

Public comment for 6/30 hearing
Andrew Joyce <andrewcjoyce@gmail.com>
Thu 6/30/2022 3:35 PM
To:

- Redistricting Commission <RedistrictingCommission@albanycountyny.gov>

Cc:

- O'Brien, Caitlin <Caitlin.O'Brien@albanycountyny.gov>;
- Collins, Patrick <Patrick.Collins@albanycountyny.gov>;
- Reff, Nicole <Nicole.Reff@albanycountyny.gov>;
- Cenko, Elena <Elena.Cenko@albanycountyny.gov>

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Albany County Redistricting Commission (ACRC) and the Majority Minority District (MMD) Subcommittee for the work done so far in creating the most transparent and politically independent redistricting process in Albany County history.

This work has not been easy but the process set forth so far has encouraged public input and drawn on the vast experience and talent of our Commissioners, the mapping and counsel vendors secured, as well as the interns hired, who are all helping this endeavor move forward in the limited time frame available.

The work produced so far, in the form of the draft maps and public hearings have allowed for robust public discourse. However, after receiving input from Albany County residents, it appears as if we are collectively going in the wrong direction.

The most recent map (ACRC_FinalDraft) that has been produced goes against the intent of the process by dividing several key communities of interest in Albany County, including, but not limited to, the Center Square, Sheridan Hollow, Arbor Hill, Upper Washington Avenue and South End neighborhoods in the City of Albany. Further, it appears that this most recent draft map significantly dilutes Minority Majority District representation in the City of Albany.

I would encourage the Commissioners to examine this further, so that we can arrive at a new solution that does not divide whole and established communities of interest and dilute Minority Majority District representation in Albany County.

Andrew Joyce
41 Meadow Lane
Albany, NY 12208