



## **Testimony on Redistricting El Barrio**

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The Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute (CCCADI) is a 36 year old not for profit organization that has moved from midtown intentionally to El Barrio to provide cultural and educational programs to a historically underserved community. El Barrio is a landmark community that is culturally rich with a history of migrant and immigrant communities that have been integral to the cultural life of this city. The proposed redistricting would destroy this historically important community.

With the infusion of cultural anchor institutions like CCCADI, El Barrio now has the potential to develop educational, employment and urban renewal economic opportunities for residents that have not been previously available. Our institution will be hiring community residents that see themselves reflected in the international programs of the CCCADI.

The proposed redistricting will destroy the landmarking of El Barrio as well as the new opportunities that are and will be available through the presence of CCCADI and other organizations. Further, the removal of La Marqueta and CCCADI as an integral part of El Barrio will remove two crucial anchor institutions that will be part of the renaissance of El Barrio and destroy the economic potential of El Barrio grounded in its history and ethnic community.

The proposed redistricting will be destructive to the community of El Barrio and CCCADI that has moved to El Barrio to serve this community. CCCADI is adamantly opposed to the proposed redistricting plans.