



The Conservative Party of Richmond County OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE

*100 Colfax Avenue, Suite 6J; Staten Island NY 10306
David Mario Curcio, Chairman; Tel. (718) 370-3604*

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NYC Districting Commission
253 Broadway, 3rd Floor
Manhattan, NY 10007

Commissioners,

I write to you in my capacity as Chairman of the Conservative Party of Richmond County, with a membership in excess of four thousand enrolled voters. The process and standards observed by your commission in the design of city council districts are vastly superior to those applied for congressional and state legislative districts and should be the model for all redistricting. As such, the work of your commission is a greatly appreciated contribution to good government. The citizens of New York deserve a fair and honest redistricting process, and not one imposed by politicians or the courts.

In constructing maps for Staten Island, I would respectfully remind the Commissioners that the Borough of Staten Island is unique in many ways from the rest of the City of New York. This is especially true with respect to transportation, as the only borough without a direct connection to the subway and the only borough where a toll is required for vehicular entry. In further contrast with the other boroughs, Staten Island has a much greater percentage of home-owners and a much lower population density. We also remain the only borough without a municipal hospital. These are characteristics that merit serious consideration in the design of legislative districts.

In 2021, the Conservative Party of Richmond County formally endorsed the municipal secession of Staten Island from the City of New York, the first and only political party organization in Staten Island to do so. This decision was based largely on the substantial disproportion in the ratio of revenues contributed to services provided. As such, the importance of maintaining separate council districts for Staten Island, along with the geographic compactness of neighborhoods, cannot be understated. Your anticipated attention to these considerations is most appreciated as you continue your work towards producing final maps for adoption.

Respectfully,

David Mario Curcio
Chairman, Conservative Party of Richmond County