Ellen Michelson
103 Sawdust Ave.
Kingston, NY 12401

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Emma Milligan <emmarosemilligan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:16 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: PCV/10010 tenant concerned about revised Congressional district lines

Hi there,

My name is Emma Rose Milligan, a 5+ year resident of Peter Cooper Village and 11+ year resident of the 10010 zip code (originally from the north fork)

I am sending along this email to voice my concern about PCV/Stuyvesent being newly revised to have Michael Gianaris as our state senator, also representing some of Brooklyn and Queens.

This makes no sense. I live in the 10010 zip code. I live in Manhattan. Why in the world does it make sense to do this? What do we have in common with parts of the city we can't walk to?

We should be in a district with our geographic neighbors.

Best,
Emma

--

emmarosemilligan.com

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Michal Mamlok Rosenthal <michalkm02@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:17 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: I object to the splitting of the naturally cohesive Jewish community between different districts

My name is Michal Mamlok,

I am submitting this testimony in protest of the new maps that were released for the New York Senate. The Jewish communities of Kew Gardens Hills and Hillcrest were heavily involved in asking the Independent Redistricting Commission to keep these neighborhoods together. Furthermore, Pomonok Houses, and Electchester cooperative have always been part of our district; they are our neighbors, and many of our families originate from these public housing entities.

In the state legislature's plan, they took into account our testimony and made a district that combined most of the Jewish community in Central Queens. Kew Gardens Hills has been gerrymandered into a South East Queens State Senate District. Pomonok, Electchester and Hillcrest have been split off into a Flushing centered district. This is splitting our communities up. Communities of interest must be together in one district.

We ask that in your final draft you put the neighborhoods of Kew Gardens Hills, Pomonok, Electchester, and Hillcrest into the district you drew of central Queens with Forest Hills, Rego Park, Middle Village, and Glendale. Please remove Ozone Park and Richmond Hill as they are not the same communities of interest as we are to the neighborhoods mentioned above.

Sincerely,
Michal Mamlok

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Uri Hoch <urimaxx@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:17 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Re: Comments on proposed congressional map
Attachments: riverdale wakefield.png; bronx map.png

sending the pictures again in case it didn't go through properly

On Wed, May 18, 2022 at 3:14 PM Uri Hoch <urimaxx@gmail.com> wrote:

In regards to case-
Index number: E2022-0116CV
Harkenrider v. Hochul

May 18th, 2022

Dear Special Master Cervas,

Thank you for the work you put into creating these maps for the state. Well done balancing many competing interests to create a map that has five toss up seats on it and four more seats within ten points. I would have drawn the 11th district slightly more towards the center to create a 6th toss up seat but the shift you added was still a plus.

One change I would make is to swap the southern part of Wakefield for the Riverdale section of the Bronx (see map below). This doesn't affect the hispanic majority in district 15 and I think the Riverdale section of the Bronx has more of a connection to district 16 than 15 do to its sizable Jewish population.

Thank you,
Uri Hoch
Westchester, NY 10583

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Aubrey Mariani <aubmariani@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:17 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting

Hello,

I am writing to ask that you NOT reduce the two senators providing representation for the City of Syracuse during the redistricting process. Our city is one of the five largest in the state and as such should have commensurate representation in the State Senate. I look forward to your support of this request.

Thank you,

--

Aubrey G. Mariani
Email: aubmariani@gmail.com
Phone: 315-396-7173

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Margo McGilvrey <mcgilvreym@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:18 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Ulster County and Kingston

Please keep Ulster county and Kingston whole. This division will create chaos and I'm afraid decrease voter turn out.
Margo McGilvrey Saugerties NY

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Carolyn L <filomena55@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:18 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting maps

From all reports I've heard the new maps seem very unfair to communities in New York City especially. I urge a reconsideration of these maps.

Carolyn Luppino
8720 250th Street
Bellerose NY 11426

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OZONE PARK DISTRICT OFFICE:
93-06 101ST AVENUE
OZONE PARK, NY 11416
(718) 738-1083

ROCKAWAY DISTRICT OFFICE:
114-12 BEACH CHANNEL DRIVE, SUITE 1
ROCKAWAY PARK, NY 11694
(718) 318-6411



**THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
JOANN ARIOLA
COUNCIL MEMBER
32ND DISTRICT • QUEENS**

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE:
250 BROADWAY, SUITE 1555
NEW YORK, NY 10007
(212) 788-7069

May 18, 2022

Honorable Patrick McAllister
Acting Supreme Court Justice
Steuben County Supreme & County Court
3 East Pulteney Square
Bath, New York 14810

Special Master Jonathan Cervas
Institute for Politics and Strategy
Carnegie Mellon University
Posner Hall 386
5000 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

Dear Judge McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

On behalf of the community members I serve in Howard Beach, Queens, I am writing to urge you to protect the future of our community and swiftly reconsider the proposed redistricting maps. The residents of Howard Beach are inextricably connected through proximity, common values, mutual challenges, and shared lived experiences, and dividing their voice can only detract from their abilities to advocate for themselves.

In the wake of the devastation wrought by Hurricane Sandy in 2012 and Hurricane Ida in 2021, much of the Eighth Congressional District became unified in our fight for a solution to address our communal needs. Following both natural disasters, Howard Beach experienced severe flooding and water damage. Many of our homes became uninhabitable following these severe storms and others have only become more vulnerable as the effects of climate change worsen. Day by day, our coastal community is being rebuilt, but a great deal of work is still needed.

Despite these challenges, between the collective efforts of our affected neighbors, we have worked together to advocate and bring these issues to our local and federal leaders, demanding change as a united front. Given the documented success of our continued efforts, we implore you to understand that we cannot be divided from our neighbors who share our concerns.

Howard Beach is a vital piece of the oceanfront region of New York's Eighth Congressional District. This area has unique needs which can't be adequately represented if torn apart. As it stands, we benefit so much from unified representation designed to uplift our community. Separating the communities in the southern end of NY-08 will cause our families to regress on the advancements that we've worked so hard to achieve, creating greater financial instability and pressures for us all. Our communal obligations extend beyond the oceanfront section of the Eighth Congressional District and into Prospect Heights and Fort Greene. Howard Beach is an extension of these communities and represents a continuum of needs, shared goals and community development interests.

Separating our communities will create disarray and dampen our collective power to advocate for change. The future of our community depends on this proposed map. I strongly urge the commission to redraw a map that is reflective of the expressed concerns presented by community members, keeping Howard Beach unified with our neighbors along the coast, in Prospect Heights and in Fort Greene.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joann Ariola". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "A".

Hon. Joann Ariola
NYC Council Member, District 32

Brenda A. Wise

From: Bill Martelle <billmartelle@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:19 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Congressional map draft

Good afternoon,

As a resident of the town of Amsterdam in 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 ties to communities like Schenectady, Albany, and Troy. Many of our residents work and have families in these communities. 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.

Thank you,
William Martelle

Sent from my iPhone

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Michael Septimus <mike.septimus@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:19 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Queens Redistricting

My name is Michael Septrimus, I am submitting this testimony in protest of the new maps that were released for the New York Senate. The Jewish communities of Kew Gardens Hills and Hillcrest were heavily involved in asking the Independent Redistricting Commission to keep these neighborhoods together. Furthermore, Pomonok Houses, and Electchester cooperative have always been part of our district, they are our neighbors, and many of our families originate from these public housing entities.

In the state legislature's plan, they took into account our testimony and made a district that combined most of the Jewish community in Central Queens. Kew Gardens Hills has been gerrymandered into a South East Queens State Senate District. Pomonok, Electchester and Hillcrest have been split off into a Flushing centered district. This is splitting our communities up. Communities of interest must be together in one district.

We ask that in your final draft you put the neighborhoods of Kew Gardens Hills, Pomonok, Electchester, and Hillcrest into the district you drew of central Queens with Forest Hills, Rego Park, Middle Village, and Glendale. Please remove Ozone Park and Richmond Hill as they are not the same communities of interest as we are to the neighborhoods mentioned above.

Sincerely,

Michael Septimus

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Brenda A. Wise

From: mcdircks@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:21 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: NY Redistricting

Hello,

I'm a resident of Larchmont. I was fine with being paired with Long Island as we're all shore communities facing common issues. The maps now appear to be a mess, especially in regards to carving up longstanding districts that were always fair. Why alter with those? Shelly Mayer appeared in our town recently and espoused on reasons behind why democrats redrew district lines the way they did, being fair to diverse communities and population size per district--and the will of the voters. That is no longer the case. Jonathan Cervas--what you did to our district maps will embolden white supremacists, partisan extremists, in our state for the next ten years.

It's despicable how these maps mess with black and brown representation in our state. You're really going to eliminate two seats helmed by black representatives? Please do not pit Yvette Clarke and Hakeem Jeffries against each other in Brooklyn, or Jamaal Bowman and Mondaire Jones against each other here in Westchester. This is racist, partisan politics at its worst.

I'm originally from Mississippi and am disgusted by these Jim Crow tactics showing up now in New York. These maps, of course, being drawn by you, a white man from another state, and pending on approval by a white republican judge .

These new maps reek of minority rule and partisanship. Switch back to the lines drawn by the democratic super-majority. Those reflect what New Yorkers want. Not this.

Best,

Cindy McCraw Dircks
9147-678-2037

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Chris LaBarge <chris.labarge@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:21 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Official Comments From Senator Cleare On Proposed Senate Maps
Attachments: Senator Cleare, Redistricting Comments.pdf

Good Day!

Attached, please find official comments from Senator Cleare On The Recently Released Proposed Senate Maps.

If you could please confirm receipt and ensure that the comments are reviewed, I would be extraordinarily grateful.

Thank You,

Chris

--

Christopher W. LaBarge
Legislative Director | Senator Cordell Cleare
518.455.2441 | 518.365.9123 (c)
labarge@nysenate.gov

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CORDELL CLEARE
30TH SENATE DISTRICT

ALBANY OFFICE
ROOM 504
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247
PHONE: 518-455-2441

DISTRICT OFFICE
Harlem State Office Building
163 West 125th Street
Suite 912
New York, New York 10027
PHONE: 212-222-7315
EMAIL: CLEARE@NYSenate.GOV



THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR
WOMEN'S ISSUES

COMMITTEES:
CITIES 1
COMMERCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & SMALL BUSINESS
CONSUMER PROTECTION
DISABILITIES
HEALTH

May 16th, 2022

Dr. Jonathan Cervas
New York State Court System
Via E-mail—bwise@nycourts.gov

Dear Dr. Cervas:

With respect to your redrawing of the proposed New York State Senate Lines for Senate District 30, I officially and respectfully submit the following comment:

The removal of the entire block between West 111th Street and West 112th Street from 5th Avenue to Malcolm X Boulevard from District 30—raises great concern for my community and me. The Public School located on this block, P.S. 185—The Locke School Of Arts & Engineering is an integral part of the fabric of SD-30. It has historically served as a poll site and moreover, is a District 3 School. The District 3 catchment area contains Harlem and the Upper West Side, thus the placement of P.S. 185 within proposed SD-29, which has no other District 3 schools within it, has the potential to marginalize and dilute representation as well as affect funding and resources. In addition, students to the south, west and north of this block will be zoned for this school but not represented by a Senator who represents the District 3 zoned area.

Based upon all of the statutory and legal guidelines for drawing districts, I respectfully submit that the aforementioned block cease to be excised from SD-30 and placed back within the district.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cordell Cleare".

Cordell Cleare
Senator | 30th District

Brenda A. Wise

From: Susan Crowe <sscrowe@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:21 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: New New York State US Congressional Districts - Ulster County and the City of Kingston
- Keep them whole!

I am a City of Kingston resident and I am extremely disturbed by how the maps have been drawn to carve Ulster County and the City of Kingston in half. What was the thinking? Please for the sake of the people of Ulster County and the City of Kingston keep the county and City of Kingston whole! I am not sure of why Ulster County was divided in half to create a new 18th and 19th district, but it does not make any sense to us voters. It will certainly not serve Ulster County residents or the City of Kingston well. The City of Kingston is one community and the County of Ulster is its own unique county not to be divided. Creating Democratic and Republican districts and dividing communities is bad business and we don't hired a bean counter from Carnegie Mellon University in Pennsylvania to do it.

Thank you,
Susan Spencer Crowe
Kingston, New York

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Brenda A. Wise

From: brickrowphoto@icloud.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:22 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Special Master

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.

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.

Thank you for you attention to this crucial matter.

Nora Adelman
Brick Row
Athens, NY

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Brenda A. Wise

From: jlnwolfinc@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:22 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: 7th and 10th districts

Please restore the southern section of old 7, which is the long-time district of Nydia Velasquez, into new 7. These multi-ethnic neighborhoods have worked together closely with Nydia for community betterment and should stay in the core of her district.

Nancy Wolf
Constituent

87 State Street
Brooklyn, NY11201

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: NancyN Parisio <46517nnp@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:22 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Draft Congressional map

Upon a cursory review of the draft Congressional map, the effect of dividing the city of Kingston between the 18th and 19th districts serves no purpose other than to silence the voices of a community that works hard to address the needs of the residents as a whole.

Furthermore, Ulster County should be served by a single representative in Congress who will act on our behalf.

BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD!!!

Nancy N Parisio

Sent from my iPhone

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

Dorolyn Montgomery
919 Pinelake Drive
West Hempstead, NY 1552

To whom it may concern:

As a member of the historic Lakeview, NY (11552) community, I am making a plea that Lakeview be kept as **one** district. We are a predominantly African American community with a rich history that needs to be respected and maintained.

I feel the newly drawn lines are intended to divide our voters, thus dividing our resources and assistance. This will have catastrophic effects on our community during elections. I demand immediate action. Please reconsider the newly drawn lines immediately as it would be the right thing to do to leave our community intact.

Your immediate consideration to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Dorolyn Montgomery

Dorolyn Montgomery

Brenda A. Wise

From: Laura <laudipop@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:23 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: NYS Senate map for Rockville Centre

The currently proposed NYS Senate re-districting map will split Rockville Centre between two senators.

If this map is accepted, the Village of Rockville Centre will be weakened because the focus from our elected officials will be diffused between two senators. We already have multiple representatives on the county level, resulting in very little action taken on behalf of the residents of our village; now you propose to leave us in the same situation for our state representation.

Rockville Centre is built around a unified school system, shares the same village utilities, and faces common challenges. Our representation cannot be as effective if it is not unified. Please reconsider splitting our village into two different senate districts, it simply doesn't make sense.

Thank you,

Laura Burns
428 N Village Ave, Rockville Centre, NY 11570

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Philip Rose <prose@hvc.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:26 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Congressional map impact on Kingston and Ulster County

To whom it may concern,

I am writing regarding the proposed new congressional maps for Districts 18 and 19. It makes no sense to me to split off a section of Kingston from the rest of the city and to separate the representation of Ulster County into two districts. I believe that districts should support shared interests of communities that have long been integrated and cohesive governmental entities. In the case of chopping up the City of Kingston, the new drawing of districts also dilutes the effective representation of minority communities of color. Further it is particularly ironic to divide Kingston, the Ulster County seat from a large portion of the county, given the growth in partnerships among the towns and within the framework of the county government. This only complicates the and makes less efficient, the job of advocacy in Congress.

Respectfully.

Philip Rose
Accord, NY 12404

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Judy Elliot-Brown <rbgrid55@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:25 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Greene County Redistricting

Dear Jonathan Cervas,

As a resident and taxpayer of Greene County, NY, I am very upset about the newly defined redistricting map. We are already a low income and high addiction county, historically in the low ranking numbers of the state in poverty. Moving us from a district in which economic opportunities are expanding due to the influx of new residents in our county & the expansion of advanced technology manufacturing in the Capitol Region would be a great disservice to the residents of our county, especially our teenagers & young adults.

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. 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.

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>.

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,
Judy Elliot-Brown

Judith Elliot-Brown
Rocket Science
48 Old Willowbrook Rd

Surprise, NY 12176
mobile - 1-917-748-3500
tel - 518-966-4090
rbgrid55@gmail.com

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Lynn Kearney <foodsinger@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:28 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Greene County!

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,

Lynn Kearney

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May 18, 2022

Dear Mr. Wise,

I am writing to comment on the redistricting plan put forth by Special Master Cervas. I am concerned that the new maps released adversely affect my representation as a voting New Yorker. More specifically:

- (1) At the New York City Level, I ask that you *maintain*
 - a. the current Upper West and Upper East Side of Manhattan as separate Districts, since we are different communities of interests; and that
 - b. the current Bedford Stuyvesant congressional district because it is a distinct community of interest.
- (2) At the State level:
 - a. Please do *not* create a new district that includes Lower Manhattan, Downtown Brooklyn, Gowanus, Park Slope and Borough Park, since these, too, represent vastly different communities of interest.

Each of these requests are based on the need to maintain the voting rights of New York State's residents. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Renée Goodstein
215 West 92nd Street
Apt. 8D
New York, NY 10025

Brenda A. Wise

From: Nina Sklansky <ninasklansky@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:29 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Special Master

Dear Mr. Cervas,

I have been a resident and taxpayer in Greene County, NY, since 2007, and of Columbia County prior to that. Having lived on both sides of the river I have a first-hand understanding of just how interwoven and interdependent our counties are.

That is why the newly-defined redistricting map is wrongheaded, even punitive — and I urge you to revise it.

Greene County is in the Hudson Valley. Greene and Columbia Counties are known as the “Twin Counties” for good reason. We share so many long-standing economic, historical, and social ties, and all are critical to tourism, one of our most important industries. Even our local Community College is named Columbia-Greene Community College. Separating Greene and Columbia County will result in inefficiencies that will cost not just us, but BOTH sides.

I ask that you please keep the vital relationship between Greene and Columbia intact. We share so much, and that should include a district.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Nina Sklansky
Catskill, NY

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Town of Persia
Cattaraugus County
8 West Main Street
Gowanda, New York 14070
Phone: (716) 532-4042
Fax: (716) 532-4607

May 18, 2022

John T. Walgus
Supervisor

Robert O. Dingman Jr.
Deputy Supervisor

Daniel H. Ackley
Highway Superintendent

Denise M. Trumpore
Town Clerk

Tammy Grimmer
Deputy Town Clerk

Kate Harrington
Assessor

Seth H. Howard
Councilman

Gloria Tomaszewski
Councilman

Theresa A. Girome
Councilman

Mark D. Hebner
Town Justice

Cheryl A. Matern
Court Clerk

Maraino Abreu
Code Enforcement Officer

Tammy Grimmer
Dog Control Officer

Brenda Wise
New York State Unified Court System
bwise@nycourts.gov

RE: 23rd. Congressional District.

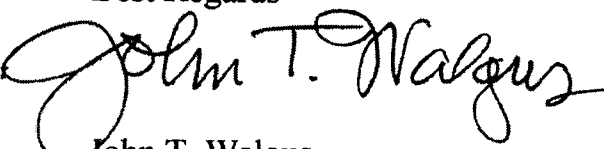
Dear Ms. Wise,

I am writing in support of a rural 23rd congressional district in the Southern Tier of western New York State. Our town has been rural and agricultural now for almost 200 years. To move suburban southern Erie County into this congressional district would be against our history of farms and forests.

Agriculture, whether dirt, forest or dairy farms is not only our towns but has been our counties rural quality and personality for decades. As a former Cattaraugus County Legislator, I can truthfully say with honesty that agriculture is the largest and almost a billion-dollar industry in Cattaraugus County.

This is the reason I am writing to have the court remove suburban southern Erie County from the 23rd Congressional District and include similar rural districts as it makes more sense to have like rural areas of the Southern Tier return to our past and simple agricultural history.

Thank you for your consideration.
Best Regards



John T. Walgus
Supervisor

Brenda A. Wise

From: George Lytle <glytle@glnetworking.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:31 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,

George Lytle
12 Albany Avenue,
Kinderhook, NY 12106
917-603-8253

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: SHARON ULLMAN <slullman@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:32 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: New District doesn't make sense.

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of Stuyvesant Town/Peter Cooper Village and I have lived here for years. The new proposed redistricting makes no sense at all. We have absolutely nothing in common with areas of Brooklyn and Queens. If we can't walk to it how does it make sense that we're in the same district? District maps should be created because it makes sense geographically not because some political party needs some advantage. This is outrageous!

A registered voter,
Sharon L. Ullman

Sent from my iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Patricia DEGEORGES <patricia.degeorges@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:32 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Please do not redistrict me

Hello B. Wise. My name is Patricia DeGeorges, & I live in Stuyvesant Town @ 447 East 14th St., NYC 10009. Please do not add me & my neighbors to the 59th District, which includes parts of Brooklyn & Queens. This would not be logical; it doesn't make sense. I want to be in a District with my geographic neighbors. Please do not change my District.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia DeGeorges

Sent from my iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Barbara Zapson <barbzap37@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:32 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Gerrymandering

I have lived in Manhattan all my life, between the Village & Peter Cooper Village, and I'm 85 years young. I think I went to Brooklyn 4 times and Queen, maybe 12 times in all my life.

Manhattan has an entirely different vibe and lifestyle than the outer boroughs, and I resent being lumped together with them. Please do not join us to Brooklyn & Queens!

Thank you,
Barbara Zapson
5 Peter Cooper road
Nyc, 10010

--

Barbara

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Jonathan Cohn <jjcohn@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:33 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Comment on proposed redistricting

I am writing to you regarding the proposed change to the state Senate district map for my block (Bergen Street between 4th and 5th Avenues) in Brooklyn. We have lived here since 1990, and raised two kids who went to local schools and now also live nearby.

I am concerned that the proposed removal of our blocks from the neighborhood to which they are part of will, effectively, disenfranchise us. To add these few blocks of Park Slope (south of Flatbush Avenue bordered by Warren Street, Prospect Place, and 4th Avenue) to a much larger district on the other side of Flatbush, subverts our ability to make the case for our local concerns, which include street parking (now used by patrons of the state-enabled Barclay's arena), speeding, honking, transit, lack of open space, no dog-runs, development on 4th Avenue, the changes in retail, restaurants, and bars on our "main street" (5th Avenue, which terminates at Flatbush) and many other quality of life issues.

All these issues are shared with Park Slope and Boerum Hill; the central core of our neighborhood is to the south and west, not across Flatbush.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Cohn

386 Bergen Street
Brooklyn, NY 11217
(646) 354-9245

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Tom Denton <tomsusand@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:32 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Kingston and redistricting

My son, his wife, and baby will be moving in July to the City of Kingston, about ten miles from my home. They will be several blocks away from the dividing line that has split the City in the redistricting map. They will have to seek constituent services at an office different from their neighbors. They will not be able to join political activist groups that neighborhood groups might join. Kingston will be a fractured, rather than a unified City. At a time when the entire nation is plagued by polarization, should redistricting be seeking to keep citizens united, represented by a single voice for their interests? I believe so.. I urge a revision of the map to make Kingston whole again.

Tom Denton
New Paltz, NY

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Dan Nafzger <dfn745@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:31 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Dan Nafzger
Subject: SPECIAL MASTER

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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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,

Dan Nafzger
158 Spring St
Catskill, NY 12414

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Havensj <havensj@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:35 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Newly defined redistricting map

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.

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Best Regards,

Jonas E. Havens
Freehold, NY

Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS

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Brenda A. Wise

From: sbershad <sbershad@rcn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:34 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting

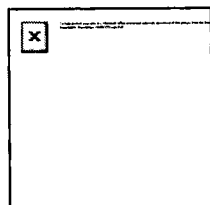
The new district for Stuyvesant Town removes us from our geographic neighbors with whom we share issues such as food store availability, construction, school availability, air pollution, park space, flood issues, (we were one of the most flooded areas during hurricane Sandy and share this with the other areas along the East River),and so much more. Although all neighborhoods have many issues, the particulars in each area are more likely to be shared with those closest geographically. Please do not allow this redistricting as it now stands to go forward. Thank you for your attention.

Sent from my iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Sandra Lobo <sandra.lobo@northwestbronx.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:33 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Public Comment on Bronx Redistricting
Attachments: Northwest Bronx Redistricting Letter to Judge McAllister .pdf



Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition
103 East 196th Street
Bronx, NY 10468
Tel: 718-584-0515
www.northwestbronx.org

May 18, 2022

Dear Judge Patrick McAllister,

We are writing to you with deep concern for the future of our community based on the new redistricting maps of the Northwest Bronx. As you may know, the Bronx has experienced systematic marginalization through racist practices like redlining and disinvestment both by the private and public sectors for decades. This has left a negative lasting impact on our communities visible today by the devastating statistics around unemployment, high school dropout and incarceration rates, the worst health outcomes in the state and more recently increasing evictions and rising displacement pressures from the pandemic. **We are writing to request that you restore the core of Northwest Bronx senate districts 31, 32, 33 and 34 and keep intact the singular senate district that is in the west Bronx which would keep these communities of interest cohesive and whole to ensure our equal electoral representation.** We cannot afford to go back and have our community undermined once again, now through this current redistricting process.

The Northwest Bronx Community & Clergy Coalition is a 47 year old grassroots, member-led organization that has been organizing around housing, health, education, immigration and more since 1974. We represent over 20,000 families in the Northwest Bronx, including 13 affiliate member institutions: Our Lady of Angels Church, Mekong NYC, Christ Church Riverdale, Tolentine Zeiser Church, Simon Stock Church, Fordham University, Manhattan College, Kingsbridge Heights Neighborhood Association, the Mary Mitchell Family & Youth Center, the Bronx Cooperative Development Initiative, United Outreach Ministries, New Day Church, and Sistas and Brothas United. In addition, we work with a number of Bronx-based coalitions that have developed a network of services, advocacy and organizing across these neighborhoods that work towards addressing root causes of the inequities within the Bronx.

The Bronx has **the lowest health outcomes** in the entire state of New York. We have the highest rates of obesity, diabetes, and asthma. We have the highest rates of poor housing conditions that exacerbate these health concerns and the majority of our residents pay more than half of their income on rent. It is no coincidence that our current state representatives are champions around statewide health and housing initiatives and campaigns. Our organizations have worked tirelessly together with residents, small businesses and other local stakeholders to advocate for our shared needs and to push forward legislation and investment that would improve the living conditions and overall health and wellness of our community.

The original singular Northwest Bronx State Senate district which included neighborhoods working together to advocate for shared needs are now divided and marginalized with other communities. University Heights and Kingsbridge Heights neighborhoods are now pushed out to District 31 with areas of Manhattan. The Fordham neighborhood is now in District 32. The Crotona and southern part of Belmont neighborhoods are in District 33 and Tremont/Burnside and Jerome neighborhoods are in two different districts. All of these neighborhoods are serviced by our organizations, have experienced a shared history and have been working together for a long time to address issues impacting our areas.

In addition, commercial districts in the Northwest Bronx, which are so vital to our community are now in 3 different senate districts. The Tremont/Burnside commercial corridor is now in 3 senate districts. The Fordham Road Business Improvement District, the third largest in the entire City is now in two senate districts. And the Kingsbridge Road commercial district, which is the most proximate to our organization, would now have three different senate districts. These arbitrary divisions would make advocacy for shared resources very difficult and undermine the future of these burgeoning small businesses.

We are very concerned that by dividing our neighborhoods, we will once again experience serious marginalization and that progress made will be lost. Our community, currently represented largely by one district, would be divided into 4 different senate districts across borough lines, combining neighborhoods that are not familiar with one another and that don't share the same needs. This would have a long lasting and devastating impact on our community and threatens to marginalize us once again electorally.

We respectfully request that you keep the original core senate districts 31, 32, 33 and 34 intact and maintain the representation of this community of interest to ensure that our progress continues to address the inequities facilitated by decades worth of marginalization of the past.

Sincerely,

Sandra Lobo

--

Sandra Lobo, Executive Director
Northwest Bronx Community & Clergy Coalition

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

**Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition**

103 East 196th Street
Bronx, NY 10468
Tel: 718-584-0515
www.northwestbronx.org

May 18, 2022

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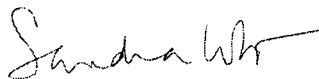
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We are very concerned that by dividing our neighborhoods, we will once again experience serious marginalization and that progress made will be lost. Our community, currently represented largely by one district, would be divided into 4 different senate districts across borough lines, combining neighborhoods that are not familiar with one another and that don't share the same needs. This would have a long lasting and devastating impact on our community and threatens to marginalize us once again electorally.

We respectfully request that you keep the original core senate districts 31, 32, 33 and 34 intact and maintain the representation of this community of interest to ensure that our progress continues to address the inequities facilitated by decades worth of marginalization of the past.

Sincerely,



Sandra Lobo
Executive Director

Brenda A. Wise

From: JOAN MONROE <citiprincess@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:35 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: State Senate Representative

Our newly proposed congressional district is not representative of the community. It makes absolutely no sense to bundle Peter Cooper Village/ StuyTown with the Bronx and Queens. We need to remain in a congressional district of our geographical neighborhoods where many of our needs and our concerns are the same and not at odds especially with other boroughs as they relate to congestion pricing. Our long-standing elected Representative Brad Hoylman is far more knowledgeable of our neighborhood than long term Queens politician , Michael Gianaris. We have nothing in common with other areas of NYC that we can't even walk to.

Please reconsider this decision.

Thank you.

Joan M. Monroe
440 East 23rd Street (APT 7H)
New York, NY 10010
Citiprincess@aol.com
(212) 260-0745 Home

Sent from my iPhone

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Louise Bloomfield <louise.bloomfield@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:35 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Special Master's Proposed Redistricting Maps: KEEP ULSTER COUNTY TOGETHER

Dear Judge McAllister,

I'm a resident of Saugerties, NY. I'm writing out of deep concern that these districts split off my northern Ulster County community and a few others from the greater part of our county and of its county seat, Kingston, NY. I have written separately in protest of the proposed fracturing of the city of Kingston, our county seat.

Saugerties, the largest town in the community after Kingston, has immeasurably greater common interest with the rest of Ulster County than with the very distant and different communities outside the County in the proposed District 19. To be effectively represented in Congress, Ulster County needs a single representative. I ask urgently that Ulster County remain in one single district under the final redistricting map. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,
Louise Bloomfield
Saugerties, NY

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Catherine <cctrinka@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:36 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting map of Greene County

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.

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.

Thank you,

Catherine Censor

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Keith Batman <batman.keith@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:38 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting for Cayuga County

18 May 2022

Greetings Honorable Justice Patrick McAllister and Special Master Dr. Jonathan Cervas,

We appreciate the challenges of developing a map that is fair, that is consistent with communities of interest and that recognizes economic development needs and realities. Unfortunately for Cayuga County, these maps fail. We applaud that you have been able to keep the City of Auburn within the same State Senate and Congressional districts. This will be of value for the City of Auburn but the benefit ends there.

Cayuga County and Auburn are integrally tied to Syracuse and Onondaga County in every way that matters: jobs and economic development; cultural and social activities; and health services, to name a few. Similarly, every county west of Cayuga County reasonably looks west to Monroe County for similar resources. In the drawn map, we are isolated from the heart of our geographic area. To remove us from both the State Senate and Congressional Districts of our economic and cultural center will put us at a disadvantage in every way that is important in the context of representation.

Our final point applies not just to us but to the larger map. As drawn, this map exacerbates the rural/urban split in the State. This has been a growing problem and one about which we all need to be aware. The 'us' versus 'them' mentality is one of the biggest challenges facing our democracy and the urban/rural split is one of the most obvious manifestations of that challenge.

We ask that you reexamine the underlying impacts of this map on Cayuga County in the context of natural community affinity and needs.

Thank you.

With Regards,

Keith Batman
Post

Barbara
Town of Scipio, Cayuga County

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Jason Eckardt <jasoneckardt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:38 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep Ulster County whole!

For decades, Ulster County residents have been served by a single representative in Congress. Please don't break us in two. From the Hudson River to the Catskill mountains and fertile valleys in between, our local governments are working together to ensure everyone in Ulster has the opportunity to thrive. We need one voice to speak for us in Congress, who will act on our behalf to meet the needs of our county as a whole.

Sincerely,

Jason Eckardt
Kerhonkson, NY

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Rena Blumenthal <renablumenthal@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:39 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Don't split Ulster County!

Dear Judge McCallister,

I already wrote to you earlier today about not splitting the city of Kingston into two districts in the new redistricting process. However, I was remiss in not mentioning my alarm at the idea that all of Ulster County will be split into two districts.

For decades, Ulster County residents have been served by a single representative in Congress. Please don't break us in two. From the Hudson River to the Catskill mountains and the fertile valleys in between, our local governments are working together to ensure everyone in Ulster has the opportunity to thrive. We need one voice to speak for us in Congress, who will act on our behalf to meet the needs of our county as a whole.

Please reconsider this plan so that both Ulster County and the city of Kingston remain united in a single district!

Thank you!

Rena Blumenthal
New Paltz, New York

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Pat Skold <plskold13@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:40 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,
Pat Skold

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Pat Skold <plskold13@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:40 PM
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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,
Pat Skold

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: H Harvey <hharvey@hookarts.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:38 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Opposition to Redistricting Congressional District 7
Attachments: CD7 Justice McAllister.pdf

Dear Justice McAllister,

My name is Heather Harvey, and I have the privilege of working in Red Hook, Brooklyn. Red Hook is amongst the neighborhoods potentially facing redistricting. Currently a proud member of Congressional District 7, the new special master's draft would resituate us within Congressional District 11.

Red Hook is a nonprofit-dense region in Brooklyn, and many of these uniquely community-oriented organizations focus significant programming and advocacy resources in service of Red Hook locals. Home to the largest housing development in Brooklyn, Red Hook faces a number of systemic challenges including: transit access, banking scarcity, affordable housing access, and climate vulnerability.

Despite this, Red Hook is a vibrant community in which the spirit of mutual aid and local coalition-building is alive and well. A recent landmark effort saw 11 Red Hook and Gowanus organizations collaborate on an appropriations request with Representative Nydia Velazquez. Representative Velazquez distributed \$1 million in support of public programs serving working class families and youth programming.

Unique community organizing efforts such as these illustrate that CD7 isn't an arbitrary collection of lines on a map but a community. So I ask you to consider the stability of the coalitions we've built, the community service we've spearheaded, and the welfare of the nearly 700,000 New Yorkers in Representative Velazquez's district whom we serve.

Best,
HH

--

H. Harvey [She/Her/Hers]
Director of Marketing
Hook Arts Media
formerly Dance Theatre Etcetera
T. 718.643.6790 (x2)
F. 718.643.6733
480 Van Brunt Street, STE 203
Brooklyn, NY 11231
Follow us on social media: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

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Unique community organizing efforts such as these illustrate that CD7 isn't an arbitrary collection of lines on a map but a community. So, I ask you to consider the stability of the coalitions we've built, the community service we've spearheaded, and the welfare of the nearly 700,000 New Yorkers in Representative Velazquez's district whom we serve.

Best,
HH

Brenda A. Wise

From: Salve Stamatelaky <alphasalve@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:40 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise

My husband and I are seniors who came to New York and been living in Manhattan since in the 60's and 70's and for 7 years now have not been out of Manhattan, taking only Manhattan buses to where we need to go like medical visits - how can we or Manhattan be a practical part of Brooklyn or Queens?
Many thanks, Salve Stamatelaky

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Kevin Muldowney <kevinjmuldowney@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:41 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Possible Changes to Proposed NY 23 Congressional District

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas:

I want to thank both of you for keeping the Southern Tier District together but have one small suggestion that in my opinion would help enhance the proposed NY23. The suggestion would be to drop Erie County from the proposed district and keep the entire district rural with its rich history of agriculture. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Kevin J. Muldowney
Chautauqua County District 1
Dunkirk, NY

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Brenda A. Wise

From: HOWARD BEACH LINDENWOOD CIVIC <hblcivic2014@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:40 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting SD 15
Attachments: Letter re proposed SD15 (1).pdf

Good Afternoon, Hon. Justice Patrick McAllister and Special Mater Cervus,

I am the Co-President of the Howard Beach Lindenwood Civic. I have many concerns with regard to the new redistricting maps that have been proposed, and the effect they will have on the community as a whole. The attached letter speaks volumes as to how it will affect us as well as representing how our members feel about said redistricting. As the civic leader I fully support all the points presented in the attached letter by Betty Braton. I strongly urge you to reconsider the redistricting and include all of zip code 11414 in SD 15.

--

All the best,

Barbara McNamara,
Co-President
Howard Beach Lindenwood Civic
646-235-9066

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Christine Dinsmore <chdinsmore@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:47 PM
To: cervas@cmu.edu
Cc: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: New York's Redistricted Maps

I live in Saugerties, NY and am also a member of the NAACP-Ellenville. While I am certain that Dr. Cervas was looking to be fair, he created a map without the lived experience of a New Yorker or input from New Yorkers.

There are three issues I am concerned about:

1. The map overall has disenfranchised communities of color, splitting up districts in a way that dilutes fair and equal representation of African-Americans.
2. Here in Ulster County, the map specifically divides the City of Kingston, making the former capital of New York weakened in its representation.
3. We in Ulster County, regardless of whether we live in a rural, suburban or urban area, have shared experiences and concerns. We need meaningful representation in Congress--someone who understands the commonality of its residents, rather than making assumptions based on geographical boundaries. Ulster County needs to be in one congressional district.

It's time for representatives of the people of New York to be part of the redistricting process.

Sincerely,

Christine Dinsmore, Ph.D.
976 Church Road
Saugerties, NY 12477

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Karen Wark <karenwark@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:50 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: New District Map for Greene County

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,

Karen Wark

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Marlienne Christian <marlienne@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:49 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR; Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Draft Plan Objection

To: Honorable Justice Patrick McAllister and Special Master Jonathan Cervas:
re: Objection to Draft Congressional Plan

I am a resident of the 56th Assembly District, residing at 5 Agate Court in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, New York. I strongly object to the draft Congressional redistricting plan recently proposed by the Special Master. In the plan, my community, Bedford Stuyvesant, is split between two congressional seats, thereby cracking the voting strength of the residents of this historic and continuous history making community. Bedford Stuyvesant was the first community of black residents to elect a black person to this political office over 60 years ago. It is a cohesive block of black voters with a history of advocating for the voting rights of black people and other civil and human rights. Within the 56th Assembly District, lives a body of people with diverse interests and common roots that promote our collective needs and institutions; i.e. Boys and Girls High School, Interfaith Hospital, Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation, Magnolia Earth Tree Center, just to name a few. We respectfully request that the entire 56th Assembly be included in the 8th Congressional District. Thank you.
Sincerely,
Marlienne Christian

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Brenda A. Wise

From: RayT1973 <RayT1973@protonmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:51 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: North Bronx redistricting

It is my understanding that Co-op City is about to be removed from district 16 and move to district 14. Co-op City population is predominantly people of color. This move would seem to intentionally dilute my minority voice. I strongly oppose this move!

Thank you

Ray Torres
120 De Kruif Place
Bronx, N.Y, 10475

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) secure email.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Olivia Patterson <op11gwen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:51 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Congressional Redistricting and Jefferson County

Dear Judge McAllister and Special Master Jonathan Cervas,

I would like to bring an issue to your attention. That issue is the splitting of Jefferson County. The residents of Jefferson county do not want their county divided into two Congressional districts. I don't know if you are familiar with our area, but the members of this county consider themselves to be proud members of the North Country. To remove Jefferson county from the North Country is to remove it from where it belongs. My friends and family all work in the North Country and we take camping trips there with the family as well. This decision will break the unity of Jefferson county. Half the county will now be in a district that stretches all the way into Erie county. We don't have any cohesion or relationships with the people of Erie county. Furthermore, and more importantly, the economy of Jefferson county is tied in with the North Country. It's not dependent on western New York and in this plan the county would be represented by someone who will be looking out for the interests of western New York, not the North Country. As a proud member of the North Country I beg that you reconsider your decision and keep Jefferson County whole and in its rightful place in the North Country.

Thank you for your consideration,
Olivia Patterson

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Vincent McNelis <vincemcnelis@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:51 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Against nonsensical redistricting for PCV/StuyTown

Dear NY Courts Representative,

Please reconsider your decision to add PCV/StuyTown to District 59. I have yet to encounter a single, defensible reason for why our portion of Manhattan should be lumped in with parts of Brooklyn and Queens.

Please listen to our request to be grouped logically with our neighbors.

Sincerely,
Vincent McNelis
Resident of Peter Cooper Village

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Ashley Hunt-Martorano <ash.hunt@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:51 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Comment regarding the redistricting maps for NY Congressional seats

To whom it may concern:

I am emailing you as a concerned voter and resident of NY. Representation matters. Voters need to see candidates and Representatives that look like them.

The new Congressional maps introduced earlier this week seem to neglect several majority minority communities and will require many incumbents to challenge one another. For example, Representative Grace Meng, an Asian American woman, has been representing a heavily Asian American swath of Queens and she has been drawn out of her district. Representative Hakeem Jeffries, a Black man, has represented diverse neighborhoods in Brooklyn and Queens and has been drawn out of his district. Representative Nydia Velazquez, who is Latina, has been drawn out of her Latino-heavy district in Brooklyn. Representatives Mondaire Jones and Jamaal Bowman, two Black Representatives in neighboring districts have now been drawn into the same district and thus we might have fewer Black Representatives from NY in Congress if they are forced to compete with one another.

These maps have ignored the voices of communities of color and are an attempt to dilute the power of voters who are Latino or Black or Asian or Indigenous or other underrepresented communities. The NY State Constitution requires that communities of interest and the cores of existing districts be preserved in the redistricting process and I do not believe that the Special Master has accomplished this.

I implore the Special Master to revisit these districts and to try to avoid breaking up the core of these districts as the past decade has seen unprecedented community organizing so that these underrepresented communities could have a say in their elected representative and choose someone who looks like them.

Best regards,
Ashley Hunt-Martorano
2A Elm St.
East Patchogue, NY 11772
631-525-2382

--

Best regards,

Ashley Hunt-Martorano
631-525-2382

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Mary Hanson <eweka10@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:52 PM
To: Cervas@cmu.edu; STEUBEN_SUPERIOR; Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Objection to Draft Congressional Plan

Good afternoon Hon. Justice Patrick McAllister and Special Master Jonathan Cervas:

I am a resident of the 56th Assembly District, residing at 310A Madison Street in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, New York.

I strongly object to the draft Congressional redistricting plan recently proposed by the Special Master.

In his plan, my community Bedford Stuyvesant is split between two congressional seats, thereby cracking the Voting strength of the residents of this historic community.

Bedford Stuyvesant was the first community of black residents to elect a black person to the political office over 60 years ago. It is a cohesive block of black voters with a history of advocating for the voting rights of Black people and other civil and human rights. Within the 56th Assembly District, we are a community of interest with common roots that advocates for our collective needs and institutions. (Boys & Girls High School, Interfaith Hospital, Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corp., Magnolia Earth Tree Center, etc.)

We respectfully request that the entire 56th Assembly District be included in the 8th Congressional District.

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Elide Bell <elideeva@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:53 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: ATT: Special Master Re: Redistricting Map, Greene County, NY

Dear Mr. Jonathan Cervas,

I am a full time tax paying resident in Jewett located in Greene County. It has come to my attention that Greene County will be separated from Columbia County, the Hudson Valley and the Capital Region in the newly proposed redistricting map. I urge you to reconsider this map.

Greene County has a direct relationship with Columbia County, the Hudson Valley and the Capital Region - environmentally, culturally, financially and economically, especially with tourism and new positive growth - and we share many services, organizations and institutions. To remove us from our community where we are currently and historically defined and have deep relations would be a disservice.

Again, I urge you to please reconsider this map.

Warm Regards,
Elide Bell

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Dear Justice McAllister:

I represent myself and the residents of the New York City Housing Authority's Red Hook West Houses, a public housing complex of approximately 1400 units and an estimated 5 thousand residents, the vast majority families of color and most importantly to me remnants of the great black migration folks who are all mostly of limited income.

For decades, our community has been represented in Congress by a person of color who has direct knowledge of the challenges we face on a daily basis. The district, New York 7th, was one that connected us with similar communities in Lower Manhattan and North Brooklyn that confronted not only the issues of the working poor, but concrete matters of urgency such as climate change effects on our waterfront communities - we, like the Lower Manhattan, experienced the brunt of Superstorm Sandy - and challenges to our public housing infrastructure that our federal representative could best convey as they seek capital funding.

We ask that the court consider a final map that would connect us to communities of interest in, for example, Lower Manhattan (draft District 10) to better ensure that our unique needs remain part of New York's advocacy in Congress.

We hope you will take the voices of Red Hook Houses into consideration as you issue final plans.

Sincerely,
Karen Blondel
Public Housing Civic Association Inc., E.D.



May 2022

I am writing to request the commission, and master, to reconsider the draft map and keep Amsterdam, Albany, Saratoga Spring, Schenectady, and Troy within the same district. These cities all have similar interests and rely on each other and work as one to create the area we know of as the Capital Region. This area has a distinctive social, economic, and familial network that strengthens and enhances our region's major communities. We have grown and continue to develop into a cohesive unit most recently tied through new improvement in public transportation.

Thank you for your hard work and consideration during this process.

Warmly,

Nicole Hemsley
Executive Director
nhemsley@mvls.info

Brenda A. Wise

From: Shebar Windstone <shebar@e271.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 3:52 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Attn Special Master: Further revisions (or un-revisions) needed for Columbia and Greene counties in new redistricting map

Dear Jonathan Cervas,

As a long-time 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

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<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fesd.ny.gov%2Fregionaloverviews%2Fcapital%2Finsideregion.html&data=05%7C01%7Cbwise%40nycourts.gov%7C97351f3a78ac47f4865b08da3907e0fd%7C3456fe92cbd1406db5a35364bec0a833%7C0%7C0%7C637885004266771278%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=U%2FekQKkwmt39BdqX%2FzfyBQjzwY%2FhQLLzTBIGA21Ojos%3D&reserved=0> - 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://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.upstatecreative.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cbwise%40nycourts.gov%7C97351f3a78ac47f4865b08da3907e0fd%7C3456fe92cbd1406db5a35364bec0a833%7C0%7C0%7C637885004266771278%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=w68zBliOCLgDhMFVEdqXg7s2quInVlp5XrCmilrYXKY%3D&pTc%3D&reserved=0>.

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. And our local arts council (<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.createcouncil.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cbwise%40nycourts.gov%7C97351f3a78ac47f4865b08da3907e0fd%7C3456fe92cbd1406db5a35364bec0a833%7C0%7C0%7C637885004266771278%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=w68zBliOCLgDhMFVEdqXg7s2quInVlp5XrCmilrYXKY%3D&p;reserved=0>) encompasses Greene, Columbia & Schoharie counties.

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.

In 18 years of living in the village of Catskill, I have only a couple of times traveled west of Woodstock, & never in the southern parts of the newly defined district. I've never had any reason or desire to, nor driving ability, & don't want to start now!

I 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, & we hope to continue to have viable lives in it!

Thank you for your attention.

With hopes for a green & Greene New York,

Shebar Windstone

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Shebar Windstone <shebar@e271.net>

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