Anthony S Hoffmann

NYS Independent Redistricting Commission

Testimony

November 10, 2021

Good Afternoon

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft congressional redistricting maps. My name is Anthony Hoffmann. I have lived in Greenwich Village for the past 53 years. Over this period of time I have been a member of the 13th Street Block Association, the PS 41 PTA, President of the Village Independent Democrats, Democratic Party District Leader for the 66th Assembly District, Part A (aka Greenwich Village), member of Community Bd. #2, and general community activist. I am here today to speak on behalf of Letter Map J (CD J (NYIRC plan) which encompasses the 10th Congressional District, presently served by Representative Jerrold Nadler, and in opposition to the Named Map (SOUTHMNHTN (NYIRC plan).

The West Side of Manhattan, going from Battery Park City in Lower Manhattan to Morning Side Heights on the Upper West Side, is a strong community of interest. Politically, it is very progressive, socially it is very liberal, and religiously it has the largest number of Jewish people of any congressional district in the country. Generally speaking, the Jews living on the West Side of Manhattan are mostly aligned with the prevalent liberal culture of their West Side community. Additionally, there is a strong LGBTQ community of interest on the West Side of Manhattan that is also aligned with the prevalent liberal West Side culture. Letter map J is a North-South map that recognizes these communities of interest. Named map (SOUTHMNHTN (NYIRC plan) is an East-West map that does not recognize the uniqueness of either of the communities of interest on the East or West Sides of Manhattan and splits them up.

Additionally, a large proportion of the services people use are organized on a North-South basis. The subway and bus systems, community boards, police precincts, school catchment areas, The Hudson River and East River parks, Assembly Districts, and City Council Districts are mostly organized on a North-South basis. It just makes sense for the congressional districts in Manhattan to continue to be organized along a North-South axis. If possible, to keep strong communities of interest together, it would be a good idea to continue to have Morningside Heights in CD #10 and remove some parts of Brooklyn that are less aligned. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted:

Anthony Hoffmann