

COMMUNITY BOARD 1 – MANHATTAN  
RESOLUTION

DATE: FEBRUARY 28, 2023

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE VOTE:	8 In Favor	0 Opposed	1 Abstained	0 Recused
PUBLIC VOTE:	0 In Favor	0 Opposed	0 Abstained	0 Recused
BOARD VOTE:	35 In Favor	0 Opposed	2 Abstained	0 Recused

RE: Manhattan Community Board 1 Comment on the proposed redistricting plan for the New York State Assembly

WHEREAS: The Supreme Court of New York County in his opinion of September 29, 2022 (as amended on October 12, 2022) the New York State Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) voted to release another draft Assembly plan to the public; and

WHEREAS: The draft redistricting plan, was published on December 1, 2022 and is available online at nyirc.gov for the public to review and was presented and reviewed with Manhattan Community Board 1 (CB 1) on February 23, 2023; and

WHEREAS: The newer draft redistricting plan, published on December 1, 2022 fits better than the last map in meeting the Natural Boundaries of our Community; and

WHEREAS: The newer draft redistricting plan is supported for the following reasons:

1. Retains the Asian Population in CB 1 together with Chinatown; and
2. Retains the Financial District area with its neighbors; and
3. Retains Natural Community Boundaries within School Districts; and
4. Lower Manhattan does not have symmetry with Staten Island in terms of housing density or typology or socio-economic interests; and
5. Battery Park City is closely aligned with the surrounding neighborhoods of Tribeca and the Financial District both geographically and socio-economically not with Staten Island; and
6. Battery Park City is run by the Battery Park City Authority which is only able to partner with neighboring local interest groups not with Staten Island; and
7. Battery Park City residents share the majority of transportation concerns and street safety along the state highway (9A) with the residents across West Street; and
8. Resiliency plans for Battery Park City, The Battery, and Tribeca being planned and implemented by BPCA work with in conjunction with the NYC Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice (MOCEJ) for the Fidi Seaport Master plan, the societal concerns are linked together and fit with the new maps for one holistic approach; and

9. Primary community concerns of Lower Manhattan are symmetrical throughout the area for diminishing affordability, congestion pricing, bus routes, bridge and tunnel traffic issues, ferry and boat noise near residential housing, historic districts; landmarked buildings; and
10. Governors Island must remain as listed in the new Assembly maps as it is under the jurisdiction of Manhattan, Manhattan City Council members and CB 1, it shares its primary access to the island with the Seaport District; The Senatorial Maps incorrectly assigned the island into a Brooklyn District cutting it off from the elected offices who govern it; and
11. Lower Manhattan looks to retain its natural boundaries and not be divided into other boroughs including Staten Island or Brooklyn; and
12. The last map divided Lower Manhattan and connected parts of it with Staten Island in a way that denied fair or effective representation for the residents of Battery Park City and parts of the Financial District as residents would max at 30% of the lines drawn in the last map; the new map retains the opportunity for effective and fair representation for the entire district; and
13. Part of Ellis Island and the entirety of Liberty Island are legally a part of New York State under the purview of CB 1; and

WHEREAS: The most recent draft redistricting plan is being assembled with solicited written and oral testimony suggesting how Assembly Districts should be redrawn; now

THEREFORE

BE IT

RESOLVED

THAT: Manhattan Community Board 1 supports the newest Draft Assembly Map; and

BE IT

FURTHER

RESOLVED

THAT: Manhattan Community Board 1 calls for the return of Governors Island to a State Senate district that is coterminous with Manhattan Community District 1.