



"History's Hometown"

CITY OF AUBURN

Office of the Mayor
Michael D. Quill

May 5, 2022

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

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

RE: Redistricting of the City of Auburn

Dear Justice McCallister and Dr. Cervas,

I am writing to respectfully request that you keep the City of Auburn united within one congressional district and one state senate district. The City of Auburn is strongly affiliated central New York region, both economically and socially. History has shown that the City's interests are served best when included within districts that align strongly with the central New York region, where the City of Syracuse acts as the nucleus.

For a city of our size, interconnectivity is essential for effective governance and operations. For example, much of the exemplary economic and capital development projects which make Auburn such a vibrant place to live and work were coordinated through the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council. This five county regional area closely overlaps with other federal and state regional areas that are applied to the City in other areas of governance integral to the operation of a municipal corporation, such as transportation and the environment. We are constantly conducting business with state and federal offices located in Syracuse; with the same state and federal representatives that represent central New York, our power to get things done for the taxpayers of the City is magnified rather than dissipated.

Our City is a prime example of the inequities of gerrymandering. In the 1990's, a period of sustained economic downturn for central New York cities, Auburn was dissected into 3 congressional districts. One district extended west to Buffalo, the second district extended south through the southern tier region and the third was aligned with the central New York region. Although the City of Auburn received strong working representation from the congressman representing the central New York region, three were not better than one. Similarly, after the Great Recession, we found our city dissected into multiple state senate districts. This artificial and unnecessary situation is confusing to our residents and burdensome to our representatives.

To conclude, I again respectfully request that the City of Auburn remain solely drawn into just one congressional district and one state senate district that closely aligns with the central New York region. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Quill, Mayor