My name is Barbara Negron and I have been a resident of Staten Island for 34 years. I would express my thoughts on re-districting City Council members.

Staten Island is a unique borough of New York City. We are not connected by subway. The only Boroughs you can get to by bus is Manhattan (express bus service) and Brooklyn a local bus connects Staten Island via the Verrazzano Bridge. We can leave the Island by car without paying a toll however, to get back on we need to pay $15.00. The only bargain on the Island is the Ferry which is free to Battery Park.

There 51 districts/seats which makes up the City Council of those on three are on SI. Now the Districting Committee is thinking of expanding our CC members to cover parts of Brooklyn. Brooklyn has 15 seats on the CC one of which covers both Brooklyn/Queens. SI only has 3 seats. Now you are considering taking the three representatives and stretching their responsibilities further.

We are already referred to as the forgotten Borough, don’t stretch our representation thinner than it is already. Do not redistrict our representatives.

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