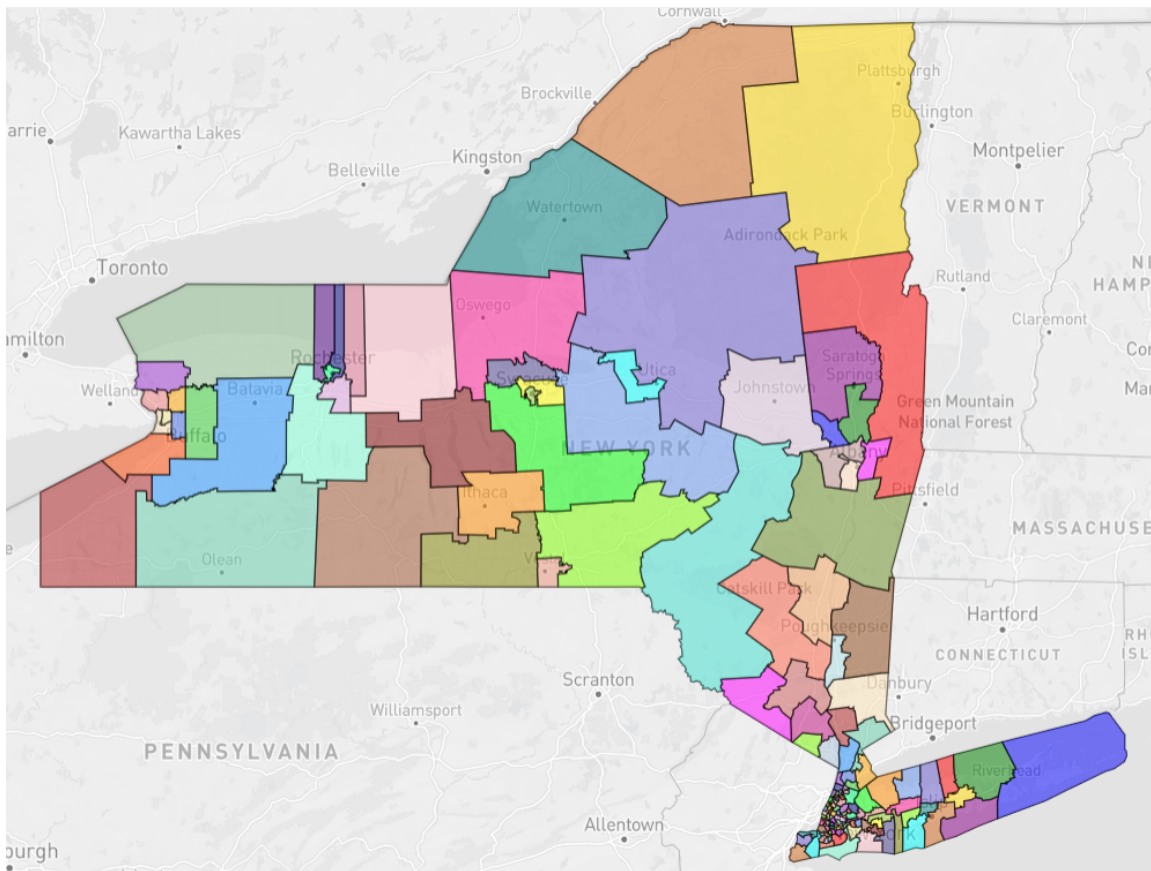March 23, 2023

To the members of the New York State Independent Redistricting Commission,

I am writing to submit a map for consideration during the drawing of the final state assembly map. As a resident of New York, I believe it is important to submit feedback during this process. I drew this map using Dave's Redistricting Application (DRA). A link to easily view the map is provided below along with images in this document. I have also provided separate links to download the shapefile and geojson for this map.

DRA LINK: https://www.davesredistricting.org/join/825a2dee-46cc-4eae-a42b-6a09ef9cef1f

SHAPEFILE:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FyzbV_oP9cxkdv_CGp-cYAjed5gmUbrG/view?usp=sharing

GEOJSON:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zO5StngSIMmtGE9uKSXy76_zviixVArh/view?usp=sharing

I placed a heavy focus on keeping counties, cities, and towns whole as much as possible within the confines of the population deviation requirement. With careful drawing of the districts, it was possible for there to be only three county splits between New York City and Long Island. These were the 10th (Suffolk and Nassau), the 64th (Staten Island and Brooklyn), and the 81st (The Bronx and Manhattan). Especially downstate, keeping districts within the confines of municipal boundaries should help to keep communities of interest together, which is something I believe I achieved here.

While upstate does require more county splitting, I worked to limit this when possible, draw relatively compact districts, and also limit the splitting of cities and towns. Some examples are Buffalo containing two districts entirely within itself, along with Rochester and Irondequoit having two districts as well, without dipping south into Brighton like the draft plan. I also made sure to keep Native reservations whole.
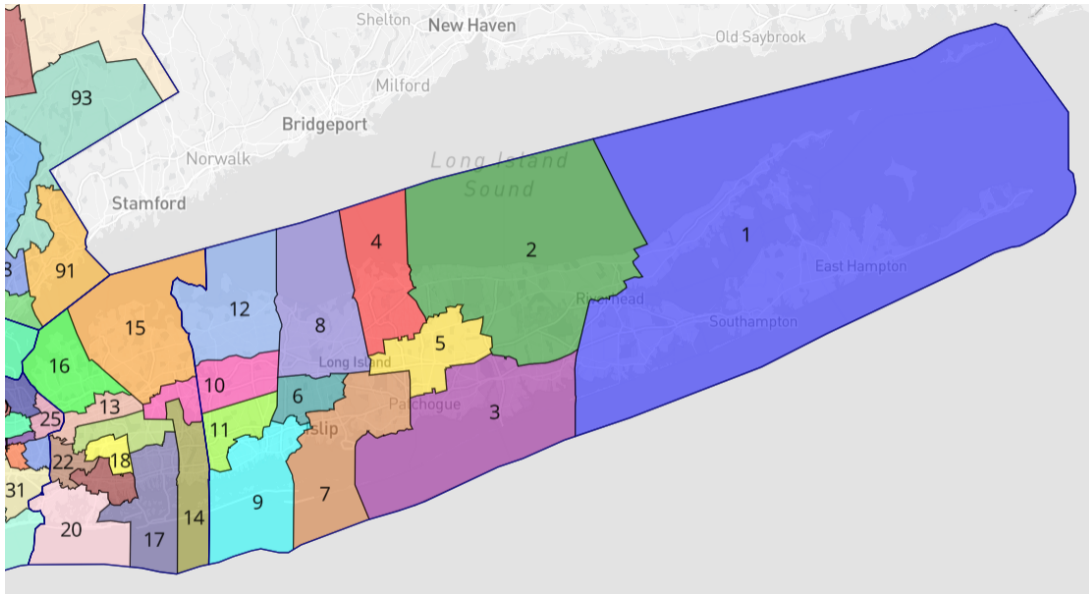
On the draft plan, many neighborhoods in NYC appear to be split excessively/unnecessarily, such as Fort Hamilton, Bay Ridge, and Fresh Pond. I attempted to draw more compact districts that avoid these types of splits, and give greater representation to the communities here by keeping them together. This map ranks rather highly on both compactness and splitting metrics, receiving a 74/100 and 98/100, respectively.

I have placed zoomed-in images of the different regions starting on the next page. Thank you for your work on the commission and any consideration of this proposal when drawing your final map.
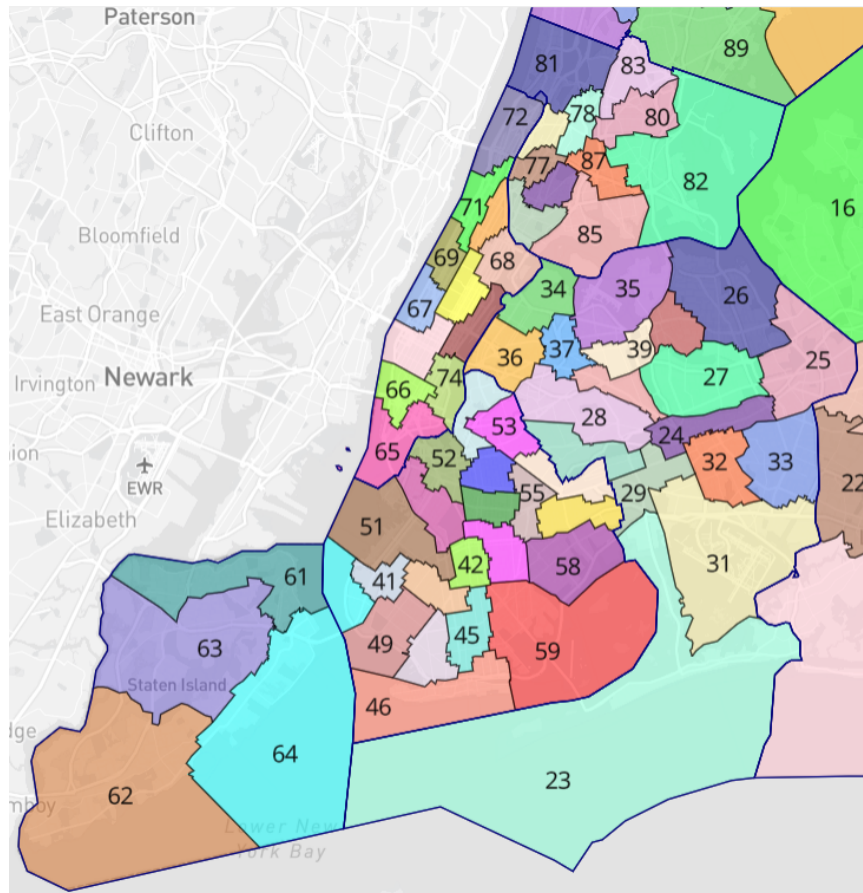
Sincerely,

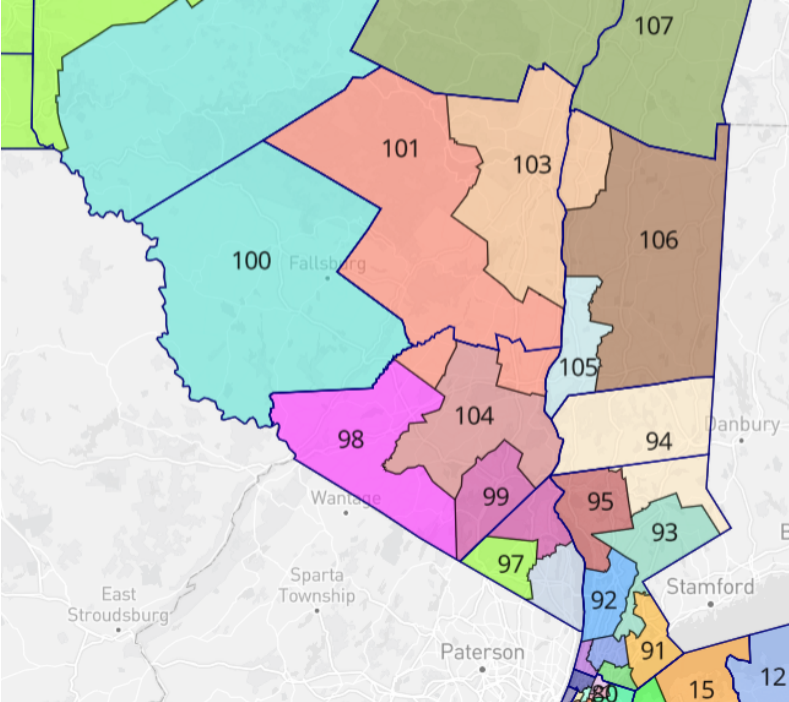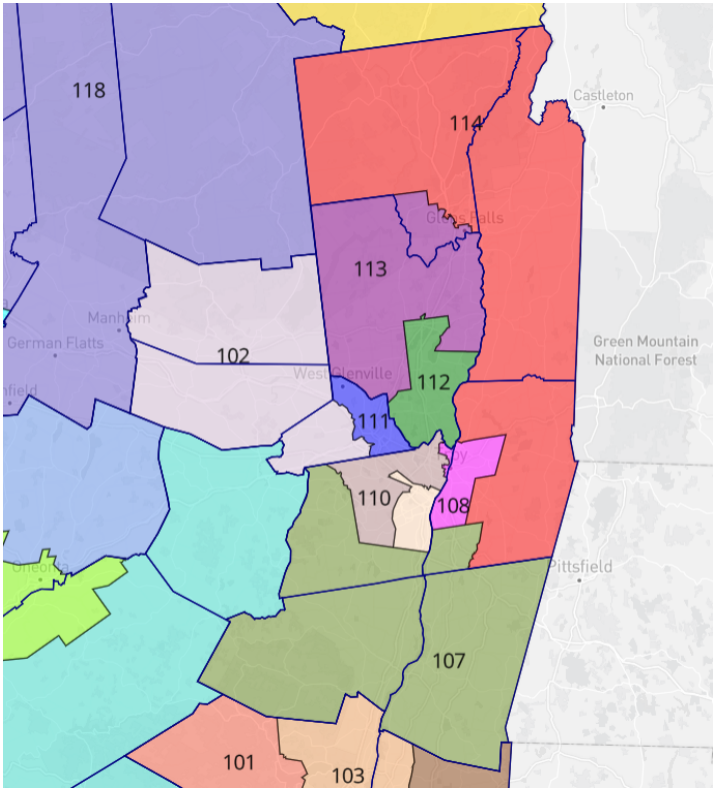Frank Carcaterra
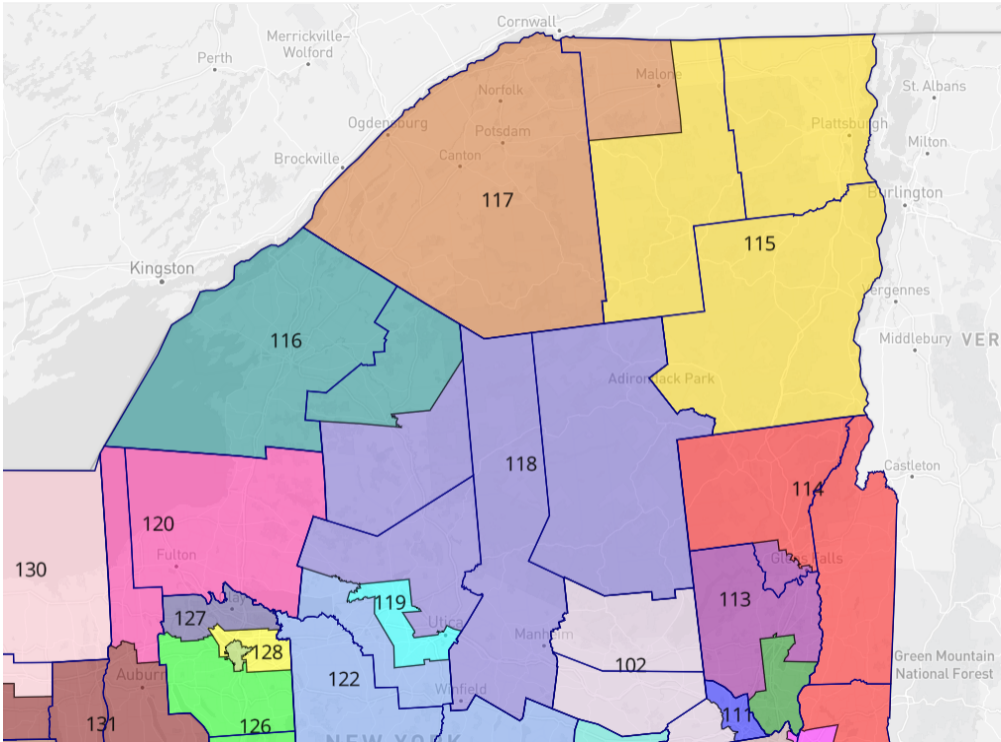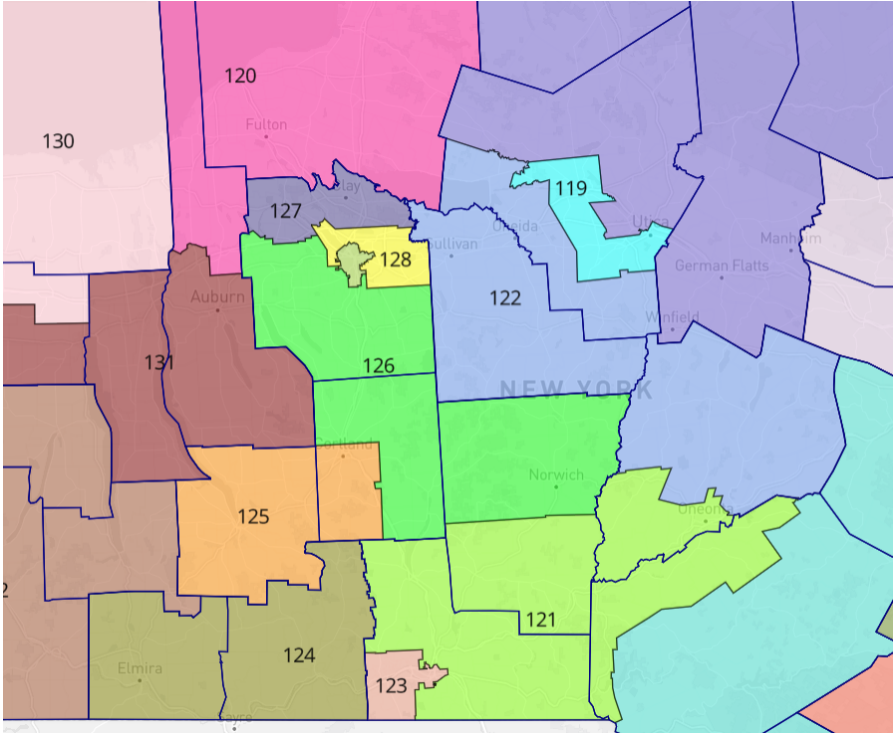Staten Island, NY

LONG ISLAND

NEW YORK CITY

HUDSON VALLEY

CAPITAL REGION

NORTHERN NEW YORK

CENTRAL NEW YORK

WESTERN NEW YORK