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To: NYC Districting Commission

Re: District 43

As a member of the Bay Ridge community I'd like to briefly submit my thoughts on the council redistricting process. As a resident of Bay Ridge it is common to have our state and federal districts divided and split across multiple boroughs of the city. Often parts of our community are excluded while areas not generally considered to be part of our community are included.

We would simply like to be represented as we live, as one contiguous community. Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights, Bensonhurst and Bath Beach are neighboring communities with much in common, we share the same community groups, cultural organizations, non-profit associations and most importantly, we share the same schools.

As one community we would ask that we be represented as such. For example, frequently the Bay Ridge Towers are tossed into and out of our representative districts. With friends and colleagues living in these towers, I can attest that they very much see themselves as part of Bay Ridge and our larger community but frequently find themselves without a voice in their own community.

We thank you for your consideration in this matter and we hope you will allow the communities of Bay Ridge, Bensonhurst, Dyker Heights, and Bath Beach to function electorally as we do in our daily lives, as one tight knit community.