

**Leslie W. Chervokas  
165 High Street  
Hastings-on-Hudson, New York 10706**

November 8, 2021

***Via [www.nyirc.gov/participate](http://www.nyirc.gov/participate)***

Independent Redistricting Commission  
250 Broadway, 22d Floor  
New York, New York 10007

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This letter is submitted to the Independent Redistricting Commission (“Commission”) in support of including the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, New York (“Hastings”) in the same Congressional District (“CD”) as the other communities located in the Town of Greenburgh, New York (“Greenburgh”).

Hastings is a suburban community with a population of approximately 8,000. Hastings residents are eligible to participate in electing our Village government which consists of a mayor and four Trustees, and a Town Justice. At the town level, Hastings residents are eligible to participate in electing the Greenburgh Town Supervisor, Town Clerk, Town Justices, Tax Assessor and Town Councilpersons.

Hastings’ school budgets are funded through school taxes that are based on local real property assessed valuations that are conducted by the Town of Greenburgh. Hastings residents also pay Town of Greenburgh taxes and Village taxes. As members of the Town of Greenburgh, we share certain services.

In contrast, Hastings residents have no right to participate in the election of any government officials in the City of Yonkers, a municipality of approximately 250,000 people, or New York City, including the Borough of the Bronx. We do not pay taxes to Yonkers or NYC (other than income taxes, imposed on a case-by-case basis, that may result from working in or commuting to these places). These large cities fund school budgets through income taxes which means that they have different interests at the federal level.

As a small community, Hastings needs to maximize its potential for ensuring that our interests are addressed by our Congressperson. If Hastings continues to be included in a CD that includes Yonkers and the Bronx, it will be engulfed by the very substantial needs of those communities.

Based on the foregoing, it makes far more sense to include Hastings in the same CD as the other municipalities in Greenburgh. The people living in Greenburgh will have far more impact if they are included in a single CD. In addition to electing the same local officials, we share roadways, parks and services. If there is a single Congressional representative to which we can appeal, it will be more likely that our voices will be heard, as opposed to being drastically diluted.

To preserve the value of our representation in government, it is imperative that we have a meaningful ability to participate in the determination of critical decisions that may affect us. Moreover, it is a basic tenet of redistricting that our communities should be kept together. On that basis alone, Hastings should not be separated from the rest of Greenburgh.

Please take these points into consideration in determining our CD. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie W. Chervokas