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**Testimony on the draft maps by the New York State Independent Redistricting Commission for the NYS Assembly.**

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My name is Margot Spindelman and I live at the northern tip of Greenpoint, just west of McGuinness Boulevard, which would become a political boundary if the redistricting plan is approved. While McGuinness Boulevard might look on the map like a logical place for this governmental wall to be erected, when you stand at my front door and look down the block, the idea that land on the other side of McGuinness would be governed from elsewhere seems just crazy. Both sides of McGuinness are in a flood zone. Both sides of McGuinness are ringed by Newtown Creek, a toxic and unremediated Superfund site. If you look at the projected flood maps that the Army Corps refers to when talking about flood mitigation, there is no distinction made between one side of McGuinness and the other. As we face more extreme weather events, we will become even more vulnerable if subjected to fractured responses and jurisdictional confusion at the time of an emergency. Our current Assemblymember is deeply knowledgeable about all of the issues that face Greenpoint. Even if the point isn't to essentially disenfranchise half of the neighborhood, cleaving them away from representation that understands all of our particular needs, the result would be. This map needs to be thrown away and redrawn, leaving Greenpoint intact.