Comments of Mr. G. Jack Spatola, residing at 2141 Bay Ridge Ave. Brooklyn NY 112004, urging the area west of McDonald Avenue remain in the Bensonhurst District and not be moved to the district labelled as the Gravesend District in the Independent Redistricting Commission Plans:

The area west of McDonald Avenue between Avenue U and Avenue O has a longstanding relationship with the Bensonhurst neighborhood. This area which the Preliminary Map submitted by the Redistricting Commission on September 15th is being removed from the Bensonhurst area yet Community Planning Board #11, the NYPD 62nd Precinct, and NYC Department of Education Council district 21 all represent this area, while the so-called Gravesend labelled district to which it is proposed to be moved to is mostly covered by Community Planning Board #15, NYPD 61st Precinct, and CEC district 22.

 The area west of McDonald Avenue has always been considered a relevant part of the rest of Bensonhurst, while the area east of McDonald Avenue has traditionally had a common interest with Midwood.

 There has long been a strong connection and ties between the area between west of McDonald Avenue with the Bensonhurst labelled district as evidenced by its close relationship with such community organizations as the Bensonhurst West End Community Council, Federation of Italian American Organization, the Chinese American Social Service Center, the Gravesend Bensonhurst Community Coalition, etc. We urge you to keep the area west of McDonald Avenue in the labelled Bensonhurst District in your final map to be proposed. Yours Sincerely, G.Jack Spatola