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## 1.30.23 - NYS IRC - White Plains Public Hearing (Assembly)

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**WE ARE NEW YORK'S LAW SCHOOL**

**New York State Independent Redistricting Commission – White Plains Public Hearing**  
**Monday, January 30, 2023 @ 4:00pm**  
**Haub School of Law at Pace University**

Name	Organization	Testimony
Louise Perez		<b>Supports draft for AD 91</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encompasses Long Island Sound Shore communities</li> <li>• Common concerns – flooding, Long Island Sound</li> <li>• Draft does not split Mamaroneck, Larchmont, Rye, Rye Brook, or Port Chester and includes parts of Pelham and New Rochelle</li> <li>• Draft follows closely the lines of the current district</li> </ul>
Lisa Denig	Chair, Mount Pleasant Democrat Committee	<b>Keep Town of Mt Pleasant whole in AD 92</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geographically large town in Westchester County – 32 square miles</li> <li>• Four separate hamlets, two villages, portion of village of Briarcliff Manor</li> <li>• The town has always been contained in one district - AD 92</li> <li>• Draft cuts Mt Pleasant in half – cutting out large portion of the upper northwest corner of town of Mt Pleasant and placing it in AD 95</li> <li>• Cuts through a school district</li> <li>• Would make it even more difficult for town to unite around different issues</li> <li>• Noted how in the past the town had to lobby the state for a hotel tax – helped to have a single representative in the Assembly</li> </ul>
Lisa Katz	Supervisor, Town of New Castle	<b>Do not remove Town of New Castle from AD 93 – would like to maintain the boundaries of 2022 AD 93</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Castle is integral part of core of AD 93</li> <li>• Has been part of a northern Westchester district dating as far back as 1906</li> <li>• Common interests and ties with Bedford and Mt Kisco – shared needs and goals</li> <li>• Long history of intermunicipal agreements – water treatment, wastewater issues, fire departments, watershed, school districts, airport environmental concerns</li> </ul>

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Michael Cazzari	Supervisor, Town of Carmel	<b>Keep Town of Carmel whole in 2022 AD 94</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft splits Carmel - Weakens political power</li> </ul>
Ed Doty	Pelham Democratic Committee	<b>Supports draft lines for Pelham – AD 88</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community of interest</li> </ul>
Chaim Rose	Trustee, Village of Chestnut Ridge	<b>Make Town of Ramapo whole</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft divides town into AD 96, 97, 98</li> <li>140,000 residents</li> <li>Community of interest</li> <li>Growing community with a lot of needs</li> <li>Orthodox Jewish community</li> <li>Fits perfectly into single district</li> <li>Other towns are in a single district</li> </ul>
Michael Specht	Supervisor, Town of Ramapo	<b>Make Town of Ramapo whole</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diversity, large population</li> <li>Draft splits town into three districts (AD 96, 97, 98)</li> <li>Voices diluted</li> <li>Population is large enough to be in one district</li> <li>Large and growing Orthodox Jewish community = community of interest</li> <li>Draft divides Jewish community into two districts – language minority rights</li> </ul> <p>Commissioner Nesbitt noted that town is larger than a single district</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Response:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>put the western part of the town (Sloatsburg, Hillburn, Suffern) in one district, perhaps AD 98 that goes into Orange County</b></li> <li><b>And then a single district for the rest of Ramapo</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Itamar Yeger	Rockland County Legislator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Make Town of Ramapo whole</b></li> <li>AD 96, 97, 98</li> <li>Presented a map</li> <li>Draft splits two communities of interest: Town of Ramapo and Clarkstown/Orangetown</li> <li>Clarkstown and Orangetown in same district</li> <li>Pomona should be with Ramapo bc it's growing into an Orthodox and Hasidic area</li> <li>Re not being able to put 150,000 people in one district, finds it frustrating that in 2000 and 2010</li> </ul>

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		<p>there was an opportunity to put Ramapo in a single district and now it's too big</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggests putting all of Ramapo together with the exception of the western part that has always been with Orange County</li> <li>• Good for Orangetown and Clarkstown too bc they have no interest in being with Ramapo</li> <li>• AD 98 would be within the 5% limit</li> <li>• Mentioned minority language rights – Yiddish</li> </ul>
Aron B. Wieder	Rockland County Legislator	<p><b>Make Town of Ramapo whole</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presented map of Rockland County</li> <li>• Town is a community of interest</li> <li>• About 148,000 residents</li> <li>• Draft divides town into three districts – disenfranchising residents of Ramapo</li> <li>• Village of New Square should be with Ramapo = Jewish community of interest</li> <li>• River villages should not be with Ramapo</li> </ul>
Bishop James A. Rollins Sr.		<p><b>Middletown, Wallkill, Monticello, Liberty should remain together in 2022 AD 100</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Largest population of any city in Orange County</li> <li>• One of top 10 fastest growing cities in NY</li> <li>• Reconsider AD 100, 101 – community of interest, Black community</li> <li>• Struggle with voter turnout</li> <li>• Sullivan County = mostly rural but there are significant population centers along Route 17 corridor that share many common interests with Middletown/Wallkill area</li> <li>• Similar challenges – current AD 100 contains four urban centers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Middletown – black population= 23.2%</li> <li>• Wallkill – 20.1%</li> <li>• Monticello – 22.4%</li> <li>• Liberty – 14.4%</li> <li>• Should remain together in AD 100</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Draft AD 101 removes Middletown and Wallkill from Monticello and Liberty</li> </ul>
Brendel Logan-Charles	Deputy Supervisor, Town of Ramapo	<p><b>Make Town of Ramapo as whole as possible</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft splits town into AD 96, 97, 98</li> <li>• Splitting into two would be better than three</li> <li>• School district – Village of Spring Valley</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large public school population but even larger private school population</li> <li>• Redistricting has divided town into affluent side and working poor side</li> <li>• Spring Valley = largest village in Rockland County</li> </ul>
Joshua Coff		<p><b>Keep Town of Chester whole</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft splits Chester in two with Village of Chester and all of town north and east of Route 17 in AD 101 and everything south and west of Route 17 in AD 98</li> <li>• He submitted map with all of Chester intact in AD 101 and adjusting placement of towns of Blooming Grove, Hamptonburgh, and Monroe to offset the population</li> <li>• Population of Chester = 12,646</li> <li>• Chester is already split in a lot of ways - split between 2 local police department districts, 3 fire districts, 4 public library tax districts, and 5 school property tax districts</li> <li>• New influx of population from Brooklyn</li> <li>• Chester has one school district, but parts of town are in other school districts</li> </ul>
Patricia Madigan	Republican Town Chair, Town of Kent	<p><b>5 towns in Putnam County should be together in 2022 AD 94</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2022 lines - Currently 5/6 towns are in one district AD 94</li> <li>• share demographics, schools, infrastructure, watershed</li> <li>• children from 3/5 towns attend Carmel school district</li> <li>• share main thoroughfares</li> <li>• Putnam County population = just under 100,000</li> </ul>
Gina Arena		<p><b>Maintain 2022 AD 94 with Yorktown, Somers, Carmel, Southeast, and Patterson together</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since 2002, AD 94 has contained Yorktown, Somers, Carmel, Southeast, and Patterson</li> <li>• Do not separate these towns</li> <li>• Somers is more connected to these northern towns</li> <li>• Share school districts, addresses, transportation corridors, environmental concerns, businesses</li> <li>• Draft removes most of Putnam except Putnam Valley and adds Philipstown and Beacon</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beacon and Philipstown are in a completely different train line</li> <li>• No easy way to get from one end of draft district to the other</li> </ul>
Joseph DeStefano	Mayor, Middletown	<p><b>Middletown, Wallkill, Monticello, Liberty should remain together in 2022 AD 100</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborated with Bishop Rollins</li> <li>• Middletown has largest population of any city in Orange County – grew by over 10%</li> <li>• Appreciate that draft does not split Middletown</li> <li>• But want to protect interests of voters – have struggled with voter turnout</li> <li>• Preserve communities of interest – minority populations</li> <li>• Reconsider draft for AD 100, 101</li> <li>• Echoed Bishop Rollins testimony re common interests in urban centers</li> <li>• Draft 101 would have reduced Black population</li> <li>• Need to remain with Sullivan County bc both are experiencing economic growth, ties with casinos - employment, job creation</li> </ul>
Andres Gil	GOP Chairman – County of Putnam	<p><b>Keep 2022 AD 94 for Putnam County</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft AD 94, 105, 95 - Economic impact</li> <li>• Putnam County = semi-rural but growing</li> <li>• Many residents commute to NYC and parts of Westchester</li> <li>• Growing community of immigrants – impacts on social systems, small businesses, housing</li> <li>• Share economic forums with AD 94</li> <li>• One hospital in county, in Carmel</li> <li>• AD 95 currently encompasses part of Hudson Valley Line</li> <li>• Draft moves AD 94 into Hudson Valley towns where their interests are different</li> <li>• If you need to move towns from AD 94, Patterson is more like AD 105 – southern Dutchess County, more rural</li> <li>• Southeast, Kent, Carmel – commuting areas – should be with AD 94</li> </ul>
Ryan Feeney		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town of Stony Point – population 15,000</li> <li>• <b>AD 98 – supports draft</b></li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently, Stony Point is far from the rest of the district which makes it difficult to reach representative</li> <li>• The draft actually alleviates this issue – AD 98</li> <li>• Still majority Orange County but goes into Rockland County a little more</li> <li>• <b>Issue with draft AD 99</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has more rural northern population</li> <li>• Should be oriented toward southern part of the district</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Emily King	Democratic Committee Member Elector District 68	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town of Clarkstown – Keep current AD 96</li> <li>• Areas of New City should remain with Clarkstown</li> <li>• Option: supports Mr. Yeager's map</li> <li>• Clarkstown=community of interest bc one vital issue: contaminated water</li> <li>• Watershed is in Ramapo</li> <li>• Bordered by small mountain range that separates it</li> <li>• Anything above the mountain range is different water district</li> </ul>
Jacqueline Drexler		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AD 96</li> <li>• Supports Mr. Yeager's map</li> <li>• Not happy with the draft splitting communities</li> <li>• Keep New City with Clarkstown</li> </ul>
Warren Lucas	Supervisor, Town of North Salem	<b>Keep North Salem in 2022 AD 93</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Salem = Small town, 5300 people</li> <li>• Draft puts North Salem in AD 105 which is more of a Dutchess County district</li> <li>• North Salem is more connected with towns in northeastern Westchester County – many municipal agreements</li> <li>• Doesn't have much in common with Dutchess County</li> </ul>
Peter Kamenstein	Deputy Supervisor, Town of North Salem	<b>Keep North Salem in 2022 AD 93</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part of Westchester County</li> <li>• More in common with and connected to Bedford, Pound Ridge, Lewisboro – close relationships</li> <li>• Should not be with Putnam or Dutchess</li> </ul>
Subomi Macaulay	Westchester Black Women's Political Caucus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports Center for Law and Social Justice and NYC Unity Map</li> <li>• When thinking about communities of interest, should factor in the impact of redlining, race-based deed restrictions, urban renewal, and racism in</li> </ul>

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		<p>diminishing voices of African American communities throughout Westchester and the state</p> <p><b>Northwest Yonkers – Keep all of Yonkers together</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Her district would change from AD 90 to AD 92 which takes her out of Yonkers and into Greenburgh</li> <li>• Wants to be with Yonkers bc community has same interests</li> </ul>
Martin McGannon		<p><b>Keep 2022 AD 94 – Yorktown</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yorktown is similar to Putnam County</li> </ul>
Tom Colella		<p><b>Preserve core of 2022 AD 94</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep Carmel and Mahopac whole</li> <li>• Preserve community of interest connecting the northern Westchester towns of Yorktown and Somers with Carmel and rest of eastern Putnam County</li> <li>• Preserve continuity of representation</li> <li>• Integrated economies and similar concerns</li> <li>• Philipstown and Cold Spring are very different – Route 9 corridor</li> <li>• Yorktown and Somers are served by Route 202 and Route 6 corridors</li> </ul>
Frank Rossi, Jr	Mayor, Ballston Spa	<p><b>Keep all of Village of Ballston Spa in 2022 AD 112</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft splits Ballston Spa in two – AD 112, 113</li> <li>• 5100 residents in a compact 1.6 square mile area</li> <li>• Autonomous village</li> <li>• Makes more sense to put all of village in AD 112 as to not split schools</li> </ul>
Mark Glogowski		<p><b>Restore County Representation to the Assembly</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counties should have representatives in Assembly</li> <li>• AD 139 – includes portions of different counties</li> <li>• Will submit written testimony re Orleans County</li> </ul>
Jeremy Saland	Board Member, Town of New Castle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AD 93</li> <li>• **audio issues**</li> </ul>
Victoria Tipp	Deputy Supervisor, Town of New Castle	<p><b>Keep New Castle in 2022 AD 93 with Mt Kisco and Bedford</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deep intermunicipal ties among communities in AD 93 – Bedford, Mt Kisco, New Castle</li> <li>• Agreement re supplying drinking water</li> <li>• NYC watershed area with Mt Kisco, Bedford, and other northern communities</li> </ul>



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share East of Hudson Watershed agreements and regulations</li> <li>• Ambulance services, fire services, overlapping school systems, churches</li> <li>• Shared transportation issues</li> </ul>
Meredith Heuer	President, Beacon City School District School Board	<b>Keep Beacon School District in 2022 AD 104</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read letter from school board</li> <li>• Beacon currently in AD 104</li> <li>• Demographics of school district mirror demographics of 2022 AD 104</li> <li>• Don't separate Beacon from nearby communities with similar populations</li> <li>• Draft district includes school districts that are wealthier and less diverse</li> <li>• Beacon school district shares demographics with Newburgh and Poughkeepsie school districts = community of interest</li> </ul>
Sergio Esposito	Councilman, Yorktown	<b>Preserve core of 2022 AD 94</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep Carmel and Mahopac whole</li> <li>• Community of interest - northern Westchester towns of Yorktown and Somers with Carmel and rest of eastern Putnam County</li> <li>• Integrated economies and shared local community concerns</li> <li>• Preserve continuity of representation</li> <li>• Philipstown/Cold Spring are very different from these areas</li> </ul>
Nat Prentiss	Putnam County Business Council	<b>Preserve 2022 AD 94</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Echoed Sergio Esposito's comments</li> <li>• Will submit written comments</li> </ul>