

January 10, 2023

Dear Commissioners,

I write to express my strong opposition to the Commission's draft plan that would move Sutton Place, Roosevelt Island and other parts of the east side into Assembly District 36 in Queens.

The draft proposal clearly violates several New York State Constitutional districting requirements. Specifically, the draft (1) is not contiguous and compact; (2) fails to consider pre-existing political subdivisions and communities of interest; and (3) defies citizens' reasonable expectations of rational line-drawing.

The various communities of interest on both sides of the East River face different issues regarding housing, tax policy, transportation, open space and other matters. The draft proposal would create practical difficulties in the provision of governmental services. Even the location of an Assembly District Office is complicated by this irrational two-borough district plan.

I and my neighbors successfully beat back a similar proposal involving City Council districts this past summer. While the law and the process may be different, the essential concepts of good government and rational line-drawing remain the same.

I strongly urge you to scrap the draft plan and not create a two-borough district.

Respectfully,

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