

117 Windermere Road
Lockport, NY 14094
January 7, 2023

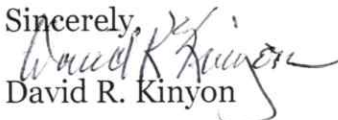
Dear Chairman Imamura and Members of the New York Independent Redistricting Commission:

I am a graduate of SUNY Albany's Graduate School of Public Affairs/Rockefeller Institute and have had a life-long interest in public affairs and good government. I have had the opportunity to apply my interests in a public service career that has included management positions with the City of Lockport, Eastern Niagara Chamber of Commerce, Eighth District Dental Society and Town of Lockport. I am presently continuing my career of public service as volunteer Chairman of the Lockport Locks Heritage District and a Director of the Canal Society of New York State.

As a lifelong Lockport and Niagara County resident, I am writing to share some concerns with any redistricting proposal that would separate parts of the Town and City of Lockport into different State Senate and Assembly Districts. In modern history, the Town and City of Lockport have been represented by a single Senate and Assembly representative. In that time, there has been significant cooperation and efforts in the redevelopment of Lockport, including Downtown Revitalization Initiative, Reimagine the Canals Initiative and expansive Economic Development projects like the Discover Niagara Shuttle which bring new tourism dollars to our community. These initiatives were possible because of the coordinated and dedicated efforts and partnerships of our State and Local leaders who shared the common and unified interests of the Town and City of Lockport.

Dividing Lockport among multiple State representatives would place our community at a great disadvantage. It would further allow representatives to defer responsibility when it is convenient and avoid being held accountable by all the residents in our Town and City. Having decades of experience in working with State and Local officials of both political parties on projects in Lockport, I cannot overemphasize how important it is for the Town and City of Lockport to be represented by a single Senator and Assembly member who are committed to and focused on the goals of our whole community in a united front.

I respectfully submit to the Members of the New York Independent Redistricting Commission for the record, my testimony regarding the importance of keeping the Town and City of Lockport whole when redrawing district lines for the next 9 years. I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

David R. Kinyon