

Good Evening Commissioners. My name is Evelyn Collier and I am a resident of the 56th Assembly District, residing at 437 Macon Street Apt 1, Brooklyn New York 11233

I would like to voice my support of the current lines contain in the following borders:

Nostrand Avenue, Flushing Avenue, Broadway, Howard to Putnam , Ralph Avenue to Bergen to Utica Avenue,Utica to Prospect Place, Prospect to Troy Avenue, Troy to St .Marks, St .Marks to Kingston ,Kingston to Bergen,Bergen to Nostrand Avenue.

My reasons why I support the current map:

The residence of Bedford Stuyvesant and Crown Heights would like to remain a United District because we have value in landmarking as a method to preserve our community.

We support each other in our designation process.

Our Elected Official and Residence are working together to create a cease and desist Zone to protect homeowners from predatory Realtors.

Organization such as the Brownstoners of Bedford Stuyvesant Inc and Crown Heights North Association were created to preserve the legacy of home ownership. They have supported each other in their initiatives for preservation.

Bedford Stuyvesant and Crown Heights have a shared ancestry and history in Weeksville, it is one of the first free black communities (1838) in New York. Our esteem cultural Institution that we share and support is the Weeksville Heritage Center in Crown Heights.

The 56th Assembly District is home to the First Community Development Corporation, Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation is our unique and well utilized cultural Center that serves residents in the Bedford Stuyvesant and all neighboring Communities.

I'm a member of an organization, Age-Friendly Central Brooklyn, formerly Age-Friendly Bedford - Stuyvesant and Crown Heights. This is a community-based organization led by group of volunteers of older adults, men and women that builds upon the rich experience of adults age 62.

Please note that Bedford Stuyvesant is known as one of the first Aging Improvement Districts that contributed to New York and Brooklyn specifically receivin designation as an Age Friendly City.

Redrawing the boundaries of this community will definitely disenfranchise this organization and our seniors.

I oppose the draft map drawn by the IRC because:

- It will reduce the already depleted black population from 52% to 46%.
- This Change will surely be devastating to this community.
- It will definitely dilute the Black vote .
- will lose our longstanding relationship with our allies in Crown Heights,small business Development, Arts and culture.
- We will lose our great relationship with community board 8 who we have common interest and shares purpose for Community Development.

I've lived in this community for over 50 years.I have been a part of the advocacy for and is passionate about preserving our historic districts, with the help of the community , the Historic Districts Council and The NY Landmark Conservancy.

I love this community , because we are a Transportation Rich Hub, we are a community that cares about seniors, and all issues that affect tis community. We have great churches,art galleries jazz clubs,and many choices restaurants. it's a great place to be and a great place to live.

- This community has worked very hard to bring about the cohesiveness throughout our community. We have also earned our right of self-determination,starting in 1838 when James weeks first bought property in Bedford Stuyvesant.
- "Self Determination is for all people to have.
- By virtue of that, they freely have the right to determine their political status and free to pursue the economic ,social and cultural development. "
- We feel we have the right to make the choices and decision that we believe is best for the people in this community.

Independent Redistricting Commission
250 Broadway, 22nd Floor
New York, NY 10007

Good Afternoon,

My name is Abu Khaliquzzaman and I live at 7 Story Court in Kensington. I am a native of Bangladesh but have lived in the US since 1997. Together with my wife and son, I have resided in Kensington since 1997. My comments relate to your draft decision to divide Kensington between the 44th and 51st ADs. Since it involves only a few blocks I believe it should be wholly in the 44th AD. This may seem like a small thing to you but it will have profound consequences for the people of Kensington.

As with most Brooklyn neighborhoods, Kensington is ethnically, economically, and religiously diverse. It does, however, contain within it one of New York's largest and growing South Asian communities. It is this that I ask you to consider. Neighborhood institutions including mosques, such as Masjid Nur Al-Islam and Darul Jannah Masjid, Churches such as Immaculate Heart of Mary, numerous fraternal organizations and merchants catering to the South Asian community should be kept together, not divided by artificial political boundaries.

I propose that you keep all of Kensington in the 44th AD. This neighborhood, from Ocean Parkway on the East to 39th Street on the West and from Green-Wood cemetery on the North to Foster Avenue on the south is a geographic whole with clearly defined boundaries. It has for as long as I can remember been apart of the 44th AD and the Assemblymember for that district, Robert Carroll, is well known and has been very responsive to the needs of the South Asian community. We would like to continue our work with him. Additionally, it is vital that Little Pakistan and the surrounding blocks that the IRC removed around Coney Island Avenue remain whole with the Prospect Park South Neighborhood all within the 44th AD. Please do not cut us out of the 44th AD.

I know the lines must be drawn somewhere and that not everyone can be happy. The minor changes in your plan which I propose however, would be of great help to my neighbors generally, and to the South Asian community specifically.

Thank You.

Testimony at New York State Independent Redistricting Commission hearing
Feb. 15, 2023 at Medger Evers

My name is Lauren Collins and I've lived in Windsor Terrace since 2005. I'm a public school parent of two boys who went to elementary and middle school in the 44th AD. While it is no longer active, I'm also one of the founders of the Windsor Terrace Alliance neighborhood association which was formed to address issues impacting all our residents throughout our community...from Prospect Park to Green-Wood Cemetery.

To divide Windsor Terrace into two ADs at the expressway would do a huge disservice to our community. It is important that we keep Windsor Terrace with Park Slope and Kensington in one contiguous district.

Some of the concerns of Windsor Terrace residents are unique to our geography:

- We have a dependence on specific train and bus lines, especially the B68 which would no longer be in the same district as a large section of our neighborhood if this draft plan were adopted.
- There are several bridges and overpasses connecting the two sides of our community which reinforces that we are one neighborhood.
- In Windsor Terrace, many residents rely on one grocery store, conveniently located near the middle of the neighborhood and a few blocks from the 11th Ave. vehicular and pedestrian overpass joining the two sides. In 2012, residents from both sides of the expressway rallied under leadership of then-Assemblymember Jim Brennan and then-Borough President Marty Markowitz to save Windsor Terrace's large Key Food supermarket.

I am asking the commission to restore Green-Wood Cemetery along 20th Street to be the western border of the 44th AD, not the Prospect Expressway as in the draft plan, and Green-Wood Cemetery along McDonald Avenue and Fort Hamilton Parkway out to 39th Street as the Northern boundary between the 44th and 51st ADs. This is a shift of only a few blocks but makes sense geographically. Without this change, the portions of Kensington and Windsor Terrace cut out of the 44th AD will be a small after thought in the 51st AD divided from that district by the hundreds of acres of Green-Wood Cemetery.

I'm concerned that if the draft plan is adopted, the needs of the 51st AD's Red Hook and Borough Park will result in half of our community being pushed aside. Keeping the neighborhood in one AD will retain our voice under Assemblymember Bobby Carroll so he can continue with the work he has been doing in the areas of traffic safety, MTA improvements, education policy, and more. I urge the Commission to restore the boundaries mentioned above. Thank you.



Patrick E. Gorman Housing

1381 A LINDEN BLVD. * BROOKLYN, NY 11212

From the Desk of the President

1963

October 2021

2023

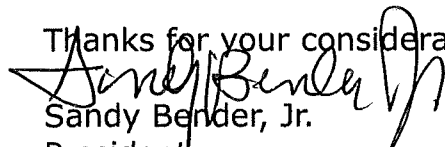
To Co-Executive Directors Bratt, Breakell and members of the New York State Independent Redistricting Commission,

My name is Sandy Bender, Jr, President of Patrick E. Gorman Housing Development Company a limited profit housing development consisting of two (2) buildings with 340 apartments located at 1371 and 1381 Linden Blvd, Brooklyn, New York. Our neighboring development, Jimerson House Development, consists of three buildings with 420 Apartments located at 1407, 1411 and 1415 Linden Blvd.

Gorman is 60 years old and has been thru varies stages , from a Jewish development to a very diverse community of minority shareholders. I have been a shareholder of Gorman Houses since 1975. I am a former elected official; elected to Area Policy Board #16, and Regional Representative of Area Policy Boards 5 & 16 serving East New York and Brownsville communities.

I have worked for an elected official where I learned leadership firsthand and worked with many elected officials representing Gorman and Jimerson , some good and many bad. Since the 1990's census and redistricting put us in a new district , I have witness good leadership in the 58th Assembly district. Keeping Gorman-Jimerson in the 58th District would allow our shareholders of common interest to advocate on our behalf as a voice that is strong enough to be heard. Splitting our district weakens our ability to secure resources and unfairly deny us the responsible and effective representation in the State Assembly that we deserve.

Thanks for your consideration!


Sandy Bender, Jr.
President

Testimony of Marvin Ciporen to the IRC Re-44th AD

My name is Marvin Ciporen and I have lived in Park Slope for 50 years. I thank the Chair and members of the IRC for your work and for the opportunity to suggest improvements to your suggested plans for redistricting the 44th Assembly District.

The most important problem in the draft plan is the proposal to remove sections of Kensington and Windsor Terrace from the 44th AD and place them in the 51st AD by making the Prospect Expressway the western boundary of the 44th AD.

Instead, I urge the IRC to keep Windsor Terrace and Kensington intact by making Green-Wood Cemetery along 20th Street the western border of the 44th AD, and Green-Wood Cemetery along McDonald Avenue and Fort Hamilton Parkway out to 39th Street the Northern border of the 44th AD. This shift of a few blocks is geographically very sensible and will help ensure that all ADs serve about the same number of people.

I believe IRC's proposed change came from a mistaken assumption that the Prospect Expressway is an actual dividing line. It is not. There are numerous overpasses every few blocks that facilitate easy and safe crossings of the highway. My wife and I (like many of our neighbors) regularly use those "bridges" and for two years we walked back and forth from our home to pick up our grandchildren who went to Pre-K at the DOE's educational center at the former Bishop Ford High School (19th St. in Windsor Terrace).

The Pre-K complex is one of the many educational, religious institutions of all faiths, and civic associations that connect residents of all parts of the 44th AD. The proposed changes

would be divisive. For example, under the IRC's initial proposal four school communities (PS 154, PS 130, PS 320 and PS 179) and at least five religious congregations (Holy Name, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Flatbush & Shaare Torah Jewish Center, Daitul Jannah Zane Masjid, and the Bangladeshi Muslim Center) will be split in half.

James Brennan, the former Assembly Member who served the 44th AD for more than 3 decades, personifies the dislocation the proposed new boundaries would create. Jim would no longer be a resident of the 44th AD under the draft plan.

Moreover, the most vulnerable people who would no longer be part of the 44th AD will be harmed by the change. The 44th Assembly Member's Office has a long history of providing exceptional constituent services. As a consultant, for 35+ years, to nonprofits serving high need communities and populations; I learned that people most in need of help are often hesitant to, or fearful of, seeking assistance. It takes a lot of time to build the trusting relations and reputations that enable professionals to effectively aid those in need. Many people who now are confident about working with 44th AD staff may not, seek needed assistance from government if they will have to reach out to 51st AD staff.

Thank you again for the opportunity share my perspective on why all of Kensington and Windsor Terrace should remain part of the 44th AD.

**Good afternoon. I am Jack O'Connell
I have been a resident of this community for 46 years.
I am the Founder of the
Windsor Terrace Food Coop**

I come before you to strongly oppose the *Independent Redistricting Commission's* plan to redistrict parts of Windsor Terrace and Kensington by moving the western sections of our communities, presently part of the 44th Assembly District into the 51st Assembly District that is anchored by Red Hook and Sunset Park.

I would like, at this moment to share a little personal history of the region. I went to High School in the 1950s in Brooklyn - the corner of Washington and Atlantic.

Yes, I recall looking down 7th Ave from Flatbush Ave. and seeing the large passenger plane that crashed on 7th Ave and Sterling Place.

Yes, we played ball at the Parade Grounds.

It was in those days at the Parade Grounds that I distinctly recall the massive construction project on what I thought was Ocean Parkway. The construction I witnessed, of course, was the building of the Prospect Expressway. The Prospect Expressway effectively cut in half the communities of Windsor Terrace and Kensington.

At the time this type of project, mastered in our City by Robert Moses, was not unusual. The effort to make car travel easier was a primary objective, nationally.

In recent years there has been a recognition of the harm that these projects caused in those communities cut in half for automotive purposes. The recognition has gone far enough for President Biden and Congress to include, in the recently passed Infrastructure Bill, fiscal support for rectifying the damage caused 60/70 years ago by the construction of highways that cut communities in half.

Officials from the Federal Department of Transportation have informed us there are many projects, nationally, that are already underway. It is a national effort to make communities, divided by such actions, whole again.

In short, with this history in mind, the Commission's proposal is going absolutely in the wrong direction. The communities of Windsor Terrace and Kensington have worked hard over the years making their communities whole, despite the Prospect Expressway. The Commission should not undue the hard work of local citizens, by redistricting the western portion of the communities.

Additionally, I cannot think of any rational that would cut off parts of these communities and place them in a district with the very strong and well identified communities of Red Hook and Sunset Park. The citizens of the excised sections of Windsor Terrace and Kensington would be virtually voiceless as they attempt to better their communities with their neighbors.

So, I conclude saying that I urge the Commission to redraw the lines of the 44AD so that Windsor Terrace and Kensington remain whole. Anything less than that would be a return to a time when society's priorities were much different, and Brooklyn was a very different place. I urge you to look to the future and not repeat the errors of the past,

The Citizens of Windsor Terrace and Kensington are aware and watching.

**Thank you
Jack O'Connell
Joconnell147@gmail.com**

**Testimony Presented Before the Independent Redistricting
Commission February 15, 2023 Public Hearing at Medgar Evers College**

Presented by Jennifer Faucher

jenniferfaucher@aol.com

My name is **Jennifer Faucher**. I am the District Leader and State Committeewoman for the 41st Assembly District. I am also a Member of Brooklyn Community Board 15.

I want to thank the Commission for providing me with this opportunity to talk to you about the 41st Assembly District.

I have lived in the Sheepshead Bay area for 50 years. Over those decades I have seen population growth and development. As District Leader I have many opportunities to attend events which are in recognition of several ethnic groups. These events have allowed our community to grow in knowledge, awareness, and sensitivity to each other's needs.

Although we are part of the great borough of Brooklyn within New York City, to many we are seen as a bedroom community. Many parts of the 41st Assembly District are not in walking distance to a subway station. Public transportation is challenging, but we push forward because of the attachment many have for the Community. Our civic and other organizations reflect the diversity within the 41st Assembly District. The Sheepshead Bay Y is a magnet that attracts many in the neighborhood to its activities and social events. The churches, synagogues, mosques, and other houses of worship are gathering places. It is for these reasons and more that residents continue to live in the 41st Assembly District for generations. Census figures released in 2022 show that an

overwhelming percentage of the population in the 41st A.D. migrated in prior to 2016. Here is the data.

Year Moved In by percentage of population:

14% Before 1990

16% 1990 – 1999

25% 2000 – 2009

19% 2010 – 2014

21% 2015 – 2016

05% since 2017

Some of the Religious and ethnic groups encompassing our great District are: Orthodox, Hasidic, Sephardic and Secular Jews, Catholics, Jehovah's Witnesses, Muslims, Caribbean, African American, Hispanic, Middle Eastern North African (MENA), Asian, Turkish, Pakistani, Ukrainian, Russian, Belarusian, Italian, Irish and Others. If you walk our streets, you will find restaurants and grocery stores with the cuisine of these ethnic groups. Each bring their cultural value to our community.

The 41st A.D. also has a significant number of Senior Citizens and Retirees on fixed incomes. According to the census figures released in 2022, 16% of Seniors 65 and over live below the poverty level. Many are dependent on resources provided by the 41st A.D. As a community, we come together to sponsor food distributions, senior rate Metro Cards, tenant assistance and information coordinated through a tenant advocacy organization, with ties to the 41st A.D. There are senior centers and nursing homes that are currently within the 41st A.D. that will be tossed out, if this sweeping and senseless draft map goes into effect.

The 41st A.D. is a balance between private family homes and multi-unit.

55% are owner occupied and 69% are multi-unit, according to latest census data.

We are not a wealthy Assembly District. We are a district where the per capita income is \$35,381, as reflected in the latest census figures. We are a district of middle-class working families, retirees, union members, veterans and others. All have come together to form a community of interest.

The Impact of Proposed Draft Map

Just looking at the draft map, many are outraged. First because last year, new lines were drawn and implemented. As a result, polling sites were changed, election districts were changed and some were already moved to new Senate, Congressional and Assembly Districts. There was much confusion. This draft map is sparking much more than confusion. Constituents are outraged! The new lines drawn on this first draft map of the 41st A.D. are glaring. The surgical removal of huge neighborhoods and housing developments currently within the 41st A.D. would disenfranchise constituents. For example, our two NYCHA complexes, Nostrand Houses and Sheepshead Bay Houses are cut out of the district, but none of the surrounding resources are. The 41st Assembly district office, across the street, would no longer be their official resource. Instead, NYCHA residents would have to go to a district office a mile or more away. Many NYCHA tenants do not have cars. Many are Seniors and some have disabilities. It should also be noted that many are people of color. There are several other multi-unit complexes that would be similarly impacted throughout the 41st A.D. These lines were gerrymandered in a manner that weaves in and out of streets, cutting out certain housing developments using waterways and salt marshes to connect new additions from other districts and leaving current residents isolated from their surrounding communities. The laws and

regulations enacted states that: "Districts must consist of contiguous territory and shall be as compact in form as practicable."

The 41st A.D. Map that is currently in place does meet those criteria.

The ballot access process is another area that brings the current 41st A.D. together. Our poll workers, many are Seniors on fixed incomes play a large roll in Election Day operations in the district. At the same time, they can supplement their income to make ends meet. Several poll workers are also active in the community, as part of our community of interest.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't talk to you about the late Lew Fidler. He was a Former City Councilman, State Committeeman and District Leader of the 41st Assembly District. During his tenure, he made numerous contributions to the 41st Assembly District with his charitable acts of kindness. He made a difference in the lives of many in the community and brought people together as a result. His efforts continue to serve the 41st A.D. by way of the Lew Fidler Park that he fought for over a decade. The much-needed park and playground were finally completed and dedicated in his memory at the foot of Brigham Street and Emmons Avenue in October 2021. This special place within the 41st A.D. would also be removed if this draft map is enacted.

I urge the Commission to take the points made in my testimony into serious consideration before drawing final lines for the 41st Assembly District, which could do more harm than good. Please take this request from those who have boots on the ground.

The residents who are presently in the 41st A.D. are content with the lines as they were drawn last year. If it is not broken don't fix it.

Dear Members of the Commission:

My name is William Colton. I reside at 208 Van Sicklen Street Brooklyn NY 11223 and I am the Assembly Member of the 47th Assembly District in Kings County.

I am submitting these comments urging changes to proposed preliminary proposal by the Commission impacting the NYS Assembly 47th District (Kings) in the current Assembly proposed plan.

The proposed plan for the 47th Assembly District (Kings) would drastically alter, undermine and break up many of the long standing common interests and relationships which the current existing 47th Assembly district has enjoyed for at least some 40 years.

McDonald Avenue between Avenue O and Avenue U is the dividing line between Community Board #11, which starts west of McDonald Avenue and which has a longstanding common interest with the 47th Assembly District while east of McDonald Avenue is Community Board 15 which has had little common interest with the existing 47th Assembly District. The entire existing 47th Assembly District is within Community Board #11 representing a strong common interest not only with CB#11 but also with Sanitation District BK 11.

Likewise McDonald Avenue, between Avenue O and Avenue U, is the dividing line between the 62nd Police Precinct, which starts west of McDonald Avenue and which has a longstanding common interest with the existing 47th Assembly District while east of McDonald Avenue starts 61st Police Precinct, which has little common interest with the existing 47th Assembly District.

These common interests have greatly benefitted the neighborhoods represented in the district and have united the diverse population into effectively working together in improving the quality of the neighborhood which the mission of the commission in redistricting is mandated to protect and prioritize.

The existing boundaries of the which I ask the commission to propose are the area west of McDonald Avenue running from Avenue U to Avenue P, then along 61 Street to 21st Avenue or 20th Avenue on the north side to 81st Street or 82nd Street to 14th or 15th or 16th Avenue on the on the east boundary and then along Shore Parkway or Cropsey Avenue on the south boundary until 27 Avenue and then back up West 11 Street past Avenue V to Avenue U and back up to Lake Street West of McDonald Avenue.

I am requesting the Commission to keep the current existing 47th Assembly District as opposed to the proposed new proposed 47th Assembly District. Using area west of McDonald Avenue from Avenue O to Avenue U and including the area west of Macdonald Avenue.

The changes to the proposed new 47th District would reduce and dilute the Asian vote from some 46 % in the current existing 47th District to the mid thirties percentage in the proposed district, thereby eliminating a plurality Asian district.

The existing currently existing 47th Assembly district is geographically tight and compact. As currently existing, the 47th District unites a large portion of the Bensonhurst neighborhood with a large portion of the Gravesend neighborhood to the adjoining neighborhood of Bath Beach

and Dyker Heights. The proposed changes break up common interests which have existed for some 40 years.

Any proposed change which seeks to move the eastern boundary to West 6 Street instead of west of McDonald Avenue breaks off the area between West 6 Street and West of McDonald Avenue from the common interests it has longtime shared with the rest of the existing 47 Assembly District. All of these communities traditionally for some 4 decades shared the common interests of a large portion of Community Board #11, and Sanitation District BK11, a large portion of NYPD 62nd precinct, and Community Education Council Districts 20 and 21.

The newly proposed 47th Assembly District would break apart the existing neighborhoods of Bensonhurst, Gravesend, Bath Beach and Dyker Heights connecting them to the new proposed 46 Assembly district which encompasses Coney Island and Sea Gate with which they have little common interest, and the proposed changes add to the proposed 47th Assembly portions of Midwood, Mapleton and Sheepshead Bay, which have little common interests with the remaining Bensonhurst and Gravesend neighborhoods. After the proposed changes, the newly proposed 47th District would then find itself encompassing small portions of CB#13, #15 and #18, in addition to a small portion of CB #11; smaller portions of Police precincts 60th, 61st, 70th would be added to a smaller remaining portion of the 62nd etc.

I ask the Commission to consider the existing common interests and keep the underrepresented Asian vote intact. Keeping the current existing 47th Assembly district intact avoids the undesirable adverse concerns with the proposed changes being recommended.

February 15 2023

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Colton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "W" and "C".

William Colton

My Name is Imam Ahmed Ali. I serve as Imam of MASJID AL IQRA on 1570 Dahill Road Brooklyn NY. I reside at 2483 65 Street in Brooklyn NY.

I respectfully urge you to restore the area located between MacDonald Area and West 7 Street, roughly between Avenue O and Avenue U, to the Bensonhurst designated district known as the 47 Assembly District. Your Preliminary plan moves this area from the Bensonhurst Designated which consists mostly of the current 47 Assembly District and moves it into the proposed district you have designated as the proposed Gravesend District I ask this area be moved back into your proposed district designated as the Bensonhurst District currently known as the 47 Assembly District.

Many of the members of my mosque reside in this area between West 7 Street and MacDonal Avenue Brooklyn New York. Some also work and have businesses in this area.

The area west of McDonald Avenue between roughly Avenue U and Avenue O has a long connections with the Bensonhurst neighborhood. This area is within Community Planning Board #11, the NYPD 62nd Precinct, and NYC Department of Education Council District 21, all of which are also included in the proposed Bensonhurst District, and were currently in the 47th Assembly District while the so-called Gravesend labelled district to which this area is proposed to be moved into is mostly connected by Community Planning Board #15, and NYPD 61st Precinct.

I, myself, for example am a Lieutenant in the 62 Pct. Police Auxiliary and other members belong to community organizations in the Bensonhurst community.

The area west of McDonald Avenue has always been considered a relevant part of the rest of Bensonhurst 47 Assembly District, both in terms of common issues and concerns, while the area east of McDonald Avenue traditionally has no such a common interests or community contacts. The proposed redistricting plan attaches this area to a district which is dominated by different Community planning boards, different police precincts, different Community Education Councils and different community organizations.

This proposed change will greatly weaken many of the longstanding ties which our mosque's and its members and the residents of the area between Avenue O and Avenue U

Comments of Dr. Tim Law residing at 1639 West 3 Street Brooklyn NY 11223

I am one of founders of the Chinese American Social Service Center (CASS) which is located at 124 Avenue O Brooklyn NY 112204.

I urge the area located between MacDonald Area and West 7 Street, roughly between Avenue O and Avenue U, which your preliminary plan has removed from the 47th Assembly district and moved into the proposed district you have designated as the proposed Gravesend District should be moved back under your proposed into your proposed district designated as the Bensonhurst District. This area west of McDonald should not be moved into the district labelled as the Gravesend District in the Independent Redistricting Commission Plans:

The area west of McDonald Avenue between roughly Avenue U and Avenue O has a longstanding relationship with the Bensonhurst neighborhood. This area is within Community Planning Board #11, the NYPD 62nd Precinct, and NYC Department of Education Council District 21, all of which are also included in the proposed Bensonhurst District, while the so-called Gravesend labelled district to which this area is proposed to be moved into is mostly covered by Community Planning Board #15, and NYPD 61st Precinct.

The area west of McDonald Avenue has always been considered a relevant part of the rest of Bensonhurst, both in terms of common issues and concerns, while the area east of McDonald Avenue traditionally has no such a common interest.

For example, our organization members are primarily from Community Board 11 and reside or have small businesses within the confines of the 62 Pct. We have built a deep relationship with other businesses and community organizations which are within the Bensonhurst designated proposed district. For example, I was appointed as a member of CB #11 as a result of the strong connection with our organization which coincides, mostly with the proposed Bensonhurst designated district, and not with the proposed Gravesend designated district. My organization has developed a strong relationship with the 62nd Pct which has greatly benefitted on community with numerous meetings and outreach with information especially related to our Bensonhurst Gravesend community. Yet many of our members reside in the part west of Macdonald Avenue which your plan proposed to transfer out from the 47th Assembly district. This proposed change will greatly weaken many of our organization's ties which we have built over our entire past history.

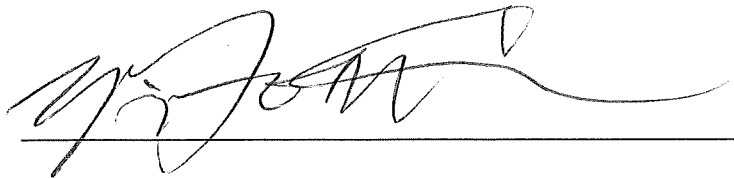
Our organization has also built a strong partnership with such community organizations as the Federation of Italian American Organizations, the United Chinese Association of Brooklyn, Health Essentials, and the 62 Pct Community Council which will be weakened by moving this area west of MacDonald Avenue to a totally different district. Finally you will be breaking the influence of Asian families in electoral politics by splitting this area west of MacDonald Avenue from the rest of the proposed Bensonhurst District. While you may propose adding new Asian families to make up the loss of those being transferred from the

designated Bensonhurst District, in fact, the Asian families being added have a much lower voting and registration history than those Asian population residing in the area being removed from the area west of McDonald Avenue. Therefore, the Asian voting strength in the Bensonhurst designated district will be significantly reduced by this proposed plan.

We urge you to keep the area west of McDonald Avenue in the labelled 47th Assembly District in your final map to be proposed

February, 15 2023

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Law', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Tim Law