

Taína Borrero
225 East 70th Street
New York, NY 10021

Independent Redistricting Commission
250 Broadway, 22nd Floor
New York, NY 10007

To Whom It May Concern:

I respectfully submit this testimony as a longtime resident of Manhattan's East Side. I am an active and engaged member of my local community including serving on Manhattan Community Board 8, where I chair the Youth, Education, and Libraries Committee.

The East Side of Manhattan is a unique community and below I have listed several matters relevant to our community as redistricting is taken into consideration:

- The current Congressional district on the East side, the 12th Congressional District, has maintained its boundaries for over 40 years. People are familiar with it and know that our representative is familiar and understands our community and our concerns.
- The Upper East Side has shared community facilities such as:
 - o DOE Elementary and Middle School Zones that do not cross Central Park or run river to river – the issues our families and students face on the East Side are unique and it is important that our school district not be divided into multiple Congressional districts. We have a high concentration of schools and a constant and growing demand for more school seats – it is important that we have one representative in Congress that understands these needs and can represent our district's shared interests at every level of government.
 - o Subways, with their shared impact on transit and community, that run north to south not east to west
- Community Boards should be contiguous – each has issues and focuses that require expertise in their local area. The Community Boards on the East Side shouldn't be broken up between Congressional districts. Community Boards 3, 5, 6, and 8 are almost entirely in a single Congressional district and should remain that way.

For the above reasons and many more, I hope you will strongly consider maintaining a consecutive Manhattan East Side district.

Sincerely,

Taína Borrero