

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

My name is Camille Campanelli and I live with my husband and two small children in Kensington. I am writing with concern about the IRC's draft map of the 44th Assembly District, where my family and I have lived for four years. The IRC draft map splits Windsor Terrace in half at the Expressway and cuts out close portions of West Kensington and puts these communities in the 51st AD, which is a district dominated by the neighborhoods of Sunset Park and Red Hook. Your decision to put portions of both Windsor Terrace and Kensington into different Assembly Districts makes both impacted ADs less compact and contiguous and also divides two long established and discrete communities with common interests, demographics and a history of positive civic activism. Simply stated it is contrary to many of the bedrock principles which should guide fair redistricting and good government.

Instead, the IRC should restore the dividing line of Green-wood Cemetery along 20th Street as the western border of the 44th AD not the Prospect Expressway as in the IRC map, and Green-wood Cemetery along McDonald Avenue and Fort Hamilton Parkway out to 39th Street the Northern boundary between the 44th and 51st ADs. This is a shift of only a few blocks but makes complete sense geographically and culturally. Under your draft map, you remove the 400 student 3K and Pre K center at K280, where our son attends and puts it in the 51st AD, even though all of our son's classmates live in Park Slope, Windsor Terrace or Kensington. It just doesn't make any sense. I know the aims of the IRC are to draw contiguous districts that maintain communities of interest. This current draft fails to do that and I urge you to follow the advice of the people who live here and keep Windsor Terrace and Kensington whole with Park Slope and Ditmas Park. I am submitting a map that my Assemblymember submitted, which presents a map that draws a more contiguous and compact 44th Assembly District than the 2022 Assembly District map and this first draft presented by the IRC. I hope you will use it as a guide to draw a map that better matches the communities of interest across the 44th AD.

Thank you for your consideration