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November 1: Albany Public Hearing

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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](#).

Albany Hearing Key Takeaways: The Albany public hearing took place on November 1, 2021, and lasted about two hours. The majority of concerns were about keeping the Capital District together. The commission noted the difficulties in doing so due to the increasing population in the Capital District. There were concerns raised about respecting and preserving town and county borders. Like many of the other hearings, the commission urged the public to submit maps. There were also concerns about releasing a single set of maps instead of two partisan maps.

Organizations Named:

- African American Clergy United for Empowerment
- Bethlehem Morning Voice Huddle
- Coalition of the Capital Region Progressives
- League of Women Voters Saratoga County
- One Person, One Vote Coalition

Communities of Concern and Specific Issues:

- 110 Assembly District: Colonie, Niskayuna, and Schenectady are communities of interest
- Albany, Amsterdam, Saratoga, Schenectady, and Troy: communities of interest; belong in Capital District
- Capital District: concerns over keeping the Capital District together; also concerns with a city-centric district
 - One testimony suggested that the northern border should be the Village of Malta
 - Other testimony raised concerns that Colonie should be kept with the Capital District
- Clifton Park: should be with Troy and the Capital District
- Colonie, Niskayuna, and Schenectady: communities of interest and should be kept together
- Colonie and Guilderland: should not be together
- Congressional District 20: keep tri-city region together (Albany, Troy, and Schenectady); cities constitute an urban community of interest
- Niskayuna and Schenectady: communities of interest; share common flooding issues

- Schenectady: keep together and do not divide between districts; would be better served with consolidated leadership
- Watervliet: should be kept with Troy and not Guilderland

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