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I am a resident of the Windsor Terrace neighborhood in Brooklyn. I write to oppose the proposed re-drawing of Assembly District 44, which would result in the splintering-off of a portion of the Windsor Terrace neighborhood and reassigning it to a different Assembly District (A.D. 51).

By way of background: Windsor Terrace is the neighborhood located generally between Prospect Park (to the east) and Green-Wood Cemetery (to the west). The Cemetery is a large (478-acre) fenced-in property that serves as a physical and geographic barrier between Windsor Terrace and the Sunset Park neighborhood that largely comprises A.D. 51 (along with the Red Hook neighborhood).

The proposed preliminary Assembly map would effectively take a piece of Windsor Terrace -- the portion between Prospect Avenue (to the east) and the Cemetery (to the west) -- and combine it with the Sunset Park neighborhood located on *the opposite side* of the Cemetery in a newly redrawn A.D. 51. This makes little sense.

Assigning this portion of Windsor Terrace to A.D. 51 would splinter-off an integral part of the Windsor Terrace neighborhood. Its housing stock was built at or around the same time as the rest of the neighborhood and is of the same general character. Its residents shop at the same local supermarkets as the rest of Windsor Terrace. They patronize the same local restaurants and send their kids to the same local schools. They use the same subway lines (the F and G trains). In short, they share a common set of characteristics, interests, and issues with the rest of the Windsor Terrace neighborhood.

The goal of redrawing Assembly districts should be to keep long-established neighborhoods like Windsor Terrace intact -- rather than splinter them off into pieces and re-assign residents to a different neighborhood with different characteristics and local issues. This is especially true when the other neighborhood is located on the far side of a fenced-in area like Green-Wood Cemetery.

In addition, there are practical consequences to the redrawing proposal that argue against its adoption. The Windsor Terrace residents who would be reassigned to A.D. 51 would be relatively few as compared to the other residents of that District. Their ability to make their local neighborhood needs heard would pale in comparison to the more numerous residents of Sunset Park and Red Hook, whose local neighborhood issues may be different (owing to their own unique characteristics).

The Windsor Terrace residents remaining in A.D. 44 would also be affected. The proposed redrawing would reduce the number of Windsor Terrace residents by sending many of our neighbors to A.D. 51. Windsor Terrace would lose many residents whose leadership and activism enhance the community.

I urge you to reconsider this wrong-headed proposal. Please keep the Windsor Terrace neighborhood intact, by preserving Green-Wood Cemetery -- not the Prospect Expressway -- as the boundary between A.D. 44 and A.D. 51.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.