

10-2021

October 25: Southern Tier Public Hearing

Marissa Zanfardino
marissa.zanfardino@law.nyls.edu

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Recommended Citation

Zanfardino, Marissa, "October 25: Southern Tier Public Hearing" (2021). *Redistricting Resources*. 14.
https://digitalcommons.nyls.edu/redistricting_resources/14

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The following material consists of themes and key points raised during the public hearings planned by the NYS Independent Redistricting Commission after the release of their preliminary maps. It also provides a list of organizations from each region that were identified and the communities of concern that were raised.

Access the NYS Independent Redistricting website [here](#). Watch or listen to all sessions [here](#).

Southern Tier Hearing Key Takeaways: The Southern Tier public hearing took place on October 25, 2021, and lasted about 40 minutes. There were not many who testified during this hearing. There were many concerns raised about keeping communities of interest together and more specifically keeping rural districts together.

Organizations Named:

- Three Rivers Developing Corporation
- League of Women Voters, Thompsons County

Communities of Concern and Specific Issues:

- 23 Congressional District: a rural community of interest
- Broome and Binghamton: should be kept together
- Broome County: keep together and do not split into multiple districts
- Corning: should be kept with rural districts
- Cortland County and Thompsons County: should be kept together as they are communities of interest with similar economies and higher education concerns
- District 22: should include Elmira, Syracuse, Ithaca, and Corning
- Elmira and Corning: should be kept together
- Rural areas: communities of interest and should be kept together and separate from the city districts
- Thompsons County: a community of interest and should be kept together; should not be put with the southern tier

You can view the specific hearing for the Southern Tier [here](#).