

Brenda A. Wise

From: Hartridge Ronald <RHartridge@schools.nyc.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:04 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR; cervas@cmu.edu; Brenda A. Wise
Subject: NY 16, My Home

My Name is Ronld J. Hartridge a constituent of NY 16 District,

I am writing to protest the oversite of redistricting our beloved NY 16 and the Congressman we voted in Jamaal Bowman. The relationship between lower Westchester and the North Bronx is about family and trusted neighbors. Here are some finer points to consider.

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

It is my hope that we can retain the NY 16 to remain just as it is, which works!

Thank you for your coonsideration.

Ronald J Hartridge

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Rodrigo Camarena <rg.camarena@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:04 PM
To: cervas@cmu.edu
Cc: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: NY Congressional District 11

May 18th, 2022

Via Electronic Mail

Hon. Patrick F. McAllister
 Steuben County Supreme and County Court
 3 East Pulteney Square
 Bath, NY 14810

Dr. Jonathan Cervas, Special Master
 Poster Hall 386, 5000 Forbes Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dear Judge McAllister and Dr. Cervas,

Congressional District 7 has been, for the past 3 decades, a district where Latino and Asian voters can elect a candidate of choice, empowering communities that in the past were divided and whose voices were diluted. These communities of interest, while not compact, were united to reflect the requirements of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) to keep these neighborhoods and communities of interest together. The special master's map as drawn completely disregards and disempowers these communities—a shocking insult in the face of the incredible growth of Latino and Asian New Yorkers, and a startling threat to these communities in the face of a VRA that remains on the books as federal law.

This Congressional District's cohesion has been noted by court after court after court—not for partisan purposes, but for legal necessities that are underscored by civil rights principles.

The district was drawn to connect the largest Latino communities from North Brooklyn to the Lower East Side across the bridge and Sunset Park to the south. Additionally, the court upheld the Asian community of interest between the two Chinatowns linked from Manhattan to Southwest Brooklyn along the N/R subway lines. Based on the maps as they are drawn, Southwest Brooklyn is completely cut off. Further, the areas of Sunset Park and Red Hook are no longer connected to adjacent neighborhoods and communities to the north and placed in a district that shares no commonality. Already marginalized from transit and split in political districts, Red Hook and Sunset Park are divided and not united in the current proposal. The maps also unfairly chop up and pit neighboring Black voting rights district Representatives both in Brooklyn and in the Bronx and Westchester.

The definition of a community of interest as specified on the NY Independent Redistricting Committee is as follows: A community of interest is a population which shares enough social and economic interests of importance that suggest said community should be included in a single district for effective and fair representation. These might include similar standards of living, shared methods and patterns of transportation, or similar economic and societal concerns.

That definition encompasses exactly what community groups and individuals have raised during testimony and comments throughout this entire process. This is NOT partisanship at play, it's common sense and civil rights. Communities of color share cultural and social dynamics and have worked to empower their respective communities,

protect their members from a rise in hate, embrace the immigrant experience, and promote climate and environmental justice. During the entire years-long process, community members from across the 7th Congressional District urged the commission to keep these neighborhoods united.

Yet, the Special Master has sacrificed the empowerment of minority communities – whether Latino, Black, or Asian – that are culturally linked in favor of compactness and competitiveness. Compactness has less weight in an urban area built on islands connected by bridges and transit lines. While the maps may look “clean”, they exacerbate the historical disenfranchisement of communities of color. The proposed map is a product of a racially flawed interpretation of prioritizing compactness over voting rights. The consideration for compactness is to do it as “practicable” and shouldn’t override the primary consideration of drawing lines fair to minority voting rights.

Let’s be clear—this proposed map is unconstitutional on a state and federal level. It degrades the Latino population, depriving voters of fair representation by ripping apart 5 neighborhoods that have been a core part of the district for nearly 30 years. It ignores the coalition of communities that have been recognized by courts and placed in the same congressional districts. And it ignores the hundreds of people who took time out of their busy schedules to testify.

Continuing to keep the Chinatowns of Lower Manhattan and Sunset Park, and their surrounding Latino communities united with North Brooklyn is especially important. In fact, keeping Sunset Park tied to its roots and that of its communities of interest together was one item that had bipartisan support within the commission. To see that changed by the Special Master is shameful. The map as drawn will have dire impacts on the communities, particularly Latinos who represent nearly 1 in 5 New Yorkers but lack meaningful representation across the entire state. The map should reflect their right to ensure access to candidates that represent their community’s interests and needs. Fairness, not compactness, should be at the heart of this redistricting process.

Fairness, not compactness, should be at the heart of this redistricting process.

Therefore, I sincerely urge the map to be redrawn to keep these communities together.-Dyker Heights more closely resembles Brooklyn areas of D10, like Midwood and Borough Park and other areas with single family houses and yards. In fact, it is easier to get to Dyker Heights from those neighborhoods than it is to get there from all the other BK parts of D11. It is also very difficult to access Dyker Heights via public transportation (that is by design!) and it is even difficult to get to from Bay Ridge since the Gowanus Expressway separates the two neighborhoods and they are only accessible to each other by a single bridge. It's almost like Dyker Heights doesn't want to be part of the district!

Park Slope, Sunset Park and Bay Ridge are linked by thoroughfares, bus lines, and subway lines. Sunset Park shares a school district with Park Slope, take their kids to doctors, go out to eat, go to movies, enjoy parks, etc all along these corridors of 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Avenues. It would be a disservice to folks in the district if they suddenly had to see one rep for school issues and a different rep for issues regarding their homes.

While the buses, avenues, trains link Bay Ridge all the way to Atlantic Avenue, the special master can at least decide to include Park Slope up to 9th Street, which is a good border as Sunset Park and Bay Ridge are at least more connected to Park Slope via transportation and community ties than they are to Dyker Heights. At minimum the special master can include all of Sunset Park in the map, and remove all of or most of Dyker Heights.

Sincerely,
Rodrigo Camarena
Sunset Park Resident

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Brenda A. Wise

From: ajones4044@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:04 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Congressional map reassignment

Whom it May Concern,

As the Special Master's plan is currently drafted, my community of (Massapequa, Massapequa Park, North Massapequa, Farmingdale, Levittown, Bethpage, etc) would be removed from its current South Shore Congressional District of NY-2 and placed in the North Shore Congressional District of NY-3. I urge you to reconsider this misguided plan and keep the South Shore communities of Long Island together as in the current 2nd Congressional District.

Long Island's North Shore and South Shore communities are different in almost every way. Residents of the South Shore experience the same flooding issues, share highways and public transportation infrastructure, and have a community connection that we do not share with North Shore residents. After our South Shore communities were devastated by Superstorm Sandy, we rebuilt them together and are stronger because of it. Please do not split us up. The interests of my community align with my South Shore neighbors in the 2nd Congressional District. We do not want to be part of a North Shore district.

I urge you to put my town back in the 2nd Congressional District and keep the South Shore communities together. This district was redrawn by a special master a decade ago, and it has had effective representation since. Please reverse the draft map so our communities can continue to work together.

Many thanks,
Andrew J Jones
Owner and Resident
180 Rose St. Massapequa Park NY 11762

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Nancy Straus <nancyvstraus@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:05 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, Nancy Straus

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Jahshua Taylor <jahshuataylor7@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:01 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

May 18, 2022

Dr. Johnathan Cervas, Special Master, NYS Congressional Maps
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Institute for Politics and Strategy
 Posner Hall 386, 5000 Forbes Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dr. Cervas,

I am Jahshua Taylor, a member of the Westbury NAACP . As a resident and active community leader, I am reaching out on behalf of my fellow Westbury residents 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 Cassel (all), Carle Place (all), Mineola (part, south of Jericho Turnpike)

Town of Oyster Bay: Hicksville (two precincts)

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Brenda A. Wise

From: d h <57baxter@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:06 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Greene County

Those of us in Greene County see ourselves as part of the Hudson Valley. Look at the map. We are in the Hudson Valley. We are sister counties with Columbia and share many resources, including our Cornell Columbia-Greene Extension Offices.

How can anyone think we are not part of the Hudson Valley Community? Separating us and putting us into a more centralized voting district will diminish our ability to vote for concerns in our area. Do not do this. It is irrational. It is punitive and manipulative.

This is political which is precisely what the redistricting was supposed to avoid. Be wise. Be responsible.

Dorian Hyland
Greene County

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Tracey Pinkard <tracey@bcs448.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:08 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: congressional rezoning

Greetings,

There is a simple message as this committee decides our fate. We are a collective in response to the many residents of Gowanus Houses and neighbors in our concerns of how this rezoning would once again minimize (our) the major steps gained.

Congress person Velazquez has forged on the behalf of public housing residents and similar communities such as ours. The discrepancies of prominent political figures and their unfamiliarity of concerns truly are worth reviewing. Our relationships are spatial and seasonal. If the season has passed, how are we assured that prior commitments are still of value?

As mentioned by others our strength is in community and with the leadership that has served us.

Best regards,
Tracey L. Pinkard

Tracey L. Pinkard
Parent Coordinator
Brooklyn Collaborative Studies
610 Henry Street
Brooklyn, NY 11231
phone: 718-923-4700 ext.4103
fax: 718-923-4730
347-563-5337 Cell
www.bcs448.org

“Walking among three people, I find my teacher among them. I choose that which is good in them and follow it, and that which is bad and change it.”

— Confucius

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Brenda A. Wise

From: mak221@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:08 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: The new district map is a GOP-favoring fraud that splits neighborhoods. It is illegal.

It is obvious to many of us that the redrawn map is a naked power grab to increase the representation of the GOP in New York *and* to force qualified incumbents to primary each other.

My town, Somers, is *still* deliberately gerrymandered in with Trumper Republican areas to completely dilute our vote.

I strongly oppose this Republican-inspired plan to increase GOP seats, while Republicans all over the country had their gerrymandered plans accepted by courts.

Mark A. Koppel
Somers

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Carol Wood <woodrose46@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:09 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Ulster County & City of Kingston

The new map, for Ulster County, don't make sense. Splitting up the county goes against the need for cohesion and contradicts tradition. Splitting Kingston down the middle doesn't make sense either. Even holding Kingston together along city boundaries would fail to comprehend the northern outskirts. For example I do all my grocery shopping in Lake Katrine and I'm a member of several groups that meet north of Kingston.

The Shawangunk Ridge is a natural dividing line, by the way. It would make some sense to split the county north to south at that point.

I do appreciate that the districts aren't shaped like snakes or weird twisty turned blocks.

Good luck with the redistricting.

Carol Wood
Town of Plattekill.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: John Bartimole <johnbartimole@bartimole.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:07 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: 23rd Congressional District

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas:

Please consider redrawing the map of the 23rd Congressional District to are it an all-rural district. The inclusion of a portion of Erie County is inappropriate and does not fit,character-wise, with the rural nature of the rest of thee district. Thank you for considering this.

John J. Ash
Former Mayor
City of Olean

Thank you!

Sent from Smallbiz Yahoo Mail for iPad

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Brenda A. Wise

From: bats723@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:11 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting Lakeview

To Whom It May Concern,

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

Sincerely,

Dwayne Watson

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Julia Jean-Francois <J.Jean-Francois@centerforfamilylife.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:11 PM
Cc: Julie Brockway
Subject: URGENT: NY-7 Congressional District - Center for Family Life in Sunset Park

Good Afternoon,

I hope that this message finds you well. As the principal provider of integrated human and social services for Sunset Park for over four decades, Center for Family Life in Sunset Park was disappointed to learn of the planned redistricting of our beloved community.

Continuing to keep the Chinatowns of Lower Manhattan and Sunset Park, and their surrounding Latino communities united with North Brooklyn is especially important. In fact, keeping Sunset Park tied to its roots and that of its communities of interest together was one item that had bipartisan support within the commission. The map as drawn will have dire impacts on the communities, particularly Latinos who represent nearly 1 in 5 New Yorkers but lack meaningful representation across the entire state.

We believe the map should reflect our community resident's right to ensure access to candidates that represent their low-income immigrant community's interests and needs. Equity and access must be at the heart of this redistricting process.

Thank you for your consideration -
Best Regards,
Julie Brockway
Julia Jean-Francois

Julia Jean-Francois, Ph.D., LCSW

Co-Executive Director

Center for Family Life In Sunset Park

443 39th Street, Brooklyn NY 11232

Phone: 718-438-9500 x7148 | Fax: 718-438-4354

www.centerforfamilylife.org



Center for
Family Life
in Sunset Park

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Gayle Grajewski <gaeg148@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:12 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Proposed Congressional Redistricting

The Honorable Patrick F. McAllister
7th Judicial District
Steuben County Supreme and County Court
3 East Pulteney Square
Bath, NY 14810

Re: Proposed Congressional Redistricting

Dear Judge McAllister:

Thank you for the time and effort you put into the development of the New York State Congressional Redistricting Map. I appreciate what a difficult and challenging task you were faced with when you agreed to accept the project.

As a lifelong resident of Amsterdam, New York, I have always perceived Amsterdam as part of the Capital District. Whether it was attending high school basketball or football games, shopping at Colonie Center or Stuyvesant Plaza, going to doctor or hospital appointments, searching for employment, or going out to dinner, Schenectady, Albany and Troy were always the primary focus. Living in Amsterdam meant "going down the line" for just about everything. As Saratoga became a major urban center, attending world-class concerts and spending the day at the Flat Track became frequent pastimes. I looked forward to the day when the miles between Amsterdam, Albany, Schenectady, Troy and Saratoga became fewer and fewer. Finally, last month, CDTA announced it plans to open a bus route later this year connecting Amsterdam to the rest of the Capital District. Just as Amsterdammers feel connected physically to the cities of the Capital District, they also feel connected culturally to the four cities on the new bus route. As such, they feel their needs can be best addressed in Congress by remaining part of the 20th C.D., an urban/suburban district.

I appreciate your time and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gayle Grajewski
12 Teller Street
Amsterdam, NY 12010
518-842-3314
gaeg148@yahoo.com

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Michelle Marin <mjmarinpr@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:12 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Stuytown being districted with Queens????

Hello,

This makes no sense -- we are on the island of Manhattan. Why is this being proposed?

Michelle

Michelle Marin
440 East 20th Street
New York, NY 10009

--

Michelle Marin | MarinPR
o: 212 420 0880 | c: 646 670 7441 | e: mjmarinpr@gmail.com

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Susan Becker <beckersusan@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:13 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting

Please note that I am opposed to the redistricting lines that have been proposed. I am a NYC resident and do not wish to be voting for a representative who I do not feel will represent my geographic interests - the making of election rectangles across Manhattan is problematic.

Sadly, regulations on redistricting should be federally mandated.

Sadly more so, is that the NY democratic primary will be in August when many voters will not likely participate as summer falls into its final weeks. Better to wait until after Labor Day and provide express type postage for those voting abroad to ensure their votes are counted before it is too late to prepare the ballots for the actual election in November.

My husband and 2 voting age children join me in this comment. We reside in zipcode 10024.

Best,
Susan Becker

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Brenda A. Wise

From: jacobdyckman18@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:13 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting

My name is Jacob Dyckman. I am submitting this email to protest 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 legislatures 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 has 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

Jacob M. Dyckman, Esq.

135-04 73rd Terrace

Flushing, NY 11367

646-221-1930

jacobdyckman18@gmail.com

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Darlene Bainbridge <darlene@ddbainbridgeassoc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:14 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Proposed 23rd Congressional District

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas:

Thank you for taking the time out of your very busy schedules to read this email. I am asking that you excise Erie County from the proposed 23rd Congressional District and restore the district to its original, rural nature. Having spent my entire career working with both urban and rural healthcare facilities, I am acutely aware of how different the needs and dynamics of rural and urban are and how easy it is for the needs of both to get lost and compromised when that distinction is not appreciated in decision making processes. I do not believe that bringing the more urban slice of Erie County into a largely rural district would be beneficial for its residents or our rural citizens if the goal is to ultimately maximize the ability to make the best decisions for both.

Thank you for your consideration.

Darlene D Bainbridge



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www.avast.com

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Jan Borchert <jb.ny@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:17 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

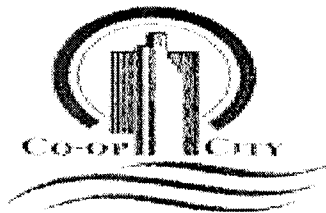
share similar agricultural, historic, artistic, and economic challenges and opportunities with Dutchess, Ulster, Rensselaer, and Greene Counties as part of the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents 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.

Please correct this grave mistake.

With regards,

Jan Borchert

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Riverbay Corporation Board of Directors 2049 Bartow Ave. Bronx, NY 10475 (347) 913-4224

May 18th, 2022

**Judge Patrick F. McAllister
Steuben County Supreme & County Court
3 East Pulteney Square
Bath, NY 14810**

Riverbay Corporation is the company that owns and manages the residential development known as Co-op City in the northeast Bronx, NY.

We, the Riverbay Board of Directors, Management, and community leaders of Co-op City, urge the court to reject the proposed congressional redistricting map, in particularly as it affects the Northeast Bronx district that includes Co-op City (currently NY-16).

Proposed changes splits the neighborhoods of Co-op City, Edenwald, Williamsbridge and Lower Westchester, (currently New York Congressional District 16 (NY-16)) and maps them into three separate districts (NY-14, NY-15, and NY-16).

This change would dilute the voting power of these communities of color by 17%, further marginalizing them and making it difficult for them to elect candidates who best represent their interests.

We ask the court to acknowledge the fact that Co-op City is the largest housing development in the country with an estimated population of over 40,000 residents living in 15,372 apartments. As would be expected, such a development requires a close partnership with its elected officials and government agencies to effectively deliver essential services to its residents.

Throughout the current pandemic, the understanding of this unique community by our current elected officials has resulted in the receipt of federal grants, the connection with government agency officials, and the implementation of legislation that has been invaluable to our operation.

In addition, due to similar population demographics of our neighboring communities (all communities of color), we've been able to affectively coordinate our efforts under the combined leadership of the elected officials who currently represent us. It would be counterproductive to lose that cohesiveness.

We urge the court to reject the proposed mapping plan so we may maintain the cohesive relationship with the government we currently enjoy. It would be devastating to have Co-op City, the largest middle income cooperative in the country, lumped into a district with communities whose local interests are much different than ours.

We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Riverbay Board of Directors:

Bernard Cylich (Riverbay Board President),
Sonia Feliciano (Vice President),
Daryl Johnson,
Francine Reva Jones (Assistant Secretary),
Kevin Lambright (Assistant Treasurer),
Andrea Leslie,
Michelle Marbury (2nd Vice President) (African American Association President),
Mary Pearson (Assistant Secretary),
Leslie Peterson (President, Co-op City Branch NAACP),
Leah Richardson (Secretary),
Angelo Rosario (Bishop, Church of God's Children),
Claudia Sampson (Treasurer) (Riverbay Fund President) (President, Coalition to Save Affordable Housing),
Rod Saunders

Executive General Manager, Bob Klehammer
General Manager, Noel Ellison

Cc: Dr. Jonathan Cervas

Brenda A. Wise

From: Minita Sanghvi <votesanghvi@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:19 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Saratoga county

Please don't break Saratoga county into two Congressional districts.

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. We share common services through the CDTA and SUNY systems.

Minita

Minita Sanghvi
Commissioner of Finance
Saratoga Springs, NY

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Brenda A. Wise

From: AK Mitchell <akplus2boys@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:19 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Special Master

Good Afternoon.

I'm writing to ask that you keep Columbia and Greene Counties together in redistricting.

So many of what each county does works in cooperation with each other.
We share a hospital, a college, youth programming, and so many more aspects of community.

Sperating the "twin Counties" can not benefit either county, and ignores the generations of benefit that the two counties have gained from one another.

Thank you.
-Andrea Mitchell

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1225 Franklin Ave. Suite 325
Garden City, New York 11530

Board of Directors

Phil Andrews, President

Elizabeth Wellington, Secretary/Deputy Director Nassau County

Valerie Anderson Campbell, Treasurer/Nassau County Director

La'Shawn Allen-Muhammad, Brooklyn Director

Dr. Teresa Taylor Williams, Board of Director

Erna Blackman, Queens County Director

Danielle Donophin, Suffolk County Director

May 18th, 2022

Dr. Johnathan Cervas, Special Master, NYS Congressional Maps
Carnegie Mellon University
Institute for Politics and Strategy
Posner Hall 386, 5000 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dr. Cervas,

I am Phil Andrews, the President of the Island African- American Chamber of Commerce representing businesses in the commonly aligned communities of Freeport, Westbury, Hempstead, Uniondale, Roosevelt, Lakeview, (etc.) as President where I have served for the past several years. The Long Island African- American Chamber of Commerce is 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 Google Maps 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.

Phil Andrews



President, Long Island African American Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Alexander <alexandertlane@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:20 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: NYS congressional districts

Hello,

I am writing in regards to the recently released congressional maps from the court appointed Special Master. I'm sure you are getting all kinds of emails today so I'll keep this brief.

A change that benefits one party is only unfair if the starting point was neutral. There is the old quip that "when you're accustomed to privilege, equality can feel like suppression." I would argue that the old maps benefitted Republicans. Not in an extreme amount, just to an extent greater than their proportion in the populace. The fact that the new maps proposed by state legislators would have improved the situation for Democrats does not in and of itself mean they are unfair. Reducing the prior unfairness would make things both A- More fair, and B- favor Democrats.

In announcing the newest version of the maps, the Special Master or someone speaking on his behalf described how there would be three more competitive races, as if that were an a priori good. To take an extreme example, if a community had 70 members of Party A, and 30 of Party B, Party A should win. If the election map were drawn so as to make their election a "competitive" one, that would mean that it is unfair, even if there's a 50/50 chance of either party winning. Fairness does not mean a 50/50 chance, unless you're flipping a coin. Fairness means each person's vote counting equally. And if 3 people from Party B's votes are equal to 7 people in Party A, that is not fair. Now, this is a more extreme example than anything happening in our state, thankfully, but I hope I make my point clear. New York is a state with more than twice as many registered Democrats as Republicans, plus a large number of independents and smaller parties, so if things are fair the majority of races will indeed tip Democratic.

I haven't even gotten into the dilution of racial communities or how things would affect primaries, but I need to get back to work so I'll have to close with a plea that these maps be reconsidered.

Thank you,
Alexander Lane

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Brenda A. Wise

From: steve redler <steveredler@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:20 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Comments on Congressional District 20 borders

I reviewed the Congressional District lines for Congressional District 20 and I have some concerns that it splits up our Capital District community. Rotterdam and Amsterdam have strong connections to Schenectady and Saratoga Springs is strongly connected to the Capital District. The news media for the two areas are based in Albany and Schenectady and the workforce lives in Saratoga or Amsterdam and works in Malta, Clifton Park, Schenectady, or Albany County. I urge you to revise the lines to make Congressional District 20 align with the Capital District community

Steve Redler
40 Nathaniel Blvd
Delmar, NY 12054

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Myles Weintraub <mylesweintraub4@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:21 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,
Myles Weintraub
11 South Road
Germantown, NY 12526
COLUMBIA COUNTY

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Brenda A. Wise

From: s. brevda <earbears@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:23 PM
To: cervas@cmu.edu; Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Congressional - #14

I am pleading that you give Grace Meng - District 6 - more of Jackson Heights. You broke the Historic District of Jackson Heights to both districts. As a national and city Historic District, it is an area of common needs and would be better serviced by including it in District 6 than staying in the current 14th.

Please consider making this change. It will enhance our area and bring a vast improvement to the residents.

Thank you,

Shelley Brevda

VOICES OF JACKSON HEIGHTS

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Linda Keegstra <lkeegstra@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:23 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Re-Districting

Hello,

We should be in a geographic district. After Democrats' districting was rejected, wasn't the goal to make fairer districts which made geographic sense?

Linda and Bruce Keegstra
Stuyvesantown

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Daniel Jones <action@campaignnow.co>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:38 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: jones.andrezj@gmail.com

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

I am a resident of the current Congressional District NY-7.

NY-11 should be a waterfront district running from the southern end of Staten Island through the Brooklyn harbor frontage through Red Hook and including the entire Gowanus Canal area on both sides. The Canal area is involved in complicated and compelling federal Superfund and federal Clean Water Act and other environmental issues. It shouldn't be split between two districts and its inclusion in NY-11, which is already a de facto waterfront district, makes the most sense. The area should have a member of Congress for whom these federal water related issues are a main priority and will demand that the member personally possess and/or develop expertise and full command of these important issues and form a staff with strong capability on them.

Sincerely,

Maria Hodermarska
149 Nelson Street, Brooklyn, 11231

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Brenda A. Wise

From: LMW <lmw10011@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 6:27 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Do not annex Columbia County in the new CD Maps!

To whom it may concern-

I am writing to urge you NOT to annex Columbia County from the Hudson Valley and Capital Region in the Congressional District Maps being drawn up.

KEEP COLUMBIA COUNTY WITH THE CAPITAL DISTRICT / HUDSON VALLEY!!!!

Columbia County should be part of a contiguous Congressional district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties when redistricted. We are neither urban nor suburban--we belong as a unified Columbia County community with neighboring counties--Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster and Greene.

-

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 a Mid-Hudson Valley Region. Dividing Columbia County or separating us from this region would impact the residents who want to share our rich heritage and build for the future.

Respectfully-
L. Walker
Columbia County Resident

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Kit Ballum Cohen <kisforkit@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 6:35 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.

Sincerely,
Kit Ballum Cohen
436 Viewmont Rd
Columbia County
Germantown, NY

--

Kit Ballum Cohen / kisforkit@gmail.com / <https://linktr.ee/itskit>

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Christine Bratton <action@campaignnow.co>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 6:38 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Protect Congressional District NY-7

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

I am a resident of Congressional District NY-7. While the proposed map does keep the Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, and Gowanus area together, it excludes Red Hook which should also be included as we share a navigable superfund site (the Gowanus Canal), schools, libraries, a post office, recreational facilities, a community board, etc. Many residents in the adjoining neighborhoods frequently shop, dine, and attend performances in Red Hook, and vice versa. NY-7's representative has chosen Red Hook as her home.

NY-7 is a Latino plurality VRA district and much of the district will lose this vital representation as the proposed maps cut the current NY-7 in half while unnecessarily creating a new and unrepresented NY-10. NY-7 should be drawn to include Red Hook, Carroll Gardens, Gowanus, along with Sunset Park (which shares communities of interest with other NY-7 neighborhoods of Bushwick and the Manhattan Chinatown) which shares a school district (15). Gowanus and its neighbors share communities of interest with the other NY-7 neighborhoods. These neighborhoods and their communities of interest should stay unified in the NY7 Congressional district.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Jeanne Messing <action@campaignnow.co>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 6:48 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Protect Congressional District NY-7

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

I am a resident of Congressional District NY-7. While the proposed map does keep the Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, and Gowanus area together, it excludes Red Hook which should also be included as we share a navigable superfund site (the Gowanus Canal), schools, libraries, a post office, recreational facilities, a community board, etc. Many residents in the adjoining neighborhoods frequently shop, dine, and attend performances in Red Hook, and vice versa. NY-7's representative has chosen Red Hook as her home.

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Ariel Zambelich <action@campaignnow.co>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 6:52 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Protect Congressional District NY-7

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

I am a resident of Congressional District NY-7. While the proposed map does keep the Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, and Gowanus area together, it excludes Red Hook which should also be included as we share a navigable superfund site (the Gowanus Canal), schools, libraries, a post office, recreational facilities, a community board, etc. Many residents in the adjoining neighborhoods frequently shop, dine, and attend performances in Red Hook, and vice versa. NY-7's representative has chosen Red Hook as her home.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Frances Dirks <action@campaignnow.co>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 7:03 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: fgdirks@gmail.com

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

I am a resident of Congressional District NY-7. While the proposed map does keep the Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, and Gowanus area together, it excludes Red Hook which should also be included as we share a navigable superfund site (the Gowanus Canal), schools, libraries, a post office, recreational facilities, a community board, etc. Many residents in the adjoining neighborhoods frequently shop, dine, and attend performances in Red Hook, and vice versa. NY-7's representative has chosen Red Hook as her home.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Danielle Cyr <action@campaignnow.co>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 7:12 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Protect Congressional District NY-7

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

I am a resident of Congressional District NY-7. While the proposed map does keep the Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, and Gowanus area together, it excludes Red Hook which should also be included as we share a navigable superfund site (the Gowanus Canal), schools, libraries, a post office, recreational facilities, a community board, etc. Many residents in the adjoining neighborhoods frequently shop, dine, and attend performances in Red Hook, and vice versa. NY-7's representative has chosen Red Hook as her home.

NY-7 is a Latino plurality VRA district and much of the district will lose this vital representation as the proposed maps cut the current NY-7 in half while unnecessarily creating a new and unrepresented NY-10. NY-7 should be drawn to include Red Hook, Carroll Gardens, Gowanus, along with Sunset Park (which shares communities of interest with other NY-7 neighborhoods of Bushwick and the Manhattan Chinatown) which shares a school district (15). Gowanus and its neighbors share communities of interest with the other NY-7 neighborhoods. These neighborhoods and their communities of interest should stay unified in the NY7 Congressional district.

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Deborah Dobski <action@campaignnow.co>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 7:18 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Protect Congressional District NY-7

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

I am a resident of Congressional District NY-7. While the proposed map does keep the Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, and Gowanus area together, it excludes Red Hook which should also be included as we share a navigable superfund site (the Gowanus Canal), schools, libraries, a post office, recreational facilities, a community board, etc. Many residents in the adjoining neighborhoods frequently shop, dine, and attend performances in Red Hook, and vice versa. NY-7's representative has chosen Red Hook as her home.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Patricia Beraducci <action@campaignnow.co>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 7:32 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: pmbot90@gmail.com

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

I am a resident of Congressional District NY-7. While the proposed map does keep the Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, and Gowanus area together, it excludes Red Hook which should also be included as we share a navigable superfund site (the Gowanus Canal), schools, libraries, a post office, recreational facilities, a community board, etc. Many residents in the adjoining neighborhoods frequently shop, dine, and attend performances in Red Hook, and vice versa. NY-7's representative has chosen Red Hook as her home.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: A. W. <awnyc2020@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 7:47 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Proposed Congressional Map - Astoria
Attachments: Steinway Station.png

Hello,

This letter is in regards to the proposed congressional map created by Special master Jonathan Cervas. I have concerns about the new boundaries for my neighborhood.

I am a resident of Astoria, Queens, New York City, living in the area of Astoria below the Triborough Bridge. The proposed boundaries will divide the heart of our neighborhood into district 14 and district 7. District 14 would include us with the Bronx and a part of Queens that would require going through 2 other districts, by car, to get there. This is not practical nor reflective of day to day life in Astoria.

I am a frequent patron of businesses and public areas in Astoria and the surrounding areas. For instance, a grocery store, a movie theater, and a museum I recently visited within the past seven days would be moved into a new district, despite the fact that these locations are all within a 10 minute walking distance. Earlier this week, I went to dinner in Long Island City and have often traveled there by ferry, subway, or bike. In addition, the map puts the entrances to the Steinway Street subway station in different districts. The new map would have the entrances on the west side of the street in one district and the entrances on the east side of the street in another. Steinway Street is a major thoroughfare and both sides of the street should be included in the same district. (I have attached a screenshot of the map showing the approximate locations of the subway entrances on Steinway and how they would be affected by the map.)

The current 2010 map that groups the southern portion of Astoria with Long Island City, western Sunnyside, Hunters Point, Ravenswood, Queensbridge, and Greenpoint is a better representation of life in this part of Queens. It does make more sense for us to be grouped with the east side of Manhattan than the areas the map proposes. The current map includes areas that are all areas I can travel to using public transportation or by foot or bike, and be there within 30 min. From a resident's perspective, especially one without a car, it makes more sense to keep these areas together than to divide them up.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Allison Walker

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Deborah Herdan <action@campaignnow.co>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:18 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Protect Congressional District NY-7

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Patricia Constantino <action@campaignnow.co>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:18 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Protect Congressional District NY-7

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Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:18 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
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Brenda A. Wise

From: Mike Shultis (via Google Docs) <mikeshultis55@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:23 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Document shared with you: "letter for Congressional map.docx"

mikeshultis55@gmail.com shared a document

mikeshultis55@gmail.com has invited you to **edit** the following document:

Hello,

Please see my letter attached regarding the dividing of Ulster County into 2 separate congressional districts.

As the elected Town of Hurley Highway Superintendent the current map dividing Ulster County into 2 districts will negatively impact our 20 towns to lobby for issues that effect our constituents as a group which will in essence give us less representation.

Sincerely yours,
Michael C. Shultis
Town of Hurley Highway Superintendent
Cell 845-417-1485
Off 845-338-4067
www.townofhurley.org

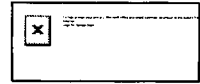
 letter for Congressional map.docx



This email grants access to this item without logging in. Only forward it to people you trust.

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Google LLC, 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA
You have received this email because mikeshultis55@gmail.com shared a document with you from Google Docs.



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Brenda A. Wise

From: Susan Stava <ohsusan@susanstava.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:01 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: district map configuration

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 will would result if these districts are approved and would persist for many years to come. Thank you for considering my comment.

Sincerely,
Susan Stava

Susan Stava
ohsusan@susanstava.com
Instagram: [Susanstavaphotography](#)
914.720.7839

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Brenda A. Wise

From: David Santos <action@campaignnow.co>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:12 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: thebiggy2806@gmail.com

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

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Brenda A. Wise

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Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:32 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Protect Congressional District NY-7

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