

Letter to New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

To: New York State Independent Redistricting Commission

Subject: Opposition to the State proposal for Redistricting Roosevelt Island

Dear Members of the Commission:

The undersigned individuals/community organizations write to oppose the proposed redistricting of NYS Assembly 47th District (Kings) in the current Assembly proposed plan.

The proposed plan for the 47th Assembly District (Kings) would drastically alter, undermine and break up many of the long-standing common interests which the current existing 47th Assembly district enjoys.

These common interests have greatly benefitted the neighborhoods represented in the district and have united the diverse population into effectively working together in improving the quality of the neighborhood which the mission of the commission in redistricting is mandated to protect and prioritize.

We ask the Commission to keep the current existing 47th Assembly District as opposed to the proposed new 47th Assembly District.

- 1) The changes to the proposed new 47th District would reduce and dilute the Asian vote from some 46% in the current existing 47th District to the mid twenty percent in the proposed district, thereby eliminating a plurality Asian district.
- 2) The currently existing 47th Assembly district is geographically tight and compact. As currently existing, the 47th District unites a large portion of the Bensonhurst neighborhood with a large portion of the Gravesend neighborhood to the adjoining neighborhood of Bath Beach and Dyker Heights. The proposed changes break up common interests which have existed for some 40 years.. All of these communities have traditionally for some 4 decades shared the common interests of a large portion of Community Board #11, and Sanitation District BK11, a large portion of NYPD 62nd precinct, and Community Education Council Districts 20 and 21.

The newly proposed 47th Assembly District would break apart the existing neighborhoods of Bensonhurst, Bath Beach and Dyker Heights connecting them to the new proposed 46 Assembly district which encompasses Coney Island and Sea Gate with which have they have little common interest, and the proposed changes add to the proposed 47th Assembly portions of Midwood, Mapleton and Sheepshead Bay, which have little common interests with the remaining Bensonhurst and Gravesend neighborhoods. After the proposed changes the newly proposed 47th District would then find itself encompassing small portions of CB#13, #15 and #18, in

addition to a small portion of CB #11; smaller portions of Police precincts 60th, 61st, 70th would be added to a smaller remaining portion of the 62nd, etc.

I ask the Commission to consider the existing common interests and keep the underrepresented Asian vote intact. Keeping the current existing 47th Assembly district intact avoids the undesirable adverse concerns with the proposed changes being recommended.

Yours sincerely,

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