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Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting

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New York City Redistricting Commission
Dennis Walcott, Chair

To Chair Walcott and Members of the New York City Redistricting Commission,

As a longtime resident and voter from Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, I strongly urge the Commission to keep all of Bay Ridge from Shore Road on the west to 65th Street in the north to 7th Avenue on the east to the Belt Parkway in the south – all wholly contained within the same Council District. Additionally, those boundaries match up exactly with both Community Board 10 boundaries as well as the 68 Police Precinct which only further demonstrates the longstanding precedent acknowledged by the City of New York that our area is one.

Our area here in southwest Brooklyn is a tight knit community. We have multigenerational residents, and we have new Americans. We have a diverse mosaic of residents with the largest Arab-American community in New York City. I am an immigrant myself.

We have effective local politics. Willfully splitting up Bay Ridge into several Council Districts would deny Bay Ridge residents of the fair, effective, and consolidated representation we deserve in the City Council. By dividing Bay Ridge into districts anchored by other neighborhoods around us, would further dilute the power we have to advocate for our community-specific, shared needs and goals.

Bay Ridge, Brooklyn is one neighborhood; it should have one City Council Member.

Thank you,

Eugene Strupinsky