

Good evening everyone, my name is Manuel Ordonez and I live right here in Queens. I am a member of Make The Road NY and I would like to share that as many of us here today know, the current Assembly map in this region has been effective for ensuring representation. Representation, that is what many of us residents of Queens need. Our immigrant and latino communities have been historically under-represented in state government. But thanks to Make The Road NY, I have been part of organizing to help register, educate and mobilize members of our communities to participate in the political process. In Western Queens, with the current Assembly maps, we have finally elected six elected officials of color to represent the six central districts in our neighborhoods. But now, the new proposed map would make that virtually impossible to maintain. The Latino community in particular would likely lose ground, even though our population has grown a lot since the last census. So please, I ask that the IRC fix its plan by going back to the district lines passed last year for this region. I am advocating to keep the same 2022 districts 30, 34, 35, 36, 37, and 39. Thank you.