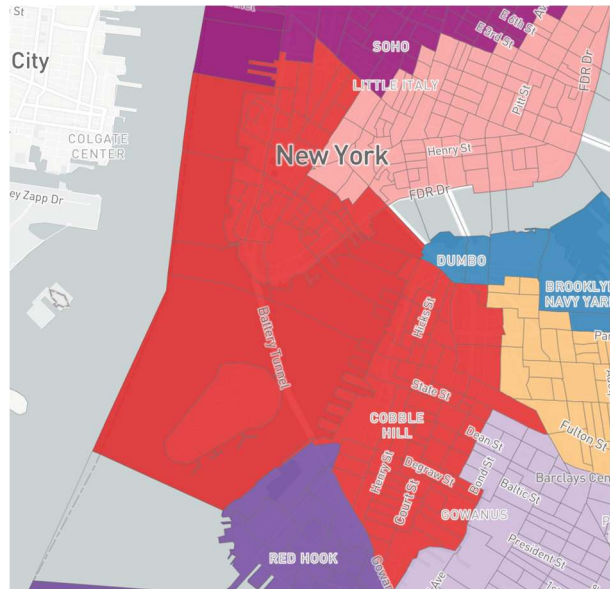


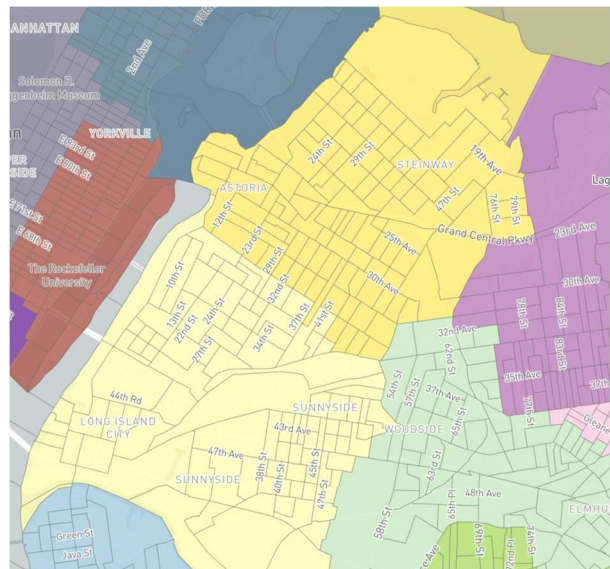
New York City - Assembly Districts

Please find my proposal for Assembly Districts for New York City posted on the DistrictR website at: <https://districtr.org/plan/170578>. It follows the draft proposal but with some suggested improvements.

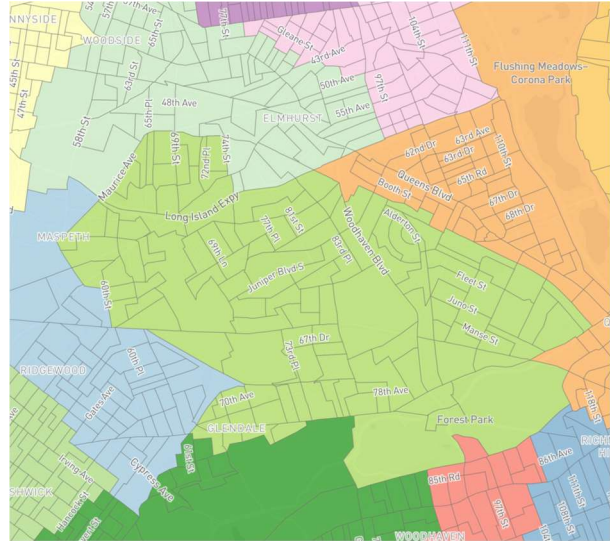
1. There's a campaign by Manhattan residents against linking the East Side of Manhattan to a more diverse district in western Queens. This issue can be resolved by instead joining the Lower Manhattan neighborhoods of Tribeca, Battery Park City and the Financial District to the Brownstone Brooklyn neighborhoods of Brooklyn Heights and Cobble Hill. These areas are linked by multiple subway lines, the Battery Tunnel and the Brooklyn Bridge. Demographically, they're essentially identical. This district will also allow the drawing of more rational and compact districts throughout Queens and Brooklyn.



2. Western Queens can then be simply divided into two square districts largely along Broadway (until you near the NYCHA Woodside Houses) with Astoria to the north and Long Island City, Ravenswood, Dutch Kills and Sunnyside to the south. This approach would keep neighborhoods largely intact and avoid disturbing adjoining Asian and Latino majority districts.

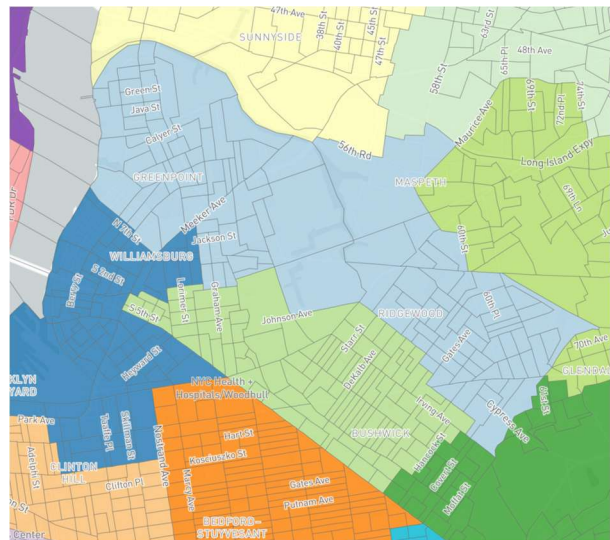


3. The IRC draft for central Queens creates meandering districts that unnaturally divide neighborhoods. Maspeth, Middle Village and Glendale are lower density neighborhoods where one and two family residences (both rowhouses and detached) predominate and where most residents regularly use cars because of limited public transit options. They were joined in New York City Council District 30 for decades. Adding population from similar low rise residential areas south of the Long Island Railroad tracks in Rego Park and Forest Hills would complete the district.

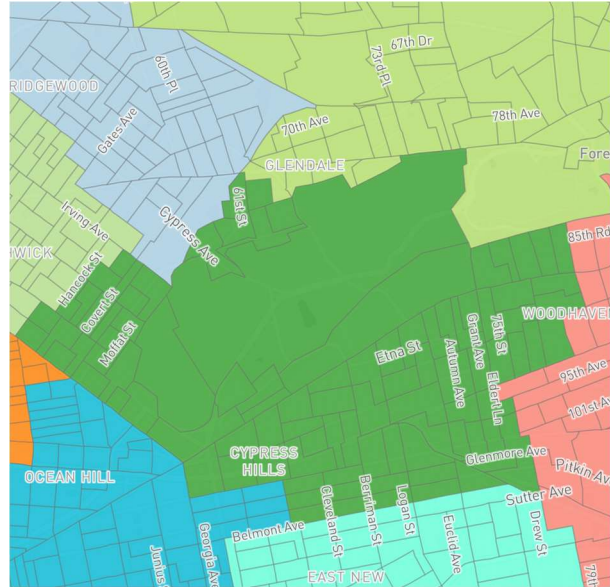


The IRC draft also divides the Bukharan Jewish community in northern Rego Park and northern Forest Hill between multiple districts. Concentrated north of Queens Boulevard, this community speaks Russian but some members also use a Tajik dialect. If you keep areas of Rego Park and Forest Hills north of the Long Island Railroad together in one district, you can avoid dividing this group.

4. The Yiddish speaking Hasidic Jewish community centered in South Williamsburg is clearly divided in the IRC draft. But you can easily draw them together into one Assembly district without affecting neighboring districts. In my proposal, this is achieved by simply joining Greenpoint Brooklyn to neighboring Ridgewood Queens.

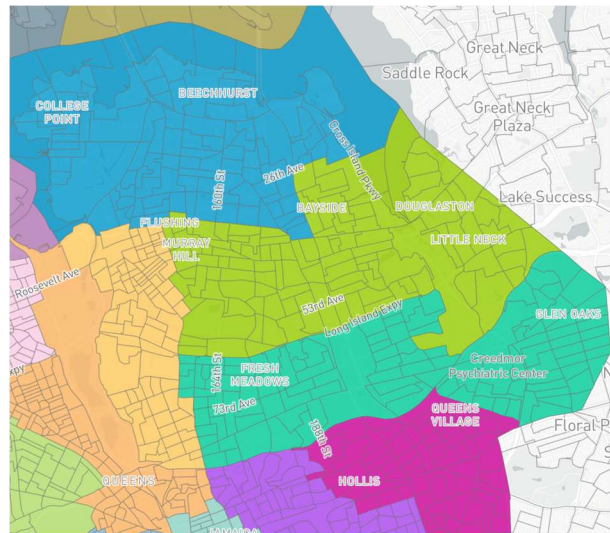


5. The working class Latino homeowner neighborhoods of Cypress Hills, Woodhaven and Liberty Park are currently divided between separate districts. Please consider district lines that bring more of these neighborhoods into the same district. Homeowner neighborhoods have needs distinct from areas with a larger proportion of renters.



6. The IRC draft for northeastern Queens make little sense to long-term Queens residents. Districts aren't compact and don't join communities of interest. They're just the latest iteration of the gerrymanders that began after the 1980 Census, a redistricting which eliminated every competitive Assembly seat in Queens.

And that includes Assembly District 40. Any district that contains Downtown Flushing will be an Asian majority district. The way AD40 has been drawn for decades isn't to benefit Asian voters. It's to help divide the surrounding neighborhoods into noncompetitive districts.



Please use major roadways like Parsons Boulevard, the Long Island Expressway and the Grand Central Parkway to simply divide districts. The rectilinear districts in my proposal would keep neighborhoods together while yielding two Asian majority districts and two plurality districts. But any new, compact district boundaries would be beneficial to voters.

7. The IRC draft for the northern Bronx limits opportunities for voters there to elect representatives of their own choice. There is sufficient Black population to create two effective districts. And lines can be drawn around Riverdale to create a Latino majority district. But Co-op City and Wakefield are pulled into other districts to fragment voting blocs.

Please just draw normal compact districts in New York City. You don't need to search for sufficient population to create opportunity and majority voting districts.

