

**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Darnell Rohrbaugh <darnrohr@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:58 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Congressional districts

Dear Special Master Cervas,

*PLEASE* do not put Saratoga Springs and southern Saratoga County in the same district as the North Country and Adirondacks! We will totally lose our voice. Sure, I like visiting the mountains, but have little in common with the people who live there. Most of the people who live in the southern part of Saratoga County work in Albany. Many of my friends and neighbors are state workers. I go to church in Albany. I shop in Albany. Most of my friends live in Albany or it's suburbs. I read the Albany paper, watch the local Albany TV stations. I don't know what the issues are in Hamilton County. I don't even have a good way of finding out. No one will represent me if I have to to bring my concerns to the congress person who represents Essex County.

Darnell Rohrbaugh  
Clifton Park, NY 12065

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Janet Schwenke <janet@schwenkes.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:56 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Proposed redistributing maps. From the Auburn Citizen

[https://auburnpub.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/analysis-cayuga-county-misunderstood-by-redistricting-special-master/article\\_4d5a3c25-0242-5f7f-ae73-c5b0fbe49b83.html?utm\\_source=spotim&utm\\_medium=spotim\\_recirculation&spot\\_im\\_redirect\\_source=pitc](https://auburnpub.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/analysis-cayuga-county-misunderstood-by-redistricting-special-master/article_4d5a3c25-0242-5f7f-ae73-c5b0fbe49b83.html?utm_source=spotim&utm_medium=spotim_recirculation&spot_im_redirect_source=pitc)

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Cheryl Cohen <kailaamber@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:54 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Redistributing

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

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

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

Thank you

Cheryl Cohen  
120 Darrow Place  
Bronx, NY 10475  
\*\*\*\*\*

Sent from my iPhone Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Anthony Coiro <coiroanthony68@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:52 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Redistricting

Dear Jonathan Cervas,

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

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

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

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,

Anthony Coiro

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Susan Levy <sueworm@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:54 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Unfair redistricting

To quote Hakeem Jeffries:

The NYS Constitution requires that the core of existing congressional districts be maintained. So why was the historic Black community of Bedford Stuyvesant broken into pieces in the proposed map? It's wrong and unconstitutional.

From a concerned citizen,

Susan Levy

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Phyllis Collazo <pc1248@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:50 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** By District Maps are Dividing The Bay Ridge Community

To whom it may concern;

As a resident of Bay Ridge I have serious concerns about the new NY district maps. Yea For a long time, Bay Ridge has had to tolerate split representation in the State Assembly—we've been carved up between two Assembly Districts, one that runs east to Coney Island and the other that stretches across the bridge into Staten Island. The saving grace has been Bay Ridge's unified district in the State Senate, ensuring our neighborhood has a single representative to champion our needs and shared interests, at least in that body of the legislature. Under these new lines, we would lose that too: the proposal would divide Bay Ridge into **three different State Senate** By dividing Bay Ridge into districts anchored by other neighborhoods around us, these maps would further dilute the power we have to advocate for our community's shared needs and goals.

For example, Bay Ridge runs along the waterfront from the 69th St pier all the way up to Fort Hamilton Army Base. Plans for parks, ferries, a Greenbelt or other amenities along the waterfront are of concern to everyone i Bay Ridge. But based on these new maps we will be divided into three different districts anchored to neighborhoods that do not share our concerns about the waterfront. That's just an example of how dividing our neighborhood will dilute our ability to advocate for our area's specific needs

In broader state-wide terms,these new lines thst will be in place for **10 years**, do **not appear to** conform to NY's state constitution. These new districts are not preserving "communities of interests," nor are they about preserving "cores of prior districts." Instead this seems to be another Republican tactic for diluting the power of the Democratic majority and imposing minority rule under the guise of reform.

Phyllis Collazo  
[pc1248@gmail.com](mailto:pc1248@gmail.com)  
 28 Marine Ave  
 Brooklyn NY 11209

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Bruce MacBain <bmacbain1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:50 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** NY Maps- Comments for NY 24 and SD 48

Justice Patrick McAllister and Special Master Jonathan Cervas-

I have lived in Auburn NY for 23 years, and I have worked in a neighboring school district for 31 years. I am asking you to consider keeping Auburn connected to the Syracuse area State Senate district and Congressional District.

Auburn and the schools nearby are in the Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES, which includes schools from both Cayuga and Onondaga counties. Our schools share resources and have formed competitive sports rivalries. Our BOCES is small, and when we need more services, we turn to OCM BOCES located in Syracuse. We get our healthcare from the local Auburn Community Hospital, and when we need more services, we turn to the Syracuse hospitals. We have long standing economic and cultural ties to Onondaga County. In short, Auburn's "regional community of interest" includes towns and cities to the east and northeast of Auburn to Syracuse, not west.

The political maps you have proposed for the State Senate and Congress put Auburn outside our regional community of interest. We have WAY more connection with Onondaga County towns like Skaneateles, Marcellus, and Camillus than we do with towns to the west. Please consider putting us in districts where our representatives can continue to grow our existing communities rather than start new patterns of connection to resources. The proposed maps would create huge inefficiencies for Auburn leading to us being not fairly represented in the State Senate or Congress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bruce MacBain

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** E. O'Brien Murray <EOM@OBRIENMURRAY.COM>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:45 PM  
**To:** 'cervas@cmu.edu'; Brenda A. Wise  
**Cc:** E. O'Brien Murray  
**Subject:** Tim Harkenrider, et. Al. v. Governor Kathy Hochul, et al. Supreme Court, Steuben County  
Index Number E2022-0116CV  
**Attachments:** Court Letter Court Finali.pdf

10th Congressional District (& 9th Congressional District)

- Special Master Proposed New York Congressional Map
- NY Congress – Cervas SM Proposal

Brenda-

I have attached a letter from Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein, Council Member Kalman Yeger and 3 other leaders from the Orthodox Community Brooklyn. The letter addresses their concerns with the Congressional maps as proposed on May 16, 2022 and provides recommended solutions that can mitigate the concerns of the community.

Thank you for your assistance earlier this week when I called to coordinate the delivery of this letter. I included Dr. Cervas' email as well. I had seen it used in other correspondences.

O'B

E. O'Brien Murray  
[EOM@OBrienMurray.com](mailto:EOM@OBrienMurray.com)  
235 West 56<sup>th</sup> Street, 22H  
New York, NY 10019

917 697-8196- Cell  
212 581-5825

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## **BROOKLYN –** **KINGS COUNTY**

ATTN: Brenda Wise  
[Bwise@NYcourts.gov](mailto:Bwise@NYcourts.gov)

Cc: Dr. Jonathan Cervas  
[cervas@cmu.edu](mailto:cervas@cmu.edu)

May 17, 2022

Judge Patrick F. McAllister  
Jonathan Cervas, Ph.D., Special Master  
Steuben County Supreme & County Court  
3 East Pulteney Square  
Bath, NY 14810

RE: *Tim Harkenrider, et. Al. v. Governor Kathy Hochul, et al.*  
Supreme Court, Steuben County Index Number E2022-0116CV

### **10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (& 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District)**

- **Special Master Proposed New York Congressional Map**
- **NY Congress – Cervas SM Proposal**

Dear Judge McCallister and Dr. Jonathan Cervas:

We are writing to share with you our deeply held belief the Congressional lines, as currently drawn are discriminatory against Orthodox Jews, a community of interest, per the New York State Constitution.

Thank you for the time and efforts you have put into an important process that will impact New York for the next 10 years and beyond. The long-term impact is why we are requesting minor changes to the 10th Congressional District, in Kings County, on the map you released for public comment on May 16, 2022.

Throughout this process including the *May 4<sup>th</sup> letter to the court, doc. 363* there has been a combination of testimony and written submissions describing the Orthodox Community as a Community of Interest. While our community has common interests in our schools, language, housing, community services, public safety, where we shop and healthcare, we are now asking for a Congressional District that does not separate our community.

### **Request to Expand 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District to Include Portions of Adjacent Neighborhoods** **Alternatively, Please Include the Entirety of Borough Park & Kensington in CD-9**

- We are requesting the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (CD-10) as proposed by the Court and Special Master be **expanded slightly to include the remaining parts of the Borough Park, Midwood and Flatbush** neighborhoods. The proposed maps include parts of these neighborhoods in the proposed 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (CD-9.) **(Map & Description Attached)**
- To meet the requirement that the **population remains the same** – the blocks north of Prospect Park near Grand Army Plaza can be added to CD-9 AND 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues at 23<sup>rd</sup> Street near South Slope can be added to the 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (CD-11.)

- There are significant number of blocks bordering CD-9 and CD-10 as well as across the width of CD-10 to balance the population as required. There are also a significant number of blocks bordering CD-11 to balance the population for any population shift in Borough Park. The Court and Special Master can also choose to lower the population of CD-10 along the border with the 7th Congressional District (CD-7.) This would be an option if the court was adjusting the lines and population among other congressional districts.
- The attached Midwood and Flatbush map shows the area going as far as the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. This shows how even a compacted map can have our community split over four Congressional Districts. We are aware if the entire area was included it would be part of a readjustment across more than just CD-10 and neighboring districts. We ask that you include as much of the area as possible.
- These proposed adjustments keep the required population in each Congressional District as well as compact district with a community of interest.
- If the above adjustments cannot be done to unify a community of interest, the alternative is to include the entirety of Borough Park in the currently proposed CD-9.

For the past 10 years, our community has been represented by five Congressional Districts. In that time, our community has grown significantly above the city average. This growth includes more than 75,000 children and 75 Yeshivas (schools). Throughout the community we have growing first responder services which have continued to grow. The Shomrim & Hatzolah organizations work closely with the New York City EMS and NYPD, to coordinate proper government and community support. These organizations are similar to any fire and ambulance department in the country.

But this growth has also resulted in family members a block away and even across the street having different representatives in Congress, language barriers, uncertainty where to go for constituent services, and challenges addressing community issues such as education, housing, healthcare, and public safety.

We ask that the final maps you approve unify this Community of Interest, fix the problem we have had for the past 10 years and avoid these challenges for another 10 years.

Thank you for your time to listen to our communities' concerns throughout this process and undertaking the important work that will not only have an immediate impact but impact our future generations.

Sincerely,

/s/ Simcha Eichenstein

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein  
New York State Assembly, District 48

/s/ Joel Rosenfeld

Joel Rosenfeld  
Bobov Community  
Representative Borough Park Community

/s/ Yidel Pearlstein

Yidel Pearlstein, Chair  
Community Board 12, Brooklyn

/s/ Leon Goldenberg

Leon Goldenberg, Trustee  
Agudath Israel of America

/s/ Kalman Yeger

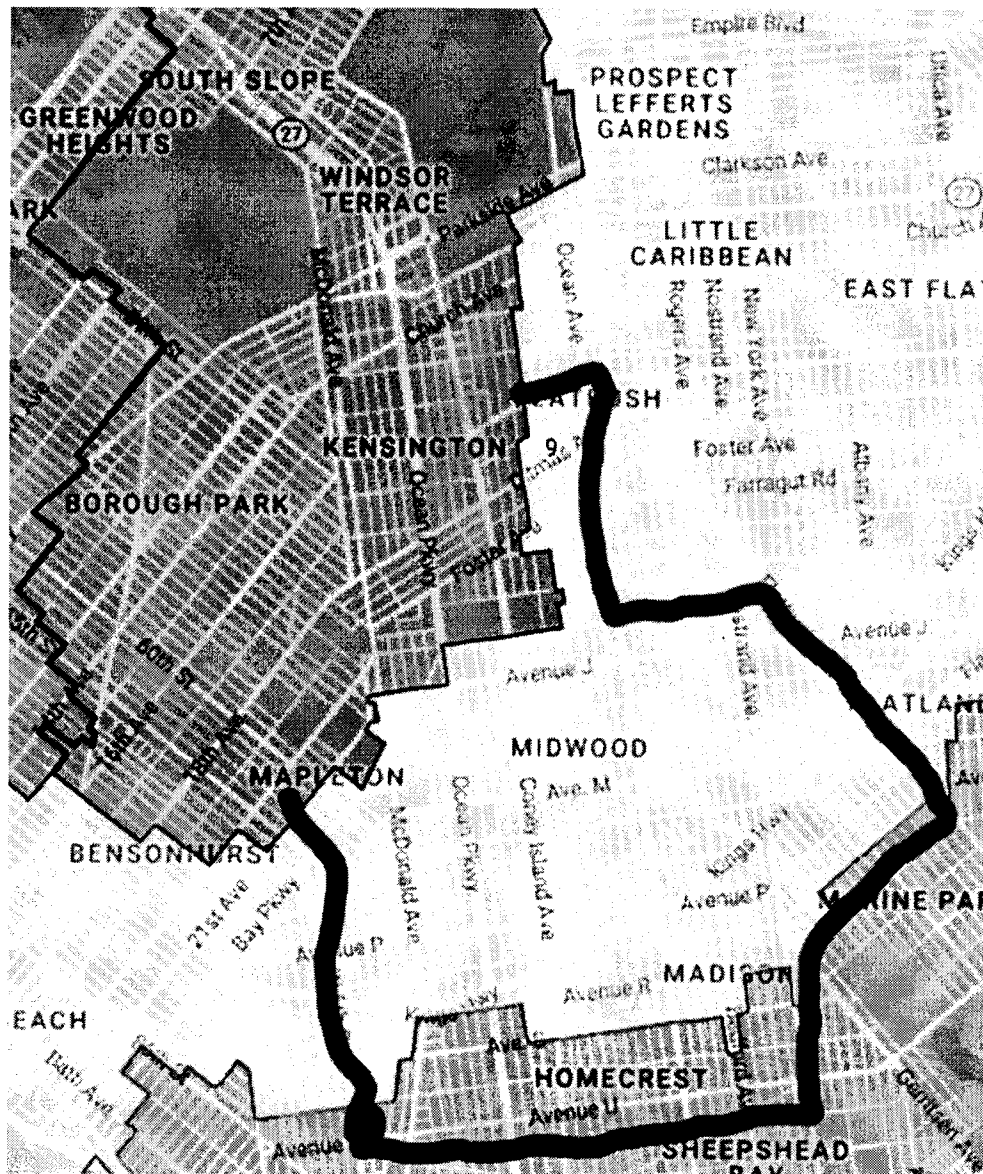
Council Member Kalman Yeger  
New York City Council, District 44

## DESCRIPTIONS & MAPS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONS

### 10<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

#### Midwood & Flatbush-

- Expand Approximately from 62<sup>nd</sup> Street south, to Avenue U east across to Nostrand Avenue and north up to Beverly. (Map Below)



## Borough Park-

- Expand to the corner of 9th Avenue and 60<sup>th</sup> Street as shown on the map



**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Margaret F. <margaretmaggie@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:44 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** NY Congressional Redistricting

I am just appalled at the proposed new NY congressional districts. I live in a district in New York City that has been represented by Carolyn Malone for many years. With this redistricting she would be competing with Gerald Nadler and one of them would lose their seat in Congress. And mine is hardly the only example of two longtime distinguished congressional representatives who would be put in competition with each other and one of them being eliminated. That is just ridiculous. I don't know who this master is who drew up this idiotic map but it should be re-drawn more reasonably .

A very concerned citizen,  
Margaret Fridecky  
Sent from my iPad

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Linda Berk <lindaberk@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:42 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Planned Redistricting of Co-op City from CD16 to CD14

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

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

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

Thank you

Linda Berk  
100 Dreiser Loop Apt 10A  
Bronx, NY 10475

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Eric Mucha <ericmuch1977@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:42 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Support for Redrawn NYS Voter District Maps

May 18, 2022

Dear Honorable McAllister:

Please be advised that I support the newly redrawn NYS voter district maps in order to provide a better distribution of fair representation of both the Democratic and Republican parties. The gerrymandered maps are completely unacceptable, regardless of favored party affiliation.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the representation of all New York State voters as the Empire State encompasses a vast majority of values and views that need to be uniquely addressed in each individual region.

Sincerely,  
Eric Mucha

Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Elena Mora <emora1959@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:42 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Kingston cd

I understand kingston may be split between two congressional districts. What a bad idea! It's a VERY small city (more like a big town), with many issues and concerns, and we need a single voice! Please do not accept the proposed division of our community.

Thank you,  
Elena Mora

Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** D. Edith <D.edithhere@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:42 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Cc:** cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Comments on the latest redistricting proposal

I am opposed to the current redistricting plan by Mr. Cervas. This proposed plan would effectively disenfranchise the many minorities on Long Island. It also pits several incumbent elected officials against one another.

I have been a resident of Senate district 5 and Congressional district 3 for over 30 years. Mr. Cervas is proposing to include in my voting districts communities of Nassau County's South Shore. These comprise a distinct and highly organized reactionary community with an enormous amount of political influence even outside of their existing district. To add them into ours we would be entirely overwhelmed and have no voice whatsoever.

I feel that the New York State legislature should go back to the drawing board and draw up a new redistricting plan that is fair to all parties concerned. The election districts should be similar to the districts that existed before the current and immediately previous redistricting proposal.

Any plan must respect and preserve the history and voice of the communities... To do any less is to erase them.

Sincerely,  
D. Edith  
Concerned voter, longtime long island resident

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Michelle Solomon <msolo46@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:41 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** NY congressional maps

Your Honor,

I am writing to vehemently protest the current New York Congressional district map configuration that you will be considering. It does not take into account the federally mandated rights of minorities and language groups and the rights of New Yorkers to choose their representation. I strongly request that you reject the most recent maps drawn by the special Master and take into consideration the will of the people of the state of New York. An outrageous injustice and disenfranchisement will result if these districts are approved and would persist for many years to come. Thank you for considering my comment.

Sincerely,  
Michelle Solomon  
District 17

Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Steven Donen <stevenrdonen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:40 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Opposition to Proposed Congressional District Map

Judge McAllister:

I am writing to express my very strong opposition to the maps that have been proposed for congressional district lines in New York State. primarily because they would result in the pitting of incumbent members of Congress against each other, resulting in the loss of important leaders in Congress and members of Congress of color who would lose their seats representing important constituencies.

As an attorney that is involved in election law, I understand that the overriding concerns of the Court in dealing with this issue is that the lines be as contiguous as possible and that districts are drawn fairly so that they may be competitive as well.

However, the lines proposed by Professor Cervas do not take into account the relationship between both recently elected and long time Members of Congress and the constituencies and neighborhoods and districts they represent and I believe that the current representatives, the leadership responsibilities these Members hold and the resulting benefit of their policies and work for the people of New York and all of the Northeast must be a factor in the lines drawn by the Court.

For example, the work of Congressman Nadler as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee and Congresswoman Maloney as Chair of the Oversight Committee have benefitted the voters of New York as well as the entire country. Similarly, the leadership that Congressman Sean Maloney is providing as Chair of the Democratic Congressional Committee and Congressman Jeffries is providing as Chair of the Democratic Caucus benefits all voters of New York and the Northeast with the policies they promote on such issues as climate change, tax equity and assistance for working families. These members are among others that would be forced to run against each other if this map is approved.

Finally, I understand the need to meet deadlines so that candidates can circulate petitions to get on an August ballot, however, this map will affect billions of dollars that may or may not flow to New York in the next ten years and should not be rushed.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Steve Donen  
S D Associates  
P.O. Box 4565  
Hartford, CT 06147  
B 860-278-3434  
[sdonen@sdassociates.com](mailto:sdonen@sdassociates.com)

P.S. While I am a resident of Connecticut and not New York, my consulting work is involved with many New York candidates and I am vitally concerned that the best candidates for Congress are elected from New York.

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** George Olken <georgeolken@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:39 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Racist districts

I strongly object to districts made with so little regard for historic neighborhoods and representation of communities of color. A panel of community leaders must make our districts not the courts nor the parties.

With the election so near the fairest thing would be to keep current district maps in place until a proper committee can do its work.

Thank you!

George Olken  
Brooklyn, NY 9th District

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Adelina Martinez <martinezadelina30@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:36 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Congressional Redistricting in the Bronx - May 2022

To Whom it may Concern,

This letter is to serve as an important call to order for Congress to reconsider it's move towards remapping district 16 which currently includes Coop City in the Northeast Bronx section. With such drastic measures, such as recreating a 14th district which will marginalize our community, it will also cause a detriment of 17% loss of our voting rights within our total population. This community is a NORC which thrives in its voting processes and voting population of a mixed mosaic and people of color. I do earnestly request that these actions to "Fix" what is not "broken" may not be revised without our consent and thus allowing our Voices to be resoundingly heard before any finalizations are decided.

It is with the utmost respect that our future be determined based upon our reactions to stop changes in our society before it's too late. On behalf of the 16th district and as a long time resident, of over 35 years, hear us we beseech thee, not to dilute what has proven to work up thru now. And let the records show that our quest is to win this attack on our voting rights the right way.

Thank you for your attention and prompt review on this matter.

Regards,

Adelina Martinez

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Daisy Paez <dsmile218@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:34 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Cc:** Evelyn Cruz  
**Subject:** I oppose the recently drawn lines. It is unacceptable and causes division on a already marginalized population.

To whom it May Concern,

My name is Daisy Paez. I am a District Leader for Assembly District 65 Part B

As a community leader and resident of the 7th Congressional District in NYC, I am writing to express my dismay and opposition to the recently drawn lines. As a life-time resident of the Lower East Side community, I know that we have more in common with the existing Williamsburg, Redhook, North and South Brooklyn community, than the district you proposed which carves our Manhattan and the district by 50%.

Our communities have been united in the same Congressional District NY 7 for 30 years. We are neighborhoods that are culturally linked, and a proposed Congressional map that separates the Lower East Side from North Brooklyn and South Brooklyn shows disregard for our communities and right to vote for fair and equitable representation.

Over the last three decades, these neighborhoods built a coalition between Latino, Jewish and AAPI communities within these boroughs and formed the backbone of this majority-minority district. During that time frame, the important cultural ties of these communities have been recognized by multiple courts and kept together within the same congressional district. Continuing to keep the Lower East Side and its surrounding Latino communities united with North Brooklyn is especially important as we confront hate crimes, and disparate impact by developers. Majority-minority districts continue to be one of the most effective methods of ensuring that communities of color have the ability to elect officials of choice.

Beyond their shared cultural identities, these communities also share other similarities, including the immigrant experience, the impacts of being waterfront neighborhoods, and the fight for environmental justice. During the testimony process, community members from across the district urged the commission to keep these neighborhoods united.

We all have issues we care about and currently advocate as district 7. Whether it is healthcare, climate change, immigration, affordable housing, criminal justice reform, education, ending systemic racism, etc. It is important that we as a minority community have power to ensure elected officials support our communities' well-being and address our most pressing needs. That is why we are asking for a 7th congressional district that reflects today existing lines that include the Lower Eastside, Williamsburg, South Brooklyn and Queens.

Moving forward we urge you to revisit NY 7th district lines and change to include my community of the Lower East Side. The east river waterfront community is united in services, and representation with the Williamsburg waterfront community. It would be a public disservice and unjust to separate and divide these communities. As you move forward, we urge you to reconsider district 7 and reunite these common, unified communities. Thank you for your consideration.

Daisy Paez

District Leader AD 65 Part B

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Mary Santiago <noosh47@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:34 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Remapping of coop city

To whom it may concern,

It is very sad that such a big decision is being taken on behalf of coop city which gives the residents very little time to respond. It is unfortunate that this decision may affect the well being of our city we have come to cherish and hope do so for so many years. By dividing districts, this decision is interfering Riverbay from voting as a unified community. I don't see how this is supposed to better or improve our community. Please advise how this decision to divide Riverbay into several districts would be beneficial or improve the community.

Regards,

Marie Santiago

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Marianne Nasso <nassom527@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:33 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep Amsterdam in NY20

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

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Ann Trudell <adtrudell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:33 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise

Your Honor,

I am writing to vigorously protest the current New York Congressional district map configuration that you will be considering. It does not take into account the federally mandated voting rights of minorities and language groups and the rights of New Yorkers to choose their representation. I strongly request that you reject the most recent maps drawn by the special Master and take into consideration the will of the people of the state of New York. An outrageous injustice and disenfranchisement would result if these districts are approved and would persist for many years to come.

Thank you for considering my comment.

Sincerely,  
Ann Trudell  
District 17

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Imran Ansari <iansari@lilabor.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:33 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Long Island Federation of Labor Comments on NY2 Redistricting  
**Attachments:** LI Fed Comments on Congressional Maps-5-18--2022.pdf

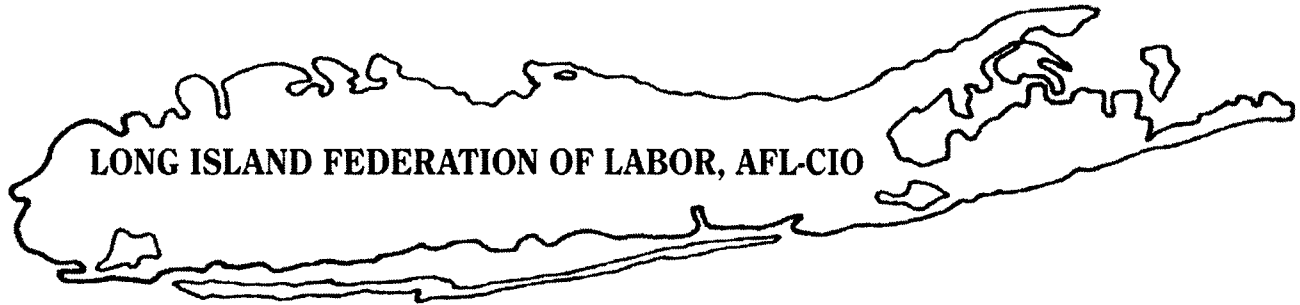
Good evening,

Please find the attached letter from the Long Island Federation of Labor in reference to the Special Master's maps, particularly NY-2.

Thank you.

Imran Ansari  
Political Director  
Long Island Federation of Labor  
390 Rabro Drive  
Hauppauge, NY 11788  
631-348-1170 Ext. 326

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May 18, 2022

**RE: Adoption of NYS's newly Drawn Congressional Maps**

Supreme Court Justice McAllister and Dr. Jonathan Cervas:

On behalf of the Long Island Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO and the working people we represent I write to encourage the courts to delay adopting the Congressional District maps as proposed by Dr. Jonathan Cervas. We have provided comments for consideration regarding the newly drawn Congressional Districts for the State of New York, but given the limited timeline for feedback they are singularly focused on the current iteration of NY-2 in comparison with the NY-2 district proposed by the special master.

We believe for working people to truly be served by their government it is important for the courts to get it right, rather than just adopting something quickly. Our concerns are not limited to NY-2. We know and understand any changes applied would have a ripple effect throughout our region.

The law creating the independent redistricting commission required several factors for consideration. The following were among them:

- The commission had to consider the maintenance of cores of existing districts, of pre-existing political subdivisions, and of communities of interest
- Districts should be contiguous and as compact in form as practicable

Dr. Cervas's apparent goal of not crossing county lines appears to be an effort to achieve some of the goals set forth above. Unfortunately, we believe by giving county boundaries super priority Dr. Jonathan Cervas proposed maps that divide communities of interest, and although the districts may be contiguous and compact they are not so in a manner that is practicable.

Written in the court's opinion Supreme Court Justice McAllister indicates map drawers must balance county preservation with other considerations. The court's opinion goes on to highlight that there is clearly nothing in the constitution that requires county integrity receive preference, or even be given the same priority across the board in a uniform manner throughout New York State.

The version of NY-2 that has existed for the previous decade, and was largely maintained in the maps drawn by the New York State legislature considered the maintenance of cores of existing

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[www.longislandfed.org](http://www.longislandfed.org)

districts, of pre-existing political subdivisions, and of communities of interest. It also kept the district contiguous and as compact in form as practicable.

Communities of interest often refers to a group of people with a common set of concerns that may be affected by legislation. Examples of communities of interest include ethnic, racial, and economic groups. New York State, like many other states, requires the preservation of communities of interest be taken in account when drawing electoral districts in an effort to enable these communities to elect representatives whose platforms or policy proposals align with their interests.

The version of NY-2 that Representative Andrew Garbarino currently represents is a “South Shore” District. It includes the Townships of Babylon and Islip in Suffolk County and the Southeast communities in the Towns of Hempstead and Oyster Bay in Nassau County. These communities are bound by common concerns including, but not limited to the economy and the environment. As proposed by Dr. Cervas, this district is torn in two for the sake of keeping districts predominantly within county boundaries, which can be inferred by the court’s opinion is essentially arbitrary. NY-2, as proposed by Dr. Cervas, consolidates the Township of Huntington and the Township of Babylon into one district. A brief review of their community needs during times of disaster would lead to the obvious conclusion that they don’t have the same community needs. Splitting apart the south shore communities is contrary to keeping together communities of interest, racially, ethnically, and economically. Dr. Cervas seems to have maintained the north shore/south shore districts intact for the State Senate maps. Thus, naturally eliciting the question, was this an oversight, and could these maps be revisited if given the proper amount of time.

Long Island’s history and geography has made the development of communities of like character stretching from East to West as opposed to North to South. The Long Island Railroad has serviced Long Island commuters since the 1800’s. It has a North track and a South track that knit together communities from East to West. Federal infrastructure investments have long been targeted to serve North Shore or South Shore communities. Water quality issues, transportation needs, investments to protect our barrier beaches and the southern bays are shared across the south shore. They also happen to have the same coastline. We believe their coastline and the litany of shared challenges reaffirm they should be put together in a contiguous compact congressional district that runs east to west along the south shore. Federal matters such as efforts by the Army Corp. of Engineers to preserve barrier beaches are concerns that non-South Shore residents don’t understand. Putting Eaton’s Neck in the same district as Fire Island is illogical.

Long Island’s topography natural disasters affect the South Shore communities different from their North Shore counterparts. Super Storm Sandy and Hurricane Irene created significant coastal flooding on the South Shore, while North Shore communities dealt with downed power lines and tree damage. The bulk of reconstruction dollars were spent on the South Shore communities devastated by Super Storm Sandy, and yet a decade later residents still grapple with the aftermath of the storm. A Representative in Congress who fully understands these facts through a lived experience shared with their constituents enables them to deliver effective representation on behalf of the communities they are meant to represent, rather than someone who is forced to make political calculations in the midst of disaster discerning which coastline to prioritize.

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New York's Second Congressional District isn't broken. On behalf of the working families who call it home, don't fix it. It is contiguous. It is reasonably rectangular in shape and contains communities of like character and concerns. The maps as proposed by Dr. Jonathan Cervas have Southeast Nassau communities such as Massapequa and Massapequa Park in a pre-dominantly North Shore District. This is a disservice to the residents of communities on both coasts. Similarly, putting Long Island Sound communities such as Lloyd's Neck, Centerport, and Northport in the same district as Amityville, Lindenhurst, and Great River denies them a representative that understands and is devoted to their unique concerns.

As previously stated, our concerns are not unique to NY-2. We hope these maps can be amended in such a way that keeps the communities of the South Shore of Long Island together, communities of the North Shore together, and as is required by statute in a manner that is consistent with the intent to keep communities of interest together. They deserve to be represented by one of their own, someone who can be an effective voice to advocate for their safety, prosperity and well-being.

Sincerely,



John R. Durso  
President

390 Rabro Drive ■ Hauppauge, New York 11788  
(631) 348-1170 fax (631) 348-1180  
[www.longislandfed.org](http://www.longislandfed.org)



**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Janine Sarna-Jones <jsarnajones@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:30 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village State Senate Redistricting

I just found out that the powers that be have lumped Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village into a district that includes both Queens and Brooklyn. Super dump.

Stuy Town and Peter Cooper residents have little in common with Brooklyn or Queens residents.

I propose using waterways to define districts instead of gerrymandering for unknown political reasons. Please fix this.

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Julia Donnaruma <jm.donnaruma@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:27 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

The Capital Region historically has been kept together in the same Congressional District for good reason - the shared communities and cities of Albany, Amsterdam, Saratoga Springs, Schenectady, and Troy have deep roots binding them together.

To allow one individual the authority to redraw district lines and to change the fate of several communities practically overnight sets a dangerous precedent while disregarding the voices and needs of thousands of voters.

The current 20th congressional district lines have fostered a unity that has kept our area strong, diverse and vibrant. If the proposed maps issued by the 'Special Master' are accepted, then it will shatter our identity as a region and pit residents of the region against each other as they fight for continued relevance (i.e. majority representation) in Washington, D.C.

The ruling and subsequent actions of the Steuben County judge, himself a political appointee, are no less political than any other stage of the redistricting process, but now New York residents have no time to react or to even understand the soon to be new fate of their representation in Washington for the next ten years.

The "Special Master's" plans for New York - the true scourge - will further marginalize underrepresented communities by diminishing if not muting their voices in Washington. This is just another version of "extreme gerrymandering" and it should not be allowed to stand. One person has been granted the authority to single handedly make an entire region irrelevant and across the state that same person has pushed entire communities that much closer to complete irrelevance.

This special master's proposed congressional lines cannot stand.

Julia Donnaruma  
Troy, NY

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-Jd

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Alex Haddad <alex.haddad@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:24 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu; STEUBEN\_SUPERIOR  
**Subject:** re: Objection to Draft Congressional Plan

**To Hon. Justice Patrick McAllister and Special Master Jonathan Cervas:**

**I am a resident of the 56th Assembly District, residing at 459 Macon 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.**

**Name: Alex haddad**

**Address: 459 Macon Street, BK, NY, 11233**

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** joan kutcher <jckutcher@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:22 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Special Master - Redistricting Greene County

To Jonathan Cervas:

As a resident and taxpayer of Greene County, NY, I am very disturbed by 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, among others.

Greene County is 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. We comprise a real community, something that is 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. However, please do not discount the vital relationship between Columbia and Greene County, nor our relationship to the Hudson Valley and the Capital Region.

Sincerely,

Joan Kutcher

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Tammy Johnson-barnes <tjb66@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:23 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; SteubenSuperior@nycourts.gov; Cervas@CMU.edu  
**Subject:** CO-OP CITY 16TH DISTRICT

To Whom It May Concern,

The current attempts to remap our congressional district will seriously diminish the voting strength of Co-op City for the next 10 years. I am requesting that you refrain from moving the 16th congressional district into the 14th congressional district. If you do this it will result in a potential loss of 17% of the voting population for our community of color.

I do not want my voting power deliberately diminished. It's unfair and reeks of prejudice against the minority community as the northeast is the Bronx's predominant community of color and thus will be splintered into three congressional districts. This will further marginalize our communities and diminish our ability to elect candidates who best represent our interests.

I earnestly urge you to keep the Northeast Bronx district that includes Co-op City, Edenwald, Williamsbridge and lower Westchester, in the 16th Congressional District, this will ensure that the voting population of our communities of color will not be diluted.

Thank you for your attention and I pray you will do what is just and fair for my community.

Tammy Johnson-Barnes

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Linda Holley <lindadholley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:25 PM  
**To:** STEUBEN\_SUPERIOR  
**Cc:** Cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** redistricting on NY-16 District

I am a Co-op City resident. Iam OPPOSED to the Special Masters plan to remap NY-16 district in the Northeast Bronx which currently includes Co-op City,lower Westchester,Edenwald, Baychester and Williambridge

This remapping will effectively destroy Congressman Bowman's NY-16 and be detrimental to the residents in these areas. We do not wish to allow district Ny16 to remapped 14th district this would marginalize our communities ability to elect individuals which is supportive of people of color,and who best represent our interest

Please consider our request for maintenance of the16th District and the composition thereof, before deciding against the people's voting rights.

Thank you  
Linda Holley

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Corola Jernigan <corolajernigan@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:19 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Fw: Redistricting MAP  
**Attachments:** Redistricting^J SA.docx

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

Begin forwarded message:

On Wednesday, May 18, 2022, 9:16 PM, Corola Jernigan <corolajernigan@yahoo.com> wrote:

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

Begin forwarded message:

On Wednesday, May 18, 2022, 8:46 PM, Corola Jernigan <corolajernigan@yahoo.com> wrote:

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

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April 17, 2022

Good Afternoon,

I have read the article in the Journal News with information re current plans for redistricting and I have also viewed the proposed map.

I am writing to say that I feel that the northeast Bronx needs to be retained with lower Westchester and the Black voter population cannot be diluted.

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

The northeast Bronx predominantly Black community was splintered into three congressional district: Co-Op is mapped into NY-14, Williamsbridge and Baychester. This directly dropped the Black voter population in NY-16 and split these communities. How can anyone view this as a positive move?

Time and time again we are told to trust our elected officials because they have our best interests at heart. That definitely cannot be said if you allow this new map proposal to go forward.

Yours,

Corola A. Jernigan

101 Stone Oaks Drive  
Hartsdale, New a  
10530

**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Randy Morse <rmorse01@nycap.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:19 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

Please don't redraw the maps to move Amsterdam and Saratoga Springs from the Capital Region district-- we share common goals and aspirations and would like to retain our unified voice in Washington! Thank you--

Randy Morse  
Delmar, NY

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Brian Simonofsky <simonofsky@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:18 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** What!

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.

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Rebecca Mantello <baldwinmantello@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:13 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Voting maps and Ulster County

Good evening,

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,  
Rebecca Mantello  
Town of Shawangunk  
Ulster County

Please excuse typos, sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Councilor Ginny Kent <councilorkent@auburnny.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:11 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Redistricting of the City of Auburn, NY

May 18, 2022

The Honorable Patrick McAllister  
Acting State Supreme Court Justice  
3 East Pulteney Square  
Bath, NY 13810

Dr. Jonathan Cervas  
Institute for Politics and Strategy  
Carnegie Mellon University  
388 5000 Forbes Ave.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Re: the Redistricting of the City of Auburn

Dear Justice McAllister and Dr. Cervas:

I write to you as a resident of the City of Auburn and a City Councilor to respectfully ask you to reconsider the special master draft congressional and state Senate maps that have been drawn.

I began my first term on City Council this past January, excited to join an ongoing effort to stimulate our economy, grow our tourism industry, revitalize our downtown and improve the lives of our citizens, including our most vulnerable populations.

Bringing people together to develop a vision that attracts interest from state and federal grant funding or from private funders is hard work. And we've been pretty successful. Auburn is proud of our downtown and our brew pubs, and our historic and cultural sites that bring new visitors to our town.

One vital strength is in the synergy we've developed with Syracuse and Onondaga County over generations. For many years I worked at our local Chamber of Commerce and saw that relationship up close. In a city where approximately 16% of Auburn's workers drive east to Syracuse each morning for their job, it's no surprise we identify so closely with Syracuse. Important partnerships between two nonprofits, Cayuga County-based Homsite and Onondaga County-based Home Headquarters, has strengthened housing options for low income Auburnians. A large plastics industry in Onondaga County expanded into Auburn's Industrial Park. Auburn Community Hospital is currently working with Upstate Medical to bring a cancer treatment center to Auburn. In the education arena, our students and our district's professional staff have been well-served by the Cayuga-Onondaga B.O.C.E.S. since 1954. The list goes on.

In a new district, severed from our strongest neighbor, how much attention can we practically expect from our

representative who may be located hours away? What will happen to our long history of collaboration with Syracuse and Onondaga County?

Like me, I know you want all of New York State to succeed. Your task is not easy. But sometimes important considerations may be lost amid the data that informs your decisions.

Some of my colleagues have mentioned the history of gerrymandering that have plagued us in the past, and I won't repeat that here. But it's another reason why I strongly request you to please reconsider the lines drawn. Please include the entire City of Auburn in one congressional district and in one state senate district that aligns us with the Central New York region.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

Ginny Kent

Auburn City Council  
City of Auburn  
24 South St.  
Auburn, NY 13021

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Brenda Brown <bbbsugarsweet@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:11 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** I Say No To Redistricting Map  
**Attachments:** I SAY NO TO REDISTRICTING and KEEP COMMUNITIES TOGETHER.docx

Please read attachment.  
 Thank you

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**I SAY NO TO REDISTRICTING and KEEP COMMUNITIES TOGETHER!**

**I am against the new redistricting map because it divides communities and people.**

**The whole point of redistricting is to create congressional districts that keep communities together.**

**The new map will divide communities: Co-op City into CD 14, Williamsbridge & Baychester into CD 15 and Edenwald & Scarsdale CD 16. The minority vote will be diluted -17% and set the stage for Republicans to win seats.**

**As you know, there is a law in place to prevent the "Vote Dilution" effect of this planned redistricting of Co-op City from CD 16 to CD 14:**

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

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

**Keep the Congressional District 16 community together.**

**Thank you for your consideration.**

**Brenda Brown  
100 Einstein Loop #15F  
Bronx, NY 10475**

**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Cathy Huttner <stinkzilla2002@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:11 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Redistricting

Please keep the 20th congressional district intact as currently drawn. As currently configured it represents a logically grouped geographic area that shares common demographics, interests and services.

Catherine Huttner  
19 Hydor Drive  
Castleon NY  
12033

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Kathleen Gray <kathleenagray33@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:11 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep Ulster County Whole

Dear Sir

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed redistributing plan that will separate voters into two Congressional districts in Ulster County and the City of Kingston. Voters will be confused and residents' interests will not be adequately addressed. People in Western NY have different concerns than people in the Hudson Valley. The interests of County residents will be fragmented. I urge you to keep Ulster County whole.

KathleenGray

Saugerties New York

Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Mary Crosley <crosleym22@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:10 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; Mary Crosley  
**Subject:** Congressional Maps for Cayuga County

Hi,

I have reviewed the new proposed Congressional Maps that place Cayuga County in a district from Buffalo to Watertown. This is a grave injustice to Cayuga County which has nothing in common with the North Country or Buffalo. Cayuga County is part of Central New York and the Finger Lake region. The Auburn area is strongly tied to the greater Syracuse area, with considerable infrastructure planning, economic development, and affiliated health care systems. Together with the Syracuse area and / or Tompkins County makes better logistic sense for Cayuga County. Thank you for your careful consideration of this matter.

Mary Crosley

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Nancy Andell <nancyandell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:09 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Columbia County - draft Congressional map

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,

Nancy Andell

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Jan Perlin <japerlin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:08 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** special master

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Charles Wall <chuckwall07@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:05 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** NY US Congressional District Map

To Judge McCallister and Dr. Cervas:

**I oppose the draft of the NY Congressional District Map that Dr. Cervas released on May 16, 2022.** Some of the proposed districts disrupt the previous district lines that have been in place for 10 years or more and have been considered fair by both parties. To take a single example, Dr. Cervas' proposed 2022 map combines the Upper West Side and Upper East Side of Manhattan into a single district. The two areas have been separate districts for a long time, and anyone who lives in Manhattan knows that they are very different communities with distinctly different needs. Combining them is a disservice to everyone who lives there.

In other cases, the new map would split up communities such as Bedford Stuyvesant and Crown Heights in Brooklyn. Small sections of those and other communities would be parceled out to other Congressional Districts. In effect, that dilutes the representation of millions of citizens in New York City, especially those who are Asian-American, Latinx, & Black.

I understand that Dr. Cervas has strong experience advising Pennsylvania & has studied gerrymandering. However, NY City is large and complex with many layers of communities. The distinct characteristics of NYC's communities need to be factored into the new map. We need an additional expert advising on redistricting who understands NYC's communities.

**I urge you to reject the proposed NY US Congressional District Map.** Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Wall  
250 West 103rd Street #14D  
New York, NY 1002

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Eric Gemunder <eric723@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:04 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** NYS Redistricting

Dear Your Honor

I am writing to you to oppose the new redistricting for NYS.

I never thought the new maps would stay, but I also never thought the special master would go back to 2002 maps for NY-03 and completely destroy three years of work in Huntington. Many of us have been working in Huntington on that district for three years, and now have it pulled out from under us. They put multiple sitting members of Congress against each other. They put multiple members of the State Senate against each other. One source says the special master used GOP maps for the Senate. That is not non-partisan, that is blatantly biased.

Maybe a computer, starting with the 2012 maps, could do better? Maybe someone unbiased?

These maps are a travesty, and should be discarded.

Sincerely,  
Eric Gemunder

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Evin Steed <evin.steed@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:03 PM  
**To:** STEUBEN\_SUPERIOR; Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Response To Redistricting - 56th Assembly District

To Hon. 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 459 Macon Street, Brooklyn, NY 11233 in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, New York. I object to the draft Congressional redistricting plan recently proposed by the Special Master.

In his plan, my community Bedford Stuyvesant would be split between two congressional seats, thereby dividing 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, and do resent this attempt to manipulate and diminish the current districts voting strength.

Evin Steed  
459 Macon Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11233

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Yolanda Grant <grantyolanda48@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:03 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; STEUBEN\_SUPERIOR; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Congressional Redistricting

We the residents of Co-op City are perfectly content with our congressional district 16. We have maintained a great relationship with Jamaal Bowman. our district 16 leader. He understands the needs of a district composted of mostly black and brown residents. By remapping our district this would greatly diminish our voting power and change our ability to elect those who support our community. Please do not allow our district to be changed.

Sincerely,

Yolanda Grant

On Wed, May 18, 2022 at 1:32 PM flotolli <[flotolli@aol.com](mailto:flotolli@aol.com)> wrote:

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

**From:** River Bay Corporation <[noreply@everbridge.net](mailto:noreply@everbridge.net)>  
**Date:** 5/17/22 5:38 PM (GMT-05:00)  
**To:** [flotolli@aol.com](mailto:flotolli@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Congressional Redistricting

This is an important message from the RiverBay Corporation

[Please click here to acknowledge receipt of this message](#)

This is an important call to action for all Co-op City residents.

The current attempts to remap our congressional district will seriously diminish the voting strength of Co-op City for the next 10 years. Should this plan go through, Co-op City will move from the 16th congressional district into the 14th congressional district. A potential loss of 17% of the voting population for our community of color.

Normally, Riverbay Corporation would stay away from these political matters; however, we cannot stand idly by while Co-op City's voting power, and that of our Northeast Bronx neighbors, is deliberately diminished. If this plan is approved, the northeast Bronx's predominant community of color will be splintered into three congressional districts. This will further marginalize our communities and diminish our ability to elect candidates who best represent our interests.

The map will be finalized by the court this Thursday, May 19, and the court is allowing comments by email up until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 18.



As such, we are urging all residents and friends to email the court and advocate that the Northeast Bronx district that includes Co-op City, Edenwald, Williamsbridge and lower Westchester, needs to be retained in the 16th Congressional District, and the voting population of our communities of color must not be diluted.

Please address your emails to:

B Wise@n y [courts.gov](mailto:courts.gov)

Steuben Superior@n y [courts.gov](mailto:courts.gov)

And

Cervas@C M U.e d u

In recent years, we have managed to elect government representatives who have stood up for Co-op City and we need to maintain that relationship to affectively address the challenges we will face as we enter the post pandemic future.

This is a battle we need to win, so please send your emails out tonight. Thank you for your attention and prompt action.

Thanks!

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Steve M <photog47@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:01 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** redistricting

I am strongly opposed to be included in the new Brooklyn district. We belong in Manhattan (I live in Stuytown on 20th and FDR). We as a community have our own unique set of needs and opportunities and need our own representation.

Steve Mullen  
319 Avenue C

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Revbev <bevsoblessed@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 8:59 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; steuben\_superiorcourts@nycourts.gov; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Fwd: My 16th Congressional district

## -----Original Message-----

From: Revbev <bevsoblessed@aol.com>  
To: [www.bewise@nycourts.gov](mailto:www.bewise@nycourts.gov) <[www.bewise@nycourts.gov](mailto:www.bewise@nycourts.gov)>  
Sent: Wed, May 18, 2022 9:45 am  
Subject: Fwd: My 16th Congressional district

## -----Original Message-----

From: Revbev <bevsoblessed@aol.com>  
To: [bewise@nycourts.gov](mailto:bewise@nycourts.gov) <[bewise@nycourts.gov](mailto:bewise@nycourts.gov)>  
Sent: Wed, May 18, 2022 9:40 am  
Subject: My 16th Congressional district

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident of Co- op City, North east Bronx, N.Y., which is a part of the 16th Congressional District. I am in favor of my Co- op City Community remaining as such. I STRONGLY OPPOSE having Co-op City being moved to the 14th Congressional District, or any other congressional district. I say YES to Co- op City remaining in the 16th Congressional District.

Sincerely,  
Rev. Beverly A. Spruill  
31 Year Resident  
Co- op City,  
Bronx, N.Y. 10475

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Michael Mandel <michael\_mandel@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 8:59 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Opposed to new redistricting maps

As a New York resident and voter, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the new redistricting maps. While I understand why the court(s) disallowed the initial maps, I am outraged that a supposedly neutral special master would use the Republican Party's redistricting plan almost in its entirety. If it was wrong when the Democrats did it, then it is also wrong when the other party proposes maps clearly intended to give itself a huge boost in seats, which is exactly what the new maps would do.

Clearly, the special master did not engage in the type of independent, objective analysis needed for something this important. It is one thing for the new maps to be similar to one party's proposal. But according to today's Politico report, this goes far beyond that. As a result, I urge the judge to reject the new maps and to require a new version to be submitted to the court. I recognize that this will throw the process even more in flux than it already is. However, justice demands a fair map and this one is not that.

Thank you for your consideration.

Michael Mandel  
61 Highland Ave.  
Port Washington, NY 11050  
646-526-3668

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Juan Ramos <juan4thepeople@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 8:58 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Cc:** Cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** 7th Congressional District in NYC comments  
**Attachments:** Special Master.docx

Please see attached my comments made in unity with residents of our district who have expressed concern through their comments on the issue. Thank you

--

JUAN RAMOS  
[juan4thepeople@gmail.com](mailto:juan4thepeople@gmail.com)

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

Dear Special Master,

As a community leader and resident of the 7th Congressional District in NYC, I am writing to express my outrage and opposition to the recently drawn lines. As a resident of the Williamsburg community, I know that we have more in common with the existing Lower Eastside, Red Hook, and South Brooklyn community, than the district you proposed which carves out a significant portion of the current district.

Our communities have been united in the same Congressional District NY 7 for 30 years. We are neighborhoods that are culturally linked, and a proposed Congressional map that separates these communities shows complete disregard for our community and our right to vote for fair and equitable representation.

Over the last three decades, these neighborhoods built a coalition between Latino, Jewish and AAPI communities within these boroughs and formed the backbone of this district. During that time frame, the important cultural ties of these communities have been recognized by multiple courts and kept together within the same congressional district. Disrupting the unity, accomplishments and continued progress these communities have collectively made against displacement, acts of hate and the onslaught of private development will disenfranchise the residents who through voting power have elected their representative of choice to address the many concerns impacting their daily lives.

Beyond their shared cultural identities, these communities also share other similarities, including the immigrant experience, the impacts of being waterfront neighborhoods, and the fight for environmental justice. During the testimony process, our community members voiced their concern for changing our district configuration and the disparate impact it will have on residents of the district.

We all have issues we care about. Whether it is healthcare, climate change, immigration, affordable housing, criminal justice reform, education, ending systemic racism, etc. It is important that we as a minority community have the power to ensure elected officials support our communities' well-being and address our most pressing needs. Therefore, in unity we are asking for a 7th congressional district that reflects the existing lines that include Williamsburg, The Lower Eastside and South Brooklyn and Queens.

As you move forward, we urge you to reconsider district 7 and reunite these common, linked communities that for decades have stood together to elect representation that has addressed the many concerns and needs of our district and have allowed our voting rights to be exercised by our residents and for our residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Juan Ramos

**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Kmrandall <karmitamorganrandall@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 8:58 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; STEUBEN\_SUPERIOR; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Northeast Bronx

Good evening

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

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

The northeast Bronx's predominantly Black community was splintered into three congressional districts: Co-Op City is mapped into NY-14, Williamsbridge and Baychester into NY-15 and Edenwald kept in NY-16.

This directly dropped the Black voter population in NY-16 and split these communities of interest.

Please ensure that this form of suppression does not occur. We need our community to remain united.

Respectfully  
Karmita Morgan-Randall,MPA

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Andy King <andyking1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 8:57 PM  
**Subject:** Congressional Redistricting Map =Voter Suppression

Hi Special Master,

Thank you so much for everything you've already done for redistricting! However your proposal whatever the motivation is a clear and blatant activity in Black people voter suppression. I reside in the 16th Congressional District and the dissemination of our district dilutes to fullest the work we have done in our community to inspire and be a voting block to be respected.

The bottomline is much of the northeast Bronx was removed from NY-16 and the Black voter population dropped by 17%. This directly dilutes the voting power of communities of color, further strengthening the power of white and wealthy communities in the suburbs.

The main point is that the northeast Bronx needs to be retained with lower Westchester and the Black voter population cannot be diluted.

It is appalling for you to believe carving up a neighborhood in three parts three representatives is a good thing. We are demanding a fair map that displays ours as a community of interest. If you choose to disrupt other communities that your choice, but all black communities and neighborhoods of interest choose to take a pass on that agenda. Restore our District Now!

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

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

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

This is UNACCEPTABLE and I respect you understand the ramifications on NYC communities if this should stand: And I know you don't that burden.

In the Spirit of What is Right,

Andy King

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** AM Manon Sabatier <sabatam@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 7:04 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Saratoga springs

Dear Sir,

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.

AM Manon Sabatier  
23 Forest ave  
Saratoga springs, NY 12866

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Suzanne Bernstein <bernstein.suzanne@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 8:53 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Attn: 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, even 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. I drive over the Rip Van Winkle Bridge to Columbia County several times every week to get to my job as a substitute teacher, and to shop in Hudson. I've been to the Southern Tier area maybe once in the past 5 years?

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,

Suzanne Bernstein  
11 High Street, #2  
Catskill, NY 12414  
917-225-4563

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Kristy Ventre <kventre@spac.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:46 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Opposition to Congressional Redistricting

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.

*Kristy Godette Ventre | Senior Director of Marketing & Communications*  
*Saratoga Performing Arts Center*  
*108 Avenue of the Pines*  
*Saratoga Springs, NY 12866*  
*518.584.9330 ext. 125 | [kgodette@spac.org](mailto:kgodette@spac.org)*



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**Brenda A. Wise**

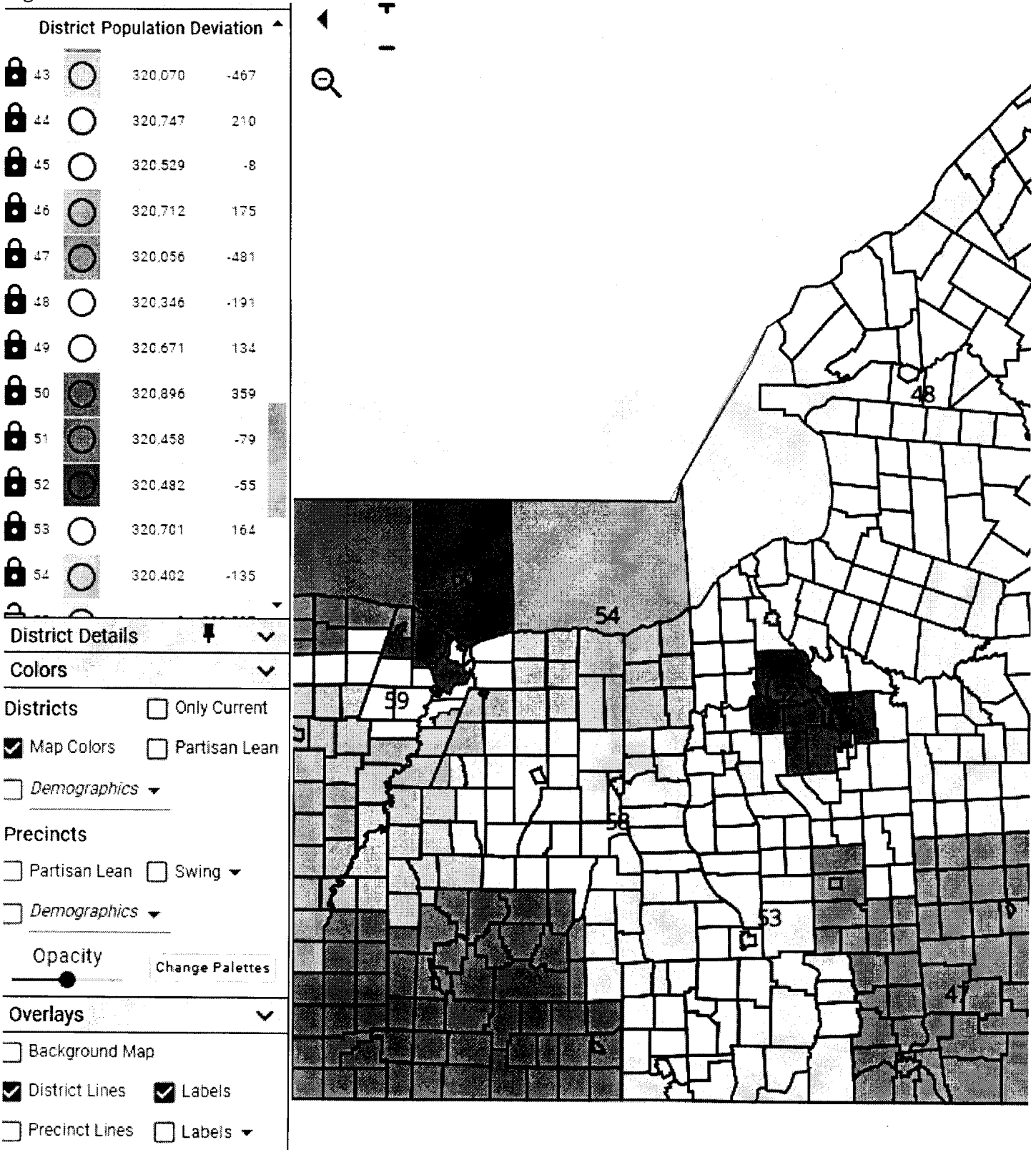
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**From:** Timothy Reidy <timofwinsted@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:47 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** senate map NY northeast

Hello

My name is Timothy Reidy and I live in Albany NY, I just saw my county broken up and will have a demonstration how to keep albany and St Lawrence counties

together.



44 is shown another way to add to Saratoga County if you don't want to cut schenectady, but either one is fine .

Timothy Reidy  
Albany NY 518-----330-----1212

On this one I will let others comment on Non North eastern sections.

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Guy Thomas Cosentino <cozguytho@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:47 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Redistricting Map Impact On Cayuga County

Good afternoon,

I am writing as a former mayor of the City of Auburn and as a former columnist for The Citizen from 1987 through 2015 on government and politics.

First of all, thank you for your work - I know that you have had to rush through this process that shows the failure of the system that New York State has been using since the 1960's.

I also want to applaud your move to keep Cayuga County and Auburn whole, having seen and worked, over the last four decades with both kept whole and carved up districts in government and heading several not for profits.

With that said, I do have two concern about the maps being presented for both the Congressional and Senate designs as they impact Cayuga County from a practical and media perspective.

As presented, I think they miss some context about Cayuga County and its linkage to the Finger Lakes Region in part, but mainly regarding Central New York.

From a practical view, Auburn and most of Cayuga County are more attached to the Central New York area and having advocates in Albany and Washington that can take into consideration the needs of a like area, would better serve the public. I was mayor when we had one congressional member representing the City and Cayuga County in 1992 (Frank Horton) and then when we had three that came from Syracuse (Jim Walsh), Corning (Amo Houghton) and Buffalo (Bill Paxton) - while they all ably served our communities, from an elected officials' perspective, having a member of Congress from Central New York, who could easily come to and from his District Office was a major benefit to the Community. Auburn and most Cayuga County residents identify with Syracuse and Central New York and not the Finger Lakes, the Southern Tier or Western New York. Policy issues such as those dealing with I-81's redesign, water quality and veterans services (to name just three) all focus on Syracuse and Onondaga County and spread out like fingers into the adjoining Cayuga, Cortland, Madison and Oswego counties. Similar issues have arisen when the City and County have been chopped up by Senate districts.

Cayuga County also shares a common media market with Syracuse and Onondaga County and I do think communications to and from office holders for both offices would be better served by a single or larger media market that covers like voters. Most homes/voters are not part of the Rochester (yes, there are some in the northern part of the County) media market, let alone the Southern Tier. Having reporters and news stations the majority of voters have ease of access would be an asset. I also have to be frank, with the changing landscape of print media, should the Citizen newspaper, in Auburn cease to exist, then the only print available with be the Syracuse Newspapers, who already give minimal coverage to Cayuga County, but few subscribe to the Democrat and Chronicle, Corning Leader or Ithaca Journal. Having some coverage from Syracuse would be better than no coverage or readership from these other markets.



I want to thank you allowing these comments and your work and hope these two factors help in considering slightly modifying the maps presented, knowing that some domino effect will occur.

All the best,

Guy

Guy Thomas Cosentino

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Nicholas Lundy <nikwhey@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:47 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,

Nicholas Lundy

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Daisy Craddock <daisycraddock@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:47 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 proud resident of Columbia County. 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,  
Daisy Craddock  
Germantown, NY

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Cyndi Orellana <cyndi0715@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:47 PM  
**To:** cervas@cmu.edu; Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Fwd: Map for Westbury's Inclusion in CD-04  
**Attachments:** district-data-6.csv; block-assignments-3.csv; precinct-assignments-3.csv; district-abstract-3.json; map-analytics-3.json; district-shapes-6.geojson; district-shapes-6.zip; map-archive.json; precinct-data-4.csv

Cervas,

I am Cynthia Orellana, the chairperson for Hispanic Community of the St. Brigid's Parish in Westbury which represents parishioners in the commonly aligned communities of Freeport, Westbury, Hempstead, Uniondale, Roosevelt, Lakeview, (ect) as a congregant where I serve. I am filing a petition opposing the proposed New York Congressional districts, specifically the proposed lines of Congressional District 4.

Long Island's demographics have notably changed in past decades, to the point at which Nassau County's population is now just barely majority non-Hispanic white. This calls for a rethinking of its congressional districts.

We note that the Special Master's proposed map embraces this demographic reality, as it divides southwest Nassau County from Queens (in the Elmont and Valley Stream areas included in the current Fifth District). In this spirit, we urge consideration of additional remedies of a marginal but significant nature, remedies that are notably rooted in the Fourth District's historical composition.

Historically, in addition to portions of the Town of Hempstead, the Fourth Congressional District has included portions of the Town of North Hempstead, specifically majority-minority Westbury and New Cassel, in addition to Mineola. Our map continues this tradition, and we wish to highlight that Jericho Turnpike (particularly east of Northern State Parkway) rather than the town line represents a substantial dividing line by race, income, and population density. This may not be readily apparent considering Eisenhower Park's placement, yet any quick study of demographics (or view of Jericho Turnpike on GoogleMaps aerial view) confirms this social connectivity between Westbury/New Cassel and majority-minority communities located in the Town of Hempstead, such as Freeport, the Village of Hempstead, Valley Stream, and Elmont.

Some may contend that it is vital to maintain town boundaries in Nassau County. While this is one factor, the long-established social connectivity between Nassau County's communities of color -- who differ in lived experience and voting behavior from their white counterparts -- justifies consideration of an even more important one: the ability for minority voters to elect a candidate of their choice. As the Special Master's division of southwest Nassau County from Queens underscores this opportunity, the addition of Westbury and New Cassel further enhances the ability of voters of color to elect a candidate of their choice. In addition, local legislative districts at the town and county level (such as Nassau County's Second Legislative District) share commonality with this representational theme (i.e. the Nassau County Second Legislative District contains the two majority-minority precincts in the Town of Oyster Bay's Hicksville), and are indeed mandated by litigation (*Jackson v Nassau County Board of Supervisors*, and even *Goosby v Town Board of Hempstead*).

For more specificity, our proposed district is majority-minority not only in composition (47.4% White, 23.7% Hispanic, 20.3% Black, and 8.7% Asian, versus the initial Special Master proposal, at 50.7% White, 22.1% Hispanic, 19.1% Black, and 8.2% Asian) but also in voting-age

population (49.7% White, 21.8% Hispanic, 20.1% Black, and 8.4% Asian, versus the initial Special Master proposal, at 52.9% White, 20.3% Hispanic, 18.9% Black, and 7.8% Asian). This suggests a significant change from ten years ago, when our proposal was 58.2% White, 17.9% Hispanic, 19.6% Black, and 6.1% Asian in its voting-age population. Demographic trends suggest our proposed majority-minority district is becoming ever-more diverse.

You may wonder how this impacts adjacent districts. Our recommendations maintain consistency with the Special Master's map. We noted the single split between Nassau and Suffolk Counties, in contrast to the current North Shore-South Shore divide. In order to add portions of the Town of North Hempstead to the Fourth, we have added portions of the Town of Hempstead culturally, politically, and demographically similar to adjacent sections of the Town of Oyster Bay, namely Seaford, Wantagh, and North Wantagh (compare to Massapequa and Massapequa Park on the Town of Oyster Bay side) in addition to Levittown as the Special Master had done.

In conclusion, we urge for the adoption of this proposed iteration of the Fourth Congressional District.

## DISTRICT CONTENTS

### INITIAL SPECIAL MASTER PROPOSAL

ALL of Town of Hempstead, except for Levittown (part) and Salisbury (part)

#### OUR PROPOSAL

ALL of Town of Hempstead, except for Levittown (all), Wantagh (all), North Wantagh (all), Bellmore (most),  
 Town of North Hempstead, Westbury (all), New Cassa (all), Carle Place (all), Mineola (part south of Jericho Turnpike),  
 Town of Oyster Bay, Hicksville (two precincts)

~Cynthia Orellana Ed. D

"It Takes a village to raise a child"

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** jessica hargreaves <jhargreaves777@me.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:48 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,

Jessica Hargreaves

Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Hazel Feldman <hazelroslyn@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:49 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** New State Senate District

It is a momental mistake to move our Stuyvesant Town/Peter Cooper community to the 59th District which includes Brooklyn and Queens, areas that have little in common with our area. What is the motivation connected to this change? Very alarmed and concerned. This decision must be reversed.

Hazel Roslyn Feldman  
9 Stuyvesant Oval  
NYC 10009

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** elem enohpy <elemenohpy@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:49 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** draft Congressional map- Kingston NY

Dividing up Kingston into 2 separate congressional districts is wrong in many ways. I am particularly concerned with how Kingston's people of color will be place in district 19, separate from the rest of Kingston. I urge the decisions makers to correct this wrong.

Sincerely,  
Maureen Morrow  
Tillson, NY

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Cecelia Goldschmiedt <daggold18@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:49 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** NYS Senate Maps Public Comment

My name is Cecelia Goldschmiedt. 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,  
Cecelia Goldschmiedt

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Ben Orlove <bso5@columbia.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:49 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** feedback on new district maps

Dear NY Courts Staff,

I am writing to state my strong objection to the newly drawn congressional and state Senate district maps for New York. They break up existing neighborhoods and scatter them across several districts, in that way silencing the voices of citizens who wish to make their views known. For example, I currently live in the 10th congressional district of New York, on the Upper West Side. It makes no sense to carve this district up and place it with pieces of other neighborhoods far away.

As Hakeem Jeffries said recently, "The NYS Constitution requires that the core of existing congressional districts be maintained." The new map fails to meet this requirement.

I strongly urge that new districts be drawn in a fair, equitable manner that respects existing communities.

all best,

Ben Orlove  
645 West End Avenue apt 6F  
New York, NY 10025

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School of International and Public Affairs, Professor

Master's Program in Climate and Society, Director

Columbia Climate School, Professor

International Research Institute for Climate and Society, Senior Research Scientist

GlacierHub, Managing Editor  
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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** carl160@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:49 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** The Redistricting of NY State Congressional Districts

Sir:

“Keeping communities of interest together is an important principle in redistricting.”

The Special Master violated the Communities of Interest principle when drawing the Congressional districts.

His districts should be denied.

Thank you for your consideration

(Signed)  
Carol Ann Rinzler  
12th Congressional District

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Anita Rosepka <rosepka@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:49 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Recent Redistricting Proposal

Dear Judge Mcallister:

I believe that the latest redistricting map drawn by the special master, and was as other recent redistricting, is really shoddy. My main complaint is that my area, in the northwest Bronx, is included in a Manhattan district represent by Congressman Espaillat. My district used to include a contiguous area (Kingsbridge and Riverdale), which made sense, especially since we shared the same zip code and had similar demographics. I believe a new map should be more reflective of those two factors and you should deny acceptance of the new proposed map.

Respectfully,  
Anita Rosepka

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Wysokowski <wysokfamily@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:49 PM  
**To:** cervas@cmu.edu; Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Proposed State Senate Districts

Good afternoon,

I'm writing as a resident of Dyker Heights, Brooklyn, regarding the proposed State Senate districts. I was not pleased to see my neighborhood (and I do consider myself to be part of one large neighborhood) might have its senate representation broken into three districts.

I personally found it better that a neighborhood of such diverse people was brought together by having one state senator.

I am not a fan of gerrymandering, and in some ways I was pleased to see less of that in the proposed maps. I understand that new districting has to come with certain gives and takes, but I definitely don't feel I'm going to be best served by the proposed senate districts.

Thank you  
Jennifer Wysokowski  
918 81st Street, 11228

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** jmattdavidson@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:50 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.

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Very truly yours,

Matthew Davidson  
760 Woods Road  
Germantown, NY

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** BARBARA KOPS <bkops36108@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:50 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Redistricting

EGood Afternoon,

I am a resident of Peter Cooper village and just learned today that my district will be combined with parts of Queens and Brooklyn and as a result Brad Hoylman will no longer be able to represent me as my state senator.

None of this makes any sense. Why should those of us in lower east mid Manhattan be lumped in with Brooklyn and Queens ... different boroughs with different needs and interests.

I hope you'll reconsider this plan and keep us a part of Our Current Manhattan district enabling us to keep the people who have know our issues and have represented us well over the years.

Thank you for your consideration.

Barbara Kops

Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Correo <rocacorre@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:51 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** CD7 re-configuration.

Justice Patrick McAllister  
Special Master Cervas  
Justice McAllister Clerk:

As a Sunset Park resident of CD7 for many decades, I'm writing to urge, no, beg you to keep CD7 As Is. Sunset Park, in tandem, with Red Hook have struggled + fought side-by-side for a Better Quality of Life for its majority Working Class residents, as we share a great deal of history, socioeconomic characteristics, as well as environmental challenges AND we must remain united-in-purpose-and-leadership at this most crucial + complex time in the future off our neighborhoods.

Please , trust us, + keep CD7 intact!

María Roca  
521 41st Street  
Brooklyn NY 11232  
718.755.8086

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Mary Stokinger <marys2610@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:51 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Redistricting in Bay Ridge Brooklyn

I am writing as a resident for over 20 years of Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, a distinct but diverse and vibrant community, to express my concern concerning the proposed state senate redistricting. Our neighborhood has been divided between two state assembly districts but we have had unified representation in the state senate. If our community is split between three senate districts, voters in each senate and assembly district will be electing representatives to represent neighborhoods they are not familiar with and with whom they do not share local interests and concerns. We need a voice in the state legislature to speak for the entirety of our neighborhood.

Thank you,  
Mary A. Stokinger

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Carolina Salguero <carolina@portsidenewyork.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:50 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Cc:** 'Dan Wiley'  
**Subject:** Do NOT change district boundaries of Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez

**Importance:** High

Dear Justice Patrick McAllister and Dr. Jonathan Cervas:

Do NOT take Congresswoman Nydia "La Luchadora" Velazquez away from us via this redistricting debacle.

I have been involved in local affairs, politics and issues since 1998. I live in Red Hook, Brooklyn and run PortSide NewYork an award-winning nonprofit here that I founded in 2005.

Nydia has fought for our community for years! And she delivers! And her staff delivers! I cannot imagine the large swath of Brooklyn that she represents and that I know well lacking the sage advice and experience of her and her staff.

Nydia has deep, deep expertise on long-term issues that need the constancy of her district boundaries staying the same. I refer to issues of infrastructure, Superfund, public housing, education, immigrant rights and more.

Nydia was a major player in getting the Gowanus Canal deemed a Superfund, and it's being cleaned up thanks to the EPA. We need her on this project, not cut off from it.

She also a major force behind getting lead remediation for the Red Hook ballfields (another major ongoing EPA project).

She was there for small businesses after hurricane Sandy in a district that was hit hard by the storm. We have open resiliency needs that call for her expertise and influence.

She is a staunch advocate for public housing, and there is a LOT of it in her current district. In my neighborhood alone, there is Brooklyn's largest NYCHA development, NYC's second largest.

She fights for immigrants in a district with a lot of them. The proposed redistricting would cut two Chinatowns from her district, the one in Manhattan and the huge Chinese community in Sunset Park. Sunset Park also has many other immigrant groups (Mexicans, Dominicans and Muslims from several nations are some the larger ones). Redistricting would break up a significant Latinx block that she represents.

Nydia's current district overlaps with my City Council District 38 where she has worked closely with our Councilmember for years. It has been very impactful to have that kind of City+Federal partnership. I don't want to lose that.

Everyone I have talked to in the arc of Brooklyn running from Brooklyn Heights to Sunset Park who would be cut out of Nydia's district DOES NOT WANT TO SEE THIS HAPPEN.

The current redistricting proposal is a RIDICULOUS act of gerrymandering, taking a bite out of lower Manhattan and attaching it to Staten Island?! Taking a piece of Brooklyn that is not even close to Staten Island and putting that in a district with Staten Island?! As we say in Brooklyn fuggedaboubit!

Do not do this.

You should also provide more time for public input.

Sincerely,  
Carolina

Carolina Salguero  
Founder + Executive Director  
**PortSide NewYork**  
aboard the tanker MARY A. WHALEN  
190 Pioneer Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11231  
917.414.0565  
[carolina@portsidenewyork.org](mailto:carolina@portsidenewyork.org)  
[www.portsidenewyork.org](http://www.portsidenewyork.org)  
[www.redhookwaterstories.org](http://www.redhookwaterstories.org)

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** dianedjl@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:51 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Congressional Maps

I'm writing to urge rejection of the congressional map drawn by the special master. The New York State constitution cites the important criterion that district maps must respect the ability of racial and language minority voters to have an equal opportunity to pick representatives of their own choosing. The map as drawn by the special master prioritizes geographical compactness over the mandate to respect the rights of minority voters.

The map that has been in effect since 2010 was created under the supervision of the federal court and has been accepted to be a map that fairly represents the interests of NYS voters.

Additionally, and importantly, changing the map at this late stage ensures voter confusion and depressed turnout. I urge you to reject the special master's map.

Sincerely,  
Diane Lubarsky  
178 Ocean Parkway  
Apt. D6  
Brooklyn, NY 11218

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