

Christopher Bell
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Dear Members of the Commission,

I live in the Concourse neighborhood, adjacent to the Bronx Museum. Historically, the dividing lines for districts, including City Council, State Senate, and State Assembly, have cut through our neighborhood. Living here, I can attest to fact this the Concourse is a contiguous neighborhood, with its nexus on Joyce Kilmer Park, Borough Hall and Franz Siegel Park. Having lines cut through the middle of the neighborhood, in my view, leads to representation that puts our neighborhoods interests on the periphery.

The northern dividing lines in latest draft of map resolves this issue for the 28th Senate District, but leaves it unresolved for the 72nd Assembly District. The 72nd AD northern dividing line is 164th Street, Grand Concourse, then 161st Street. That cleaves the neighborhood in 2, and leaves many of the parks that are centerpieces of the neighborhood outside of the Assemblyperson's district. I would instead propose the northern boundary of 72nd Assembly District to be Jerome Avenue, 167th Street, and Morris Avenue, to keep the Concourse neighborhood continuous.

Again, the proposed districts are a refreshing change from the previous illogical districts we saw in the south Bronx. Nonetheless, slightly adjusting the northern boundary of 72nd AD would be a welcome tweak to provide better representation to Concourse neighborhood.

Best Regards,

Christopher Bell