Final Mapping submission

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To: **MMDRedistricting <MMDRedistricting@albanycountyny.gov>**

Hello MMD Subcommittee,

I know that the commission is winding down so I have submitted Plan 5, my final map (unless the commission has a new draft that is very different from what you are already considering). This written testimony will describe why I believe this final map is a 7 MMD map with at least 6 districts that the commission considers to be effective MMDs.

The current draft of the MMDs by the subcommittee, Plan D, has been described as having 6 effective MMDs. Considering that district 3 on Plan D is considered an effective MMD and has a Black voting age population of 41.0% and a Hispanic voting age population of 9.6%, I will consider all districts with higher minority populations than that to be effective MMDs unless the commission changes its mind about Plan D having 6 effective MMDs. Let me know if that changes and I will adjust my maps accordingly.

My final map has 6 MMD's that have higher minority populations than that. Those districts are labeled 1,2,4,5,6, and 7. Of those 6 MMDs, the one with the lowest voting age Black population is my district 1. That district has a Black voting age population of 41.4% and a Hispanic voting age population of 15.2% which has a Black voting age population that is .4% higher and Hispanic voting age population that is 5.6% higher. The numbers for my districts came from maptitude and as I will discuss later, those numbers are lower than what the real numbers are. Even if the Maptitude numbers were perfect, I have 6 MMDs with higher Black and Hispanic populations than Plan D. As a result, I believe that this subcommittee should be satisfied that there are 6 effective MMDs on this map.

To help illustrate the point that my 6 districts are more effective than the ones in Plan D I've included a chart. The chart has stats for District 3 on Plan D as well as stats for all of my districts.

District	White VAP	Black VAP	Hispanic VAP
Plan D - District 3	36.7%	41.0%	9.6%
My Map - District 1	32.4%	41.4%	15.2%
My Map - District 2	35.7%	42.9%	10.8%
My Map - District 3	37.5%	40.5%	7.7%
My Map - District 4	27.2%	42.6%	13.2%
My Map - District 5	30.0%	41.5%	14.4%
My Map - District 6	36.1%	41.6%	11.1%
My Map - District 7	33.5%	41.5%	12.2%

You may note that besides the 6 effective MMD's, my plan has a 7th MMD - district 3. That district is plurality Black and has a Black voting age population of 40.5% according to Maptitude. That number is lower than the lowest district that was considered an effective MMDs in Plan D, so while the district has a strong minority population, I would not be surprised if the commision found that district not to be an effective MMD. Regardless of whether or not it is considered effective, it is an MMD and has a reasonable chance of electing the candidate prefered by the Black community. This district has been getting more diverse over the past decade and will likely only become a stronger MMD over the course of the decade.

I would also like to remind the subcommittee that the actual minority numbers for my maps are higher than I gave. Priya from AppGeo has confirmed that the demographic voting age percentages in Maptitude likely don't add up to 100% because the numbers do not include people of 2 or more races. As a result, the MMDs I drew have a minority population that are around 4% higher than the stats I listed. If you have questions about this, please let me know or ask Priya.

This map was designed to respond to public opinion and to the commission's response to public onion. So far, around one third of total people submitting comments (that are on the Public Submissions Page) to the subcommittee and greater commission are in support of having 7 MMDs. Not a single member of the public has disagreed with this sentiment and given the large volume of support for 7 MMDs, I consider it imperative that the commission draws a map with 7 MMDs. At the same time, there are concerns among Subcommittee members that any map with 7 MMDs does not have high enough minority populations to be effective MMDs. While it is true that having more MMDs will likely make them less effective, it doesn't mean that having a map with 7 MMDs is impossible. This map addresses both concerns by having 6 effective MMDs with higher minority populations than the Subcommittee own maps, while also having 7 MMDs. The map disproves the notion that all 7 MMD maps should be rejected for having a minority population that is too low. Therefore, I urge the commission to pass this map or a 7 MMD map like it.

Thanks for your consideration,
Lars