

1. Public Notice 9-8-22

Documents:

[9-8-22 DIST ADVISORY COMM.PDF](#)

2. Agenda 9-8-22

Documents:

[9-8-22 DIST.PDF](#)

3. Meeting Minutes

Documents:

[NC TDAC 09.08.222.PDF](#)



## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE  
TEMPORARY DISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**FOR THE**

**THE NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

**WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING**

**ON**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2022**

**6:00 PM TO 8:30 PM**

**IN**

**NORTH HEMPSTEAD TOWN HALL**

**TOWN BOARD ROOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**220 PLANDOME ROAD**

**MANHASSET, NY 11030**

Attendees will be given an opportunity to sign in to address the Legislature. Public comment will be limited to 3 MINUTES. Public comment on any item may also be emailed to the Clerk of the Legislature at [LegPublicComment@nassaucountyny.gov](mailto:LegPublicComment@nassaucountyny.gov) and will be made part of the formal record of this Legislative meeting.

**FRANCIS X. MORONEY  
CHAIRPERSON**

**DATED: September 1, 2022**  
Mineola, NY

The Nassau County Legislature is committed to making its public meetings accessible to individuals with disabilities and every reasonable accommodation will be made so that they can participate. Please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature at 571-4252, or the Nassau County Office for the Physically Challenged at 227-7101 or TDD Telephone No. 227-8989 if any assistance is needed. Every Legislative meeting is streamed live on <http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/Legis/index.html>

**Majority Appointees**

Peter Bee  
John L. Reinhardt  
Maureen Fitzgerald  
Christopher Devane  
Eric Mallette



**Minority Appointees**

David Mejias  
Jared Kasschau  
Andrena Wyatt  
James Magin, Jr.  
Michael Pernick

**Francis X. Moroney, Chair**  
**Temporary Districting Advisory Commission**

Nassau County Legislature  
1550 Franklin Ave  
Mineola, New York 11501

**Agenda – Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 6pm**

1. Open meeting – Pledge to the Flag
2. Chairman’s Statement
3. Introduction of the Commissioner’s
4. Public Comment
5. Other Business

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NASSAU COUNTY  
TEMPORARY DISTRICTING  
ADVISORY COMMISSION

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MEETING II

Held at

NORTH HEMPSTEAD TOWN HALL

220 PLANDOME ROAD

MANHASSET, NY 11030

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FRANCIS X. MORONEY

CHAIR

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Nassau County Legislature

1550 Franklin Avenue

Mineola, New York

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Thursday, September 8, 2022

6:08 p.m.

TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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A P P E A R A N C E S :

COMMISSIONERS :

FRANCIS X. MORONEY, CHAIRMAN

PETER BEE

JOHN J. REINHARDT, EXCUSED

MAUREEN FITZGERALD

CHRISTOPHER DEVANE

ERIC MALETTER, EXCUSED

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DAVID MEJIAS, VICE CHAIR

JARED KASSCHAU

ANDRENA WYATT (6:25 p.m.)

JAMES MAGIN, JR.

MICHAEL PERNICK

\*\*\*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS :

ELISABETTA COSHIGNANO

RACHEL WHITMORE

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BOARD ATTORNEYS :

VINCENT MESSINA, ESQ.

PETER CLINES, ESQ.

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A L S O A P P E A R E D:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Regina Goutevener - LWV of Nassau County

Judy Esterquest - LWV of Port Washington

Susan Gottehrer - NY Civil Liberation Union

Wayne Wink - (Self)

Cathy Middleton-Lewis, Esq.- Westbury-New Castle

Shelby Lewis - Town of Westbury-New Castle

Dan Oppenheimer - (Self)

Kevin McKenna - (Self)

Rory Lansman - (Self)

Leslie Davis - NAACP

Cathy Johnson - Westbury Senior Center/NAACP

Denise Thompson - (Self)

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AGENDA

1. Open meeting - Pledge of Allegiance
2. Chairman's Statement
3. Introduction of the Commissioner's
4. Public Statement
5. Other Business

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CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Ladies and gentlemen, if I could have your attention. We are going to start off with the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance is recited.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Thank you. Mr. Clerk, would you take the roll?

CLERK PULITZER: Thank you, Chairman.

We are going to have the roll call of the commissioners. Please signify by saying here or present.

Commissioner Peter Bee.

COMMISSIONER BEE: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Commissioner John J. Reinhardt.

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

CLERK PULITZER: Commissioner Maureen Fitzgerald.

COMMISSIONER FITZGERALD: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Commissioner Christopher Devane.



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COMMISSIONER DEVANE: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Commissioner Eric  
Malette.

(Whereupon, no verbal  
response.)

CLERK PULITZER: Commissioner David  
Mejias.

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Commissioner Jared  
Kasschau.

COMMISSIONER KASSCHAU: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Commissioner  
Andrena Wyatt.

(Whereupon, no verbal  
response.)

CLERK PULITZER: Commissioner James  
Magin, Jr.

COMMISSIONER MAGIN: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Commissioner  
Michael Pernick.

COMMISSIONER PERNICK: Here.

CLERK PULITZER: Chairman Francis X.  
Moroney.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Present.

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CLERK PULITZER: We have a quorum,  
sir.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: If I may, we have  
additional people that are coming so we  
are going to take care of a little  
business upfront.

We had a request for accommodations  
for dates of hearings. We are not having  
a meeting next week on the 14th. We are  
looking at the dates in this block of  
October the 17th. Hopefully, we can put  
something together from the 18-20.

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: But not the  
19th.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Not the 19th,  
correct. We are looking at those. I  
suspect we will come up with something  
over the next couple of days. Meanwhile,  
the notice for the meeting next week has  
been sent out prior to under the Rules of  
Legislature as well as the Open Meetings  
Law, so that will be postponed and  
notices of that postponement will be sent  
out forthwith.

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If I could start with a little bit of an opening statement. There are maybe some people here who were at the last meeting and maybe some people who were not at the last hearing. I would like to explain our role as an advisory commission and what terms we have and what we may have, and what we can do and what we can't do.

Please bear with me. This is the third time the Temporary Districting Advisory Commission has been assembled to fulfill its obligation under the Nassau County Charter. The second of several planned meetings are scheduled and will be heard in several locations throughout Nassau County.

As stated in the 1995 Final Report on the Commission on Government Revision, the function of the Commission is to recommend one or more plans to the County Legislature for dividing the county into the legislative districts.

The Commission consists of 11

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members with a nonvoting chair, that's me, being appointed by the county executive. There are five members appointed by the presiding officer and five by the majority leader.

The Commission permits, but does not require public hearings. Prior reapportionments processes established a condition that permissive meetings seeking public input should held around the county.

The streamed hearings are posted on the County website together with the transcripts of the hearings by our Clerk of the County Legislature who is charged with the duty to obtain documents and official communications are available to the general public. E-mails and other record submissions are also received and are available for inspection. These will be disseminated by the Clerk's Office.

The Legislator's clerk is working with the Commission to simplify the website. It takes a little effort to see

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where the documents are, so the technicians are working on that to change the website.

The County Legislature allocated \$985,000 to fund the work of the Commission. The allocation is divided equally between the commissioners appointed by the presiding officer and the minority leader. However, a portion of that \$985,000 is set aside to pay for stenographic services, our lady over here (indicating), ASL (American Sign Language) interpreters as well as Language Line. For any of you who are non English speaking people who need help, there are I believe over 165 different languages available for assistance.

Each delegation of appointees divides the balance of the \$985,000 for the purchase needed for mapping technology, software and the hiring of experts, counsel and staff that they deem necessary.

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The developing of a map or maps by the Commission must be aware of a comply with both Federal and State Law. In other words, whatever they make, whatever they do, whatever they come up with, whatever they draw, if anything, has to be in compliance with State and Federal Law.

That transparency is achieved by significant outreach to the public through holding public hearings on any maps or plans for redistricting submitted by the commissioners or others. You may have an idea for a map that you might want to consider drawing.

Once the maps or are drawn, they will be turned over to the Legislature. Likewise, all transcripts and public comment that are generated by the Temporary District Advisory Commission are submitted to the full legislature for their consideration. The full Legislature will conduct hearings on submissions by an appropriate committee

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and then by the entire legislature. The goal is to have the Commission complete its hearings by the end of October so that the Legislature will have adequate time to hold its hearings.

The County Legislature may reject, adopt, revise or amend the redistricting plan or plans or any recommendations the Temporary Advisory Commission --

(Whereupon, Audio Issues are addressed by audience.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Further, this Commission will stream the hearings and keep the record open for public comment until completion of the public hearings that will be set once we arrive at a final date. Those submissions will be post hearing, so you can send whenever you want to. Any correspondence or e-mail or other information that is received after that date will also be sent to the full legislature for its consideration, if they so choose.

In preparation for these hearings, a

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notice of this meeting and others were sent to the following:

The Office of the County Executive; Counsel to the Minority Commission, Mr. Mejias, who sits to my left; Members of the Majority Commission Delegation, to my right; Nassau County League of Women Voters; The City of Glen Cove; The City of Long Beach; The Town of Hempstead; The Town of North Hempstead; The Town of Oyster Bay; Twenty-two villages in the Town of Hempstead; Thirty villages in the Town of North Hempstead; Sixteen villages in the Town of Oyster Bay; 55 libraries; 57 school districts, 67 civic associations, 50 chambers of commerce and 150 news and media outlets that service Nassau County.

Last, let me repeat, the public may send a written request of all questions to the attention of the Nassau County Legislature at 1550 Franklin Avenue, Mineola, New York or e-mail to [legpubliccomment@nassaucountyny.gov](mailto:legpubliccomment@nassaucountyny.gov).



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With that, I would like to turn the mic over to Mr. Mejias.

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: At the last hearing, there were over 120 people in the room and we had some great public comment. We have deep concerns with the lack of transparency in these hearings. Transparency of these hearings is important and should be guided in principle of the entire redistricting process. It improves public confidence and helps ensure integrity of the process and the accountability of those responsible for leading it. Providing the public with relevant redistricting materials will facilitate meaningful public feedback which in turn would ensure that the proposed maps will respect communities of interest in Nassau County. The lack of transparency is often associated with unlawful redistricting. The failure to be transparent is creating litigation risk and the risk of recommending maps which

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are not legally compliant.

The Commission website continues to be grossly deficient. Following our last meeting, nothing has been done. It appears, despite the record of the last meeting, the public comments have been completely neglected. The Commission's website does not have the capacity to accept public comment on the redistricting process. The Clerk of the Legislature has not agreed to our request to set up a dedicated e-mail address on the Commission's website to accept public comment. The website is a perfect illustration of how closed off, nontransparent, and non responsive the process has been so far.

The chairman had talked about the website giving information to the public about these meetings, which is not true. None of the information listed in any of the resolutions that the democrats proposed has been listed on the website. At the last meeting, the democratic

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commissioners introduced a resolution calling for more transparency which specifically included a list of items for inclusion on the website. It was claimed that the resolution was unnecessary because the information it called for was already included on the website and already posted and all five commissioners voted against it. In fact, none of the information listed in the resolution was actually posted. There is no text and summary of all applicable laws, there's no schedule of all Commission meetings and hearings posted on the website at least seven days in advance. Agendas for each public meeting and hearing are not posted on the website at least 24 hours in advance. The video recordings and transcripts of past meetings are not posted. We've asked for all documents, draft maps, resolutions, analyses, and other documents to be considered by the Commission to be posted on the website at least 24 hours in advance of

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consideration. We've asked for pertinent information on the current County Legislative maps including image files, shapefiles, demographic files, and population data tables containing all relevant demographic information for each district in any proposed map. We have also asked that any proposed maps to be considered by the Commission, including image files and shapefiles, population data, demographic information, be posted at least 24 hours in advance of any consideration of maps.

We ask for the website to have the capacity to permit members of the public to submit written comments and testimony, proposed maps, and correspondence, all of which should be posted on the Commission website. As of now, the website still has not been updated or upgraded in any significant way. We do thank the clerk for correcting Mr. Pernick's name on the website.

The website is so woefully

1  
2 inadequate that under the heading "Most  
3 Recent Agenda", the website links to an  
4 agenda from January 3, 2013 in the last  
5 redistricting cycle. The website also  
6 links to proposed redistricting maps  
7 which were rejected in the last cycle ten  
8 years ago. In fact, if anybody here  
9 tried to google (sic) Nassau County, New  
10 York Redistricting Commission hearing  
11 dates, you would not get anything that  
12 resembles a link on a County website to  
13 give you correct information about this  
14 hearing, hearing time, or even future  
15 hearings; there is nothing. You can't  
16 even google where these meetings are, let  
17 alone go to a website. And if you go to  
18 the County website, not having to do with  
19 the Redistricting Commission, it lists  
20 this meeting, September 8, 2022 at 6:00  
21 p.m., to be held at the Nassau County  
22 Legislature in Mineola. The Nassau  
23 County Legislature's website lists this  
24 meeting here, September 8, 2022 at 1 p.m.

25 Clearly, when we talk about

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transparency -- I actually googled  
transparency and the definition. It  
says, "easy to see or detect".

(Whereupon, Commissioner

Wyatt joins hearing, 6:25 p.m.)

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: The only thing  
that's easy to see right now is that the  
public is being purposely excluded for  
participating in the process by either  
not being told what the law and the facts  
are or being told to go to the wrong  
place for this hearing tonight or to go  
to the right place, but at the wrong  
time. Maybe that's the difference  
between the 120 people we had at the last  
meeting and the number of people we have  
in the room here today, which is far less  
than the 120 people we had at our last  
hearing.

Nothing has changed. Nothing has  
been addressed. Insufficient,  
inaccurate, and conflicting notices of  
this hearing on the County website itself  
is indicative of how this process is not

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being taken seriously. This is a very serious process and who represents you going forward is a very serious process as well.

In addition, while I do appreciate that after the fact, after we were noticed of six hearing dates -- this is the second hearing by the way -- and we still don't have the information regarding the hearing dates that we would like on the website. A third of the hearings are already gone by that they've agreed to -- we'd love more, but the Republicans are not going to agree to more. A third of them have gone by already without the public being properly noticed. I do appreciate after the fact some consideration as to moving some hearing dates that are a conflict for members on the democratic side, but the status quo should be kept. There is a record of things that have happened in the past. There is precedent that we would like adhered to.

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Almost exactly 10 years ago to the day, September 5, 2012, both sides -- there was a republican majority then and a democratic minority then as well -- both sides tasked their executive directors with choosing dates for the meetings and number of meetings that were going to be held. Both sides had input. Both sides' executive directors got together. At that hearing on September 5, 2012, Mr. Moroney was also the chairman at that time, he inquired as to both executive directors as to whether or not they'd spoken about putting together a hearing schedule so that both sides can be sure that we are there and we can notice the public effectively and efficiently. Chairman Moroney at that time, on page 11 of the transcript, which we will submit to the Clerk of the Legislature for admission to the record, said, asked to both executive directors, "As a result of that, did you come up with a consensus for this group to



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consider?". Mr. Kiernan, the executive director of the republicans at that time said, "we have four dates that we've agreed to so far", and he went into the dates and how they came to a consensus with Lauren Corcoran-Doolin, who was the executive director on the democratic side for the hearing dates. The hearing dates have been imposed upon us and without consideration, which means either some of us can't go or they're not necessarily in communities that we'd like them to be in. We want more hearings. The fact that -- we have a screen shot of the Nassau County Legislator's website that tells people to come to a hearing at the wrong time, which we will also be submitting into the record. And a County website which post this meeting in the wrong location, which we will also be submitting to the Clerk of the Legislature for entry into the record. It just shows how little regard there is for the public's input and the opinion of

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the public.

There is exactly, I think, one hour between the time our maps are due on each side to be submitted on November 10. Before we draw maps and submit them to the Legislature, the public should have some input. We want there to be plenty of time for the public to have input on the maps that are being proposed so that communities of interest can be heard, changes can possibly be made, and the Commission can do the right thing in representing the people of Nassau County.

The Republican Commissioners and the Chairman have scheduled exactly one hour between the time our maps are to be submitted and the Nassau County Legislature is to consider them; one hour. That's not enough time. It prevents public input. It takes weeks to analyze and understand proposed maps. Even the most savvy person who knows a lot about redistricting, it would take days to analyze these maps.

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The way this Commission has operated so far is completely inconsistent with redistricting commissions throughout the State of New York. We got started late; we're not noticing the public; we are giving the public misinformation as to where the hearings are and what time they are, and the democratic commissioners have had zero input as to dates and agendas and places of these hearings.

Contrary to what the chairman's told you, there's no place on the website for e-mails to the Temporary Redistricting Commission directly. The dates are not correct in the website. There is no language line on the website. There is nothing you can click to read about the public notices and other languages on the website. It is interesting that the chairman has said that these hearings are meant to solicit opinions from the public, but we dont' tell the public where these meetings are and what time.

The chairman has said that we are

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streaming these meetings, but no one knows where, how to click on it, what time; there's no information about that. We could all be staring at this camera and streaming into the internet and the abyss of the web, there's probably no one on the other end of that camera, 'cause no one knows this is going on right now. That's the biggest problem that we have. That's why we want to hear from you as to whether or not you think it's a problem and whether or not you think you've been given enough public notice for your friends, families, neighbors, and your communities to be heard on this very important topic. These legislative maps will determine who your legislators are who will determine so many things that happen in your everyday lives, from police, public health, mental health, social services, a myriad of things having to do with the safety health and welfare of the people of Nassau County. That's why it's important that we hear

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from you, the public. Not just here tonight, but throughout the county and multiple communities so that you can be heard and you can be properly represented and your community's interests can be properly represented. We want to hear about it. If you think what's happening so far is wrong, I want to hear about it. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: If I may.

Number one, this is being streamed. Number two, the last meeting was streamed and up on the County website the following morning. It's there now, it was there then. The notices were sent out to all the different people in excess of 450 locations. A lot of people in this room might have gotten one. The fact of the matter is, the notices were sent out. There is one piece of paper on that website that says 2013. It's the only one there. What happened is whoever went and looked it up forgot to click on the link for this place. It's there and

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all the lists are there. I have a screen shot, but I didn't realize I was going to be arguing this nonsense today.

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Streaming is going on. The things that Mr. Mejias complained are not up based upon what was done in the last session, is wrong. Plain and simply wrong. The fact of the matter is the transcripts contain everything they put on the record at the last meeting and they are up on the website right now.

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COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: Which website?

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CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Our website.

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COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: Where?

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CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Nassau County.

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There's only one office that's

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responsible for the documents in Nassau

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County. It's the Clerk's Office. That's

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where they all go. That's where the

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e-mails go. That's where everything is

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going to go. That's the nexus of what

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we're doing here. They have to get

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there. Have there been glips (sic),

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absolutely. No question about it. We

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spent a lot of time trying to correct those things. Spent a lot of time trying to get rid of that 2013 thing which has no business being on that thing. The fact of the matter is that happens. It's never happened to anybody else, just us; just the republicans. That's nonsense.

COMMISSIONER BEE: Mr. Chairman, can I make a suggestion that rather than the back and forth critique of the procedures by which we got here, we do what the Commission was tasked to do, which is to hear from the public. We are not here for us to speak, we are here for the public to speak. The public that is here should now be heard.

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: The public doesn't know what we're here to do because they don't know what this commission is about.

We all have cell phones. I challenge anyone in this room to go to the Temporary Redistricting Advisory Commission website and tell us if the

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only document on that website refers to 2013. And on TDAC website, can you click a link to this mysterious streaming that's happening?

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Yes, there is as a matter of fact. I'm going to give you the website you have to go to: Nassaucountyny.gov/3530/public-notice-index --

(Whereupon, public interruption.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: If anyone of you want to come up here and see what this is, you can pass it around the room. It's exactly what it says.

(Whereupon, public interruption.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: I'm not biting into --

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: Mr. Chairman, that's not on the Temporary Advisory Commission's website.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: There's only one website and it's the County website.



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COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: The Commission has their own website on the -- If you go to the County website and you hit the Temporary Districting Advisory Commission, let's see what's going on at TDAC; none of this is there. Zero. You don't know where to stream; you don't have the agenda; you don't have the list of the public meetings, nothing. No transcripts, nothing. We're a third of the way through the process that you've proposed and still the public has zero information on the TDAC website. Go on your phones. Go to the TDAC website on the County. I just did it. There is nothing there.

(Whereupon, public

interruption. Off the record.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: This is from the County website. I'm not going to argue with you, Mr. McKenna.

All right. The first speaker --

(Whereupon, interruption by public. Off the record.)

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CHAIRMAN MORONEY: You're out of order. Did you file one of these (indicating)? Did you file one of these? A request to speak? It's right here. Fill one out and you will have an opportunity to speak. Right now, I'm calling on Regina --

COMMISSIONER PERNICK: Mr. Chairman, I have a comment. It's an opening comment on a slightly different topic.

In his opening comment, our chairperson noted this is an advisory commission. It's true, we have the word advisory in our name, but I wanted to emphasize the importance of our role.

The Nassau County Charter requires the Legislature to consider any maps that are adopted by this body. The Legislature, as the chair said, can adopt, reject, amend, modify. They are required to inspect any maps that are voted out of this body by six votes. That's a really big responsibility. We have the job of soliciting views from all

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of the residents of the county from every corner of the county and presenting the Legislature with a map that actually takes into account the concerns and considerations from every community in our county. We also have the responsibility to present maps that comply with the law. That's a very complicated task. It's a very important task. There are a lot of legal rules, adoptions, that apply to the maps that we adopt. We have Federal Laws, Equal Protection Clause has a set of requirements that constrain redistricting at every level of government. We have the Federal Voting Rights Act, which requires us to ensure that communities of color have an equal opportunity to participate an elect candidates of their choice. It may require us, it does require us, to draw majority/minority districts when certain factors are present, and we know those factors are present here in Nassau County.

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We also have State Law. There have been a lot of changes in State Law that didn't apply to this process ten years ago and it's worth talking about and being aware of.

First, there are new rules under the Municipal Home Rule Law that governs County level redistricting. The most significant of those rules is a prohibition on drawing maps with partisan advantage. What's that? It's a prohibition on partisan gerrymandering on drawing maps to shut one political party out of the political process to draw maps that are bias, slated, in favor of one political party or the other. This is new. We didn't have these provisions ten years ago, and it's incredibly important for us to solicit views from members of the public about the current maps to ensure that we are able to present maps that comply with the new requirements.

We also have a State Voting Rights Act, which was signed into law by the

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governor, I believe earlier this year.  
It will take effect next year before the first election under the new set of maps. We have a very significant responsibility to understand this new legislation and make sure we are doing everything we can to comply with this new legislation. Of course this is the right thing to do, but also to protect the County and county tax payers against unnecessary lawsuits, unnecessary litigation, which I think we would all want to avoid. That's why it's important to be transparent. That's why everything that Commissioner Mejias has been raising is incredibly important and that's why I hope moving forward we can turn a new page and work collaboratively. I really want to work collaboratively. I truly want to be able to sit down and come up with the best way to develop maps for the County genuinely. I hope we can find a way to do that, because we haven't been able to work collaboratively so far. I hope that can change. I hope we can

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provide information to the public so the public can fully participate in the process. Most importantly, I hope we can adopt maps and compromise and reach a consensus on the maps that are lawful and comply with Federal and State law, and especially these new laws that we haven't had to contend with in past.

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COMMISSIONER BEE: Mr. Chairman, I just renew my comment that it is now 6:45 on a public hearing that is supposed to start at 6 o'clock and we haven't yet heard from anyone in the public. I think, step one is to move past the political bickering and hear from members of the public and I would ask that you call the first speaker.

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: We're just asking for the people that went to the meeting at the legislature that was posted to give them time to get here tonight.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Regina Goutevener.

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MS. GOUTEVENER: Hello. My name is Regina Goutevener. As president of the League of Women's Voters of Port Washington-Manhasset, I'm appearing on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Nassau County. I have lived in Port Washington for about 52 years.

The League is a nonpartisan grassroots organization dedicated to encourage everyone to participate fully within our democracy. We do not support or opposed any political party or candidate. After careful study and consensus, we may advocate on governmental issues in the public interest as I do tonight.

The League is here to advocate on behalf of a fair and transparent redistricting process. Fair and transparent means providing the public with:

- Basic information regarding the Commission's consultants and mappers and an advanced schedule of meetings and

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proposed deadlines;

- The opportunity to attend all working sessions of this commission with sufficient notice of time and place; and, finally,

- The opportunity for meaningful input. Meaning, having their concerns and suggestions formally addressed.

Under the proposed commission process noted by Commissioner Mejias at the August 31st hearing:

"The maps proposed by both delegations are to be made public by 5:00 p.m. on November 10th and then sent to the legislature three-and-a-half hours later. The hearing on these maps is the very same day. The public has one hour, between 5 and 6 p.m. to review maps that may rule its government for the next ten years."

This proposed process is unacceptable. It allows only pro forma public comment and not even pro forma map amendment by the community. It is



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neither fair nor transparent as it violates key elements of your charge from the Legislature, State and Federal Laws.

There is ample time for the commission to release draft maps, provide time for public comment, and to consider map revisions that address public concerns. The Nassau County Charter requires this commission to submit a proposed map to the Nassau County Legislature on January 7, 2023. Nearly two months after the Commissions unnecessarily accelerated submission deadlines.

With respect to the congressional and state redistricting process, both the independent redistricting commission and the special master in *Harkenrider v. Hochul*, released draft maps provided an opportunity for public comments after their release and made revisions to reflect public concerns. There is absolutely no reason why Nassau County shouldn't plan the same process.

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The League strongly encourages the Commission to allow the public to evaluate the process used to design and propose legislative districts. And finally, to assess whether recommended districts reflect the interest and input of our communities.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Judy Esterquest.

MS. ESTERQUEST: Thank you. My name is Judy Esterquest and I served as a trustee at the Manhasset Public Library for six years, I'm a member of the League of Women Voters. I live in Manhasset for over three decades.

At the August 31 hearing, both Chair Moroney and Commissioner Mejias repeated the phrase, "fair and transparent". Fair redistricting is foundational to our democracy. Transparent redistricting is foundational to our trust in democracy. Fair and transparent give voters voice and confidence. Its absence reads

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cynicism, disengagement, crisis. Recent news shows what happens when Americans lose trust.

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Fair redistricting keeps communities of shared interest together to strengthen their voices, respects natural boundaries, and seeks a compact shape. My district, however, which includes this town hall, looks like districts where politicians choose their voters, not where voters do the choosing.

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Similar to the 1812 district that inspired the word gerrymander, District 9 is a monstrous creature rearing back with a long, long neck with a misshapen body. It appears an extreme partisan gerrymander snaking east and west to aggregate isolated enclaves of select voters and its perimeter defined by no natural borders. It brings together no communities of interest, only seven fractured school districts and many fractured villages.

What would fair look like? Perhaps

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putting all of Manhasset with all of Port Washington and all of Roslyn, which almost targets the target size. The Long Island Sound borders west, north, and east. Even more important, it would be socially, culturally, and economically coherent with shared institutions.

Our special districts: Fire, water, parks, would not be divided. Rather than fracturing our eight school districts, we would have three whole districts, each with its own vibrant community.

Our League of Women voters offers forums for our peninsula's local and state elections. As for residents without school children, we all shop at a limited number of large grocery stores, especially bakeries, hardware, and florists. We all use the same LIRR line. Restaurants across the peninsula are neighborhood favorites for everyone. Cultural events and civics bring us together. We enjoy our shared shoreline, live events at the Landmark Theatre, and

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our three great public libraries, history walks and cemetery tours, our science museum, art museum, and of course, our amazing Barr Beach.

Manhasset is now arbitrarily divided across three legislative districts and Roslyn is divided across four districts. Our peninsula should be made whole. Residents cannot advocate effectively when our voices are fractured. Please renew our trust by ensuring this redistricting gives fair outcomes by making its process transparent.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

COMMISSIONER PERNICK: May I ask you a question?

MS. ESTERQUEST: Sure. I will send everyone this through the portal.

COMMISSIONER PERNICK: Yes.

First of all, thank you for presenting. Please do send it in so we can add it to the record and have it officially considered under part of the

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formal record.

You mentioned right now Manhasset is split across three districts, Roslyn is split across four. Do I have that correct?

MS. ESTERQUEST: Yes.

COMMISSIONER PERNICK: Could you explain to the Commission how that affects you and voters in Roslyn and Manhasset, having the communities split across three or four different districts?

MS. ESTERQUEST: Part of what happens, when you hold community forums for legislative forums, for example, I'm going to speak as a league member, you have to explain to people which district their in. They're often confused because we vote for the same New York Senate Candidate. We vote for one assembly district candidate. We vote for one congressional candidate -- a much bigger area. Why should we vote across two places, seven different legislators; it doesn't make sense. Simultaneously, if

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you want to reach out to the legislature for something and you're saying, we would really like to talk about issue A, B, C, you need to explain to everybody they need to reach out to different legislators. That is a far more confusing message. Mind you, the League studies things, we reach consensus internally, and we don't advocate unless we think it's something that we think is correct and in the public interest and non partisan. Then we want to be able to message it simply. It is impossible to message anything simply when the jurisdiction of the voters crosses so many lines. I'm not going to say it's as bad as separating minority voters or as bad as separating voters you think are going to vote one way or another, but it does make it very difficult for the voices of the peninsula to be heard as one voice. These three communities, particularly Manhasset and Port Washington, because Roslyn spreads off to

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the east, these two communities are very, very interconnected. Why should they have different representatives? Does that answer your question.

COMMISSIONER PERNICK: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: We're gonna put this in the record. We will make a copy for the record as well.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Susan Gottehrer.

MS. GOTTEHRER: Hi. I'm Susan Gottehrer. I'm the director of the Nassau County New York Civil Liberation Union. I'm working in coalition with the League of Women Voters across Nassau County.

I was asked last time at the Legislature to sort of review best practices according to NYCLU. While I still don't have them for you in writing, I thought I would be able to do that tonight. It would also be useful for the people who are here to hear them as well.

I do have a question. That short window of time and the schedule that has



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been set for the maps are presented and then the Legislature votes three hours later; is it within your power to change that schedule?

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: Yes.

MS. GOTTEHRER: So I will ask you to commit to changing that schedule so that there is more time between those things.

(Applause.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: This is not in indelible ink.

MS. GOTTEHRER: Will you put it in indelible ink that the public has more time?

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: I will talk to the deligation's and see what they want to do.

Here's the answer to your question: You gotta start somewhere. You gotta put pen to paper. In order to get something going, you have to do something about it to get it moving, and that's what's happening. We wanted to get it moving, we needed to get it moving, we got it

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moving. There are glitches. It's going

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to happen. There's nothing we can do

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about it. The date November 10 is a date

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for presentation of maps. Not having

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them become law, to tell us what you did,

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show us what you did. It's not just them

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(indicating right) or them (indicating

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left). Mr. McKenna may have a map. The

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League of Women Voters may have a map.

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MS. GOTTEHRER: Why is everybody

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under the impression there is a

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three-hour window?

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CHAIRMAN MORONEY: It's set up that

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way to give people a guideline.

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MS. GOTTEHRER: Can you expand the

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guidelines?

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CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Absolutely.

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MS. GOTTEHRER: Thank you very much.

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You will commit to doing that?

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CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Yes.

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MS. GOTTEHRER: Okay. I will move

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on to -- as far as the website. I went

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on the website. The path I took was

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Nassau County Legislature to the quick

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links to the Temporary Districting Advisory Committee and all I saw were your names and the 2013 agenda. Even if it does exist the way you say it does exist, it means that it's hard to find and that needs to be fixed as well. I'm used to Nassau County and their websites. The Police Reform website was taken down. It's hard to find everything. Agendas never get posted where you can see them and if they are, they're posted in some sort of hieroglyphics or something. That's Nassau County; used to it. But it's shenanigans and it has to stop and it shouldn't be happening with this crew.

On that note, the first and most important aspect of a properly functioning redistricting process should be that it's transparent and provides opportunities for meaningful public input before and after draft maps are published. There should be an adequate number of hearings to allow equitable access to public input which means that

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holding one hearing in Glen Cove with 28,000 residents and one hearing in Hempstead with 800,000 residents is not equitable. I would also ask you to commit to more hearings along those lines.

Commissioners of both parties should be collaborating on every aspect of the process including the number and location of hearings. Hearings should be widely publicized through official channels and on social media channels and in all relevant languages, which is not just Spanish in Nassau County.

There should be meaningful opportunity for public input before and after maps are drawn and published and the public should have all the relevant data they need to evaluate the maps. That means the data that you looked at to create the maps and the commissioners' justifications for the decisions after the maps are drawn. Voting on the draft map the day it is published is

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unacceptable. To comply with the law, obviously, is best practices. Provide information on the law to the public; you have a job to educate the public as well. To make sure the draft maps comply with the equal population requirement. The Commission should release shapefiles and block equivalency files along with the draft maps. Not dilute or diminish voting strengths of racial and language minorities, which is required in both the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the New York State John Lewis Voting Rights Act.

The Commission should conduct and publish the analyses including the data to determine the number and shape of districts illustrating that communities of color voting strength has not been diluted.

In order to show that the maps comply with the compactness requirement and prohibition on favoring or disfavoring incumbents, the Commission

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should also show common measures of compactness, such as the polls be proper and Schwartzberger scores.

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The Commission should also show explanations of public input relating to Nassau County's communities of interest.

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I just want to say, a lack of

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transparency, which is already apparent

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in this process, can be corrected by

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following these practices.

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A continued lack of transparency

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will undermine public confidence and

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trigger a natural assumption that the

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Commission has something to hide or that

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is driven by a legally impermissible

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motive. NYCLU will be watching the

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entire process.

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Thank you for your time.

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CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Thank you. I

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will say it again, I said at the last

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hearing that you spoke at: I wish you

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were here when North Hempstead did their

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redistricting. You would be aghast with

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what they did. They took that man out

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there out of his district into another district, changed his district number so that he's not there anymore.

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Thank you for doing this and for what you do here. I wish you had done it before.

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With that said, we will take everything serious that is being said here tonight, and we do take everything serious. But please, do not accuse anybody of anything in any way, shape or form that there's some conspiracy there is no conspiracy going on. These people over here (indicating right) and over here (indicating left) are serving for nobody at all. They're volunteers. They're here and they're going to do a darn good job and they're going to do the job they were asked to do by this commission.

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MS. GOTTEHRER: I don't believe you've heard me accuse anybody of a conspiracy.

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COMMISSIONER PERNICK: The speaker

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2 did not accuse anybody of anything. As a  
3 matter of practice, it is deeply  
4 concerning for any member of this  
5 commission to criticize a member of the  
6 public or question a member of the public  
7 in that sort way. Ms. Gottehrer, I hope  
8 you continue to come and offer your views  
9 to this commission.

10 CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Next speaker.  
11 Former member of the County Legislature,  
12 Wayne Wink.

13 MR. WINK: Good evening, ladies and  
14 gentlemen. I just want to make it clear  
15 from the outset. Judy Esterquest did not  
16 coordinate. We did not speak even speak  
17 even before this meeting, and yet, we're  
18 talking about the same topic in many  
19 respects.

20 What Judy described, and described  
21 better than I possibly could, of what  
22 transpired ten years ago, the only  
23 advantage I have over Judy is that I was  
24 the embodiment of it. I was, in fact,  
25 the poster child of it because it was my



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2 district that was literally drawn and  
3 quartered ten years ago. It's not even a  
4 matter of taking different communities of  
5 interest and putting them with other  
6 communities of interest. They divided up  
7 Roslyn itself. My home community into  
8 four separate districts. Drawn and  
9 quartered was a barbaric form of  
10 punishment for criminal offenses 200  
11 years ago and was outlawed. Yet, in the  
12 form of gerrymandering, it's alive and  
13 well here in Nassau County.

14 Before you make the argument that as  
15 the ACLU woman represented, we prohibit  
16 either favor or disfavoring incumbency.  
17 The fact of the matter is, in 2013, was  
18 one of two legislators to be put into the  
19 same district. The other one happened to  
20 be a colleague of mine on the democratic  
21 side; out of 19. That is too random to  
22 be possible except intentional. And when  
23 you factor in the fact that -- and, Mr.  
24 Moroney, you'll remember this, the  
25 ill-fated, illegal attempt to redistrict

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in 2011 which was thrown out by the courts, did the exact same thing.

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Except, instead of sending me to a

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district further east, it was further

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west. Look, I've been in this business a

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long time and I try not to take too many

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things personally. There comes a point

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when I'm constantly being thrown into

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someone else's district and I begin to

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wonder whether it's me. I am reminded of

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the old line, I may be paranoid, but it

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doesn't mean they're not out to get you.

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Having said that, Mr. Moroney, you

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brought up some distinctions this

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commission may or may not have with the

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North Hempstead Commission. I will

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remind you of one similarity you have

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with this commission was the fact that at

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this very podium, at this very spot,

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almost three months ago, Jack Martins,

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the former co-chair of the New York State

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Independent Redistricting Commission,

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state level, came up here and castigated

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this Town Board for not putting maps out

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in advance of the hearings -- about the Commission not having done that.

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Now, I noticed when I walked in here, there is an agenda and an opportunity to speak, but there are no maps. Perhaps Mr. Martin's comments didn't make it to this commission, but I find it interesting that he spent a great deal of time criticizing North Hempstead's process, while at the same time, apparently, you guys are following the same process.

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There are some differences. I am anticipating a passive prologue, the one major difference that's going to occur between the North Hempstead Commission and the Commission sitting in front of me right now is that that commission voted and approved four maps in a bipartisan maps, submitted all four well in advance of public hearings to the Town Board. They were reviewed, they were put out for the public to consider, and the Town Board picked one of them. All four maps

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that they were given an opportunity to vote on were voted on and passed by a commission in a bipartisan manner. I pray, although I don't hold much hope that you're going to follow that lead of the North Hempstead Commission.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: I have a question, if I may.

MR. WINK: Okay.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: When the map was finally adapted, what was the vote?

MR. WINK: Was probably the exact same vote you're going to see on the County Legislature; it was party line. But the Commission voted bipartisan for those maps; it was 4-3.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: And who were the four?

MR. WINK: The four were the democrats. Remind me, if you will, ten years ago when the vote took place to redistrict the Nassau County Legislature. What was the vote then?

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CHAIRMAN MORONEY: I don't remember.

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MR. WINK: Well, I can tell you

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right now because I sat on that

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legislature; it was a party line vote.

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Please, before you start casting

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aspersions, remember your history. You

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more than anybody knows the history of

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this commission. Those votes occur on a

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partisan basis, but the Commission voted

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bipartisan. Please follow their lead in

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that regard.

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(Applause.)

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CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Next speaker is

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Cathy Middleton-Lewis, Esq.

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COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: I just want to

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say, thank you, Wayne. I will say,

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having sat next to Wayne, he was an

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excellent legislator. We served two

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terms together. You served your

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community very well. You know what

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you're talking about, so much so that I

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would actually look at Wayne's notes so

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he could tell me what was going on. He

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was an excellent legislator. It was an

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honor to serve with you in the Nassau  
County Legislature.

MR. WINK: Thank you.

MS. MIDDLETON-LEWIS: Good evening,  
my name is Cathy Middleton-Lewis. I am a  
22 year resident of the Town of  
Westbury-New Castle and I am also an  
attorney and appear before this  
commission in that capacity.

I ask this commission that as it  
considers the issue of removing Westbury  
from LD2 that we consider and remember  
one thing and that is that this country  
is built on the understanding that  
democracy is strengthened when the voices  
of all of our people, particularly those  
who are historically marginalized and  
silenced are allowed to be heard. We are  
weakened as a society when we stifle the  
voices of some communities while  
aggrandizing enlarging the voices of  
others. We lose ourself as a society.  
We become less of what we have the  
potential of becoming and more of what we

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do not want to be. The removal of Westbury-New Castle from LD2 does just that. It limits the power of Westbury-New Castle as a community. It dilutes our voices. It politically isolates us from communities which share our interests and goals, our political culture, and our concerns. It crushes our ability to elect candidates to political office of our own choosing. Candidates who hail from our community who understand on a visceral level, our lived experiences and who possess a commitment to fight for the laws and policies that are important to us.

I ask that as this commission considers this issue of removing Westbury from LD2 that it thinks about the people of Westbury-New Castle. That you think about the people that live on Prospect Avenue, the people who live on Rockland Street where I live, my neighbors on Oxford Street, the people who participate at the Yes We Can Community Center, the

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people who participate at the Senior Center in Westbury, an that you understand by removing us from LD2, you are muzzling us. You are silencing our voices and it will be the beginning of the deathknell of democracy.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Can I ask you a question?

MS. MIDDLETON-LEWIS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: I'm a community neighbor. I live in Westbury too.

How do you have the notion that LD2 is being consider to be taken out of --

MS. MIDDLETON-LEWIS: My understanding is Westbury-New Castle may be removed from LD2.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: How did you come by that?

MS. MIDDLETON-LEWIS: I heard information from other members of my community that this was something that was possibly going to happen and it very



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much concerns me.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Are any of you aware of any of that (referencing Board)?

(Whereupon, Board members all respond, "no".)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: I hope the information you have is wrong.

MS. MIDDLETON-LEWIS: Okay. Could you tell me what your plan is?

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: There are no plans to discuss.

MS. MIDDLETON-LEWIS: The possibility exists that if you're redistricting, if you're drawing up maps that are going to change the legislative district as it appears today, the possibility exists that Westbury New Castle and the new or proposed new map may no longer be part of Legislative 2; isn't that correct?

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: No. Not that I'm aware of.

A little history: When the Legislature was first formed, the very

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first things that were done was to see if they would create minority/majority districts. Two such districts, 1 and 2 -- and they got the numbers 1 and 2 because they were the first ones that were done. That's when those districts were changed. It has never been changed since that day, except internally to balance the population and to fuse the right percentages and things like that, but there has never been anything, as far as I know, to separate out the Westbury portion of District 2.

MS. MIDDLETON-LEWIS: I have very little access to maps. There are no maps here tonight as Legislator Wink indicated, to be able to understand what your proposal is. Perhaps --

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: There is no proposal. That's my point.

MS. MIDDLETON-LEWIS: I mean, there's a possibility that exists that we may no longer be part of LD2 when the legislature makes its final decision,

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correct?

COMMISSIONER BEE: If I may. At the end of the day, the goal is to have 19 districts of approximately the same population, taking into account all of the legal factors that need to be considered in forming those districts. Therefore, if one district over the course of the last ten years has gained a substantial population, it may have too many people and some number of people may need to be redrawn into another district. Some other district may have lost population and some number of people may need to be moved into that district by the redrawing of the lines. The goal is to have 19 districts of approximately the same population using the criteria the law has provided.

So you are correct, it is theoretically possible that any community somewhere in Nassau County may be moved in terms of its district lines. To the best of my knowledge, there has been zero

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discussion, thus far, of moving any particular community anywhere. There is no proposal to move Westbury or to do anything about Westbury sitting before this commission.

MS. MIDDLETON-LEWIS: What I'm asking this commission to do is that in considering redrawing the lines, it consider the fact that Westbury wants to remain part of LD2.

COMMISSIONER BEE: We appreciate that comment. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Thank you very much.

COMMISSIONER PERNICK: Ms. Middleton-Lewis, one other question for you. I want to make sure we understand exactly the testimony. What I'm hearing from you, and please tell me that this makes sense to you, Westbury-New Castle is a community and should not be fractured into multiple different districts. What we should be doing as we think through this process, is we should

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ensure that Westbury-New Castle are contained in the same district so that they don't have their voices diluted and the voters in Westury-New Castle have an opportunity to elect candidates of their choice. Am I understanding?

MS. MIDDLETON-LEWIS: Exactly. That's what I'm saying. What I'm also saying is the failure to do that would muzzle our voices. This is something we do not want and this is something we believe is undemocratic.

COMMISSIONER BEE: Thank you for your comments.

(Applause.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Next speaker is Shelby Lewis. You're from Westbury-New Castle as well I see.

MS. LEWIS: Hi. My name is Shelby Lewis. As you mentioned, I am a resident of Westbury New Castle. I am a former intern District 2 Legislator Bynoe and currently I am a consultant analyst for the Professional Services for Essensure

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(phonetic). I'm also joined here tonight by other community leaders and stakeholders from Westbury-New Castle.

We all come tonight to ask you to not consider recommending any proposed legislative district map that removes the predominantly minority portion of the Village of Westbury and all of New Castle from Legislative District 2. This community has been a part of LD2 since the Nassau County Legislature was first formed more than 25 years ago and should remain fully intact within the boundaries of the Second Legislative District.

As the Temporary Redistricting Advisory Commission embarks upon this tremendously important process, it is vital for the process to be aligned with all relevant laws to ensure an orderly process. As you all are aware and have acknowledged during your debates and discussions certain deadlines in the Nassau County Charter for completing this process currently conflict with New York

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State Election Laws. As a result of the change to the unified June elections, the period for circulating petitions for the legislator election is set to begin on February 28, 2023; however, the County Charter requires the Legislature to adopt district maps March 7, 2023 -- one week before, the petitions are set to go out. Left unresolved, this is a recipe for confusion. As we've recently seen a chaotic electoral process, it only serves to disenfranchise voters and deprive them of their rights as Americans to fully participate in the democratic process.

To correct this issue, the minority caucus of the Nassau County Legislature has proposed to amending the Nassau County Charter to remove the Legislature's deadline to adopt district lines two months earlier to January 9, 2023 and the Commission's deadline to submit recommendations to the Legislature to November 7, 2022. Doing so would create sufficient time for a final plan

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to be adopted and for the Nassau County Board of Elections to prepare for designating petitions.

I understand that several individuals have stated that the Commission and the Legislature have ascertained the need to get maps done before the deadline and that there is no urgent rush to change the law, but I respectfully and empathetically disagree. With nothing short of fair equitable representation at stake, it is my belief that we must do everything that we can do to protect the sanctity of this process and remove any roadblocks to success that we encounter along the way.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. OPPENHEIMER: Good evening. I will be brief because Commissioner Mejias and Mr. Pernick have said 99% of everything that's on my mind. Perhaps, even 100%. Well done.

The transparency and the need for



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the public to be able to look at and study the underlying data for these decisions is paramount. We are not all data experts, but we at least have to have the opportunity to look at it, to try to understand it and to ask educated questions. If we don't have the underlying information, it's very hard to have an informed opinion about the process.

One of the benefits of having the older information on the Nassau County website is that the December 2012 population data is actually available on that website, for each district. I don't know how accurate that was at the time. It certainly wouldn't be as accurate today as it was then. It breaks it down by ethnicity: Primarily white, black, Hispanic, Asian, Hawaiian, Amerindian. So not every possible ethnic group. Some of the largest groups. Breaks it down by non Hispanic whites, non Hispanic black, 18+ population. There's a lot of

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information here about the process that went into the prior redistricting.

I see that by population, it is relatively close for most of the districts. That doesn't in itself tell me if the process was fair, and it certainly doesn't tell me what that means for this year and the next ten years. The changes in residents in Nassau County, the changes in population, as you know, are significant. We should have exactly the same identification information from the 2020 Census. This comes from the 2010 Census. The same data current is available. When we are talking about transparency for me, I'm talking about this type of data.

Chairman, you mentioned the meeting next week is canceled, correct?

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Yes.

MR. OPPENHEIMER: Is that the one that was to take place in Town of Hempstead Town Hall?

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Glen Cove.

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MR. OPPENHEIMER: As far as you know, the one at the Town of Hempstead is still on.

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CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Yes.

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MR. OPPENHEIMER: Mr. Pernick, you also mentioned some new State Laws and Federal guidelines. There are a lot of ingredients that go into this. In the best of circumstances, I think you have a difficult job. If you're at odds with each other and not truly working together, the chances go way down that you're going to come up with a good decision. Even in the best of circumstances, you have a difficult job. I recognize that.

My concern and question is: What's the hierarchy of priorities? Is population number one? Is compactness of the district number one? Is it anything to do with age? From what I understand you can not take into account political affiliations. You can't go by the Democratic, Independent, and Republican

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2 registrations. What are the ingredients.  
3 What's number one; what's number two;  
4 what's number three?

5 CHAIRMAN MORONEY: If I could answer  
6 that question for you. The Municipal  
7 Home Rule Law, I'm not sure what section  
8 -- Section 34(4) says that:

9 **NYS Municipal Home Rule Law -**  
10 **Article 4, §34, Subsection 4.**

11 "Reapportionment of members of its  
12 local legislative body shall be subject  
13 to federal and state constitutional  
14 requirements and shall comply with the  
15 following standards, which shall have  
16 priority in the order herein set forth:

17 A. Deviation, five percent between  
18 highest and lowest.

19 B. Taking into account the equal  
20 opportunity of racial or language  
21 minority groups to participate in the  
22 political process or to diminish their  
23 ability to elect representatives of their  
24 choice; and

25 C. Districts shall consist of

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contiguous territory; and

D. Districts shall be as compact in form as practicable; and"

That's where Mr. Bee was saying earlier where you may have to move people from one area other. That is where the word practicable comes in.

"E. Districts shall not discourage competition or for the purpose of favoring or disfavoring incumbents or other particular candidates or political parties. The maintenance of cores of existing districts, of pre-existing political subdivisions including cities, villages, and towns, and of communities of interest shall also be considered. To the extent practicable, no villages, cities or towns except those having more than forty percent of a full ratio of persons; and, finally,

F. Districts shall be formed so as to promote the orderly and efficient administration of elections."

So that's the priority, top to

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bottom. That's the same that both sides have to look at. They sometimes require some difficult decisions as to who goes where.

For example, there are some people in different villages saying, why are you taking my village away? It may be necessary because of your population. That's the concept. That is what the law is set to do and that is the law they have sworn to take (indicating right) and they have sworn to take (Indicating left).

There's also the Federal Statute. Some of the new laws may or may not apply to Nassau County, but the fact of the matter is is that that's the guidelines. That's the road map. That's what needs to be done. That is why there are people in Westbury that have ideas and want to be kept together. It may cause difficulty one way of the other. That's why we are here. We want your opinions. We want to know what you have to say.

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Why? Because when you tell us what you have to say, all of this information will go to the Legislature for them to consider. They are going to get everything you have said here tonight is going to go before them before so they can make the decision. They are the decision makers. We're not. We're here -- they're not (referencing Commission Board), I should say -- what we are here to do is to get your opinions as to what needs to be done from a very local perspective. We have people from Port Washington; they have a perspective. We have people from Roslyn; they have a perspective. We have people from New Castle-Westbury, that have to be taken into consideration. Drawing a map is one of those things. It's like a balloon -- if you need population and you push it here, something's gotta fill the void. Population has to be within the 5% deviation. The closer you get to the deviation, the better the map is. That

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doesn't mean it's better in the eyes of the people. The constraints of the law may cause discomfort to some people depending upon how they come out of it.

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They (indicating right) and they (indicating left) are going to come up with a map, or maybe not come up with a map. They don't have to. What they have to do is they have to exact your positions on what's going on. I think that's a fair statement.

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MR. OPPENHEIMER: I have one other thing. Back by popular demand. This is a map of my current district (indicating), District 14, Laura Schaefer. According to my reading of the 2012 population figures, it meets that requirement pretty nicely. It's within .5% population wise; it's good. This is not a compact district. This is not a contiguous district. It is not a commonality of interest. It goes from New Hyde Park Road to -- I don't even know where it ends. You can't drive



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directly through it without crossing through at least two other districts. When you say you might not come up with a map, you have to come up with something better than this.

The Village of Hempstead, as other people have mentioned, their communities are split up. In Roslyn, it's three or four districts. I believe Hempstead is also three or four districts. Population is a very important part of it. The other factors have to be taken into account. If this is what you think a district should look like, then maybe you guys don't have to be up there.

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: Mr. Oppenheimer, as the chairman said, we really do appreciate you coming down and sharing your opinion. I think it would be better for everybody if you had a more informed opinion and rather than coming down here and listen to us tell you the law -- which is why we asked to have all of this information, all the law, the

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shared files, data files, maps,  
everything posted on the website on the  
TDAC web page so that you can see for  
yourself what's going on and make your  
own determination. The public shouldn't  
have to come down here to hear what the  
law is. We should be telling you we  
proposed a resolution that would do just  
that, which was voted down.

The Home Rule Law -- there's a lot  
of other legal precedence. I think Mr.  
Pernick could probably speak to that  
better than I could.

COMMISSIONER PERNICK: Sure. Mr. I  
appreciate your question very much. You  
had asked what laws apply to this  
process. Our chair gave you an answer  
and talked about the Municipal Home Rule  
Law, which is one of many different laws  
that apply to this process.  
Unfortunately, that answer is incomplete.  
It wasn't incorrect, it was incomplete.

We have the United States  
Constitution which has the Equal

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Protection Clause, which has a specific requirement for redistricting that has been found in United States Supreme Court cases going back to Baker v. Carr and Reynolds v. Sims in the sixties that have been upheld to the present day and recent cases concerning the Equal Protection Clause, Evenwel v. Abbott, that govern this process that require governments at every level to ensure the districts have roughly the same population. It tracks in some way the equal population requirements in State Law, but it's a separate requirement and one that we need to be cognizant of.

We also have the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1962 (sic). In particular, Section 2 of the Federal Voting Rights Act, which was amended in 1982 and the controlling Supreme Court Opinion that tells us what that law means is a 1986 opinion, Thornburg v. Gingles and it lays out a task for racial vote dilution under Section 2 of the Voting Rule Act. That

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law applies, 100%.

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We are required to follow the requirements under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, which prohibits this county from redrawing districts that discriminate against communities of color, that make it more difficult for communities of color to participate in the political process and elect candidates of their choice.

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The Gingles case from '86 lays out a three part set of preconditions that a plaintiff would need to prove to strike down a map. It lays out a number of other factors, referred to as the Senate Factors, that we need to take into account in deciding whether we are obligated to draw additional majority/minority districts in which voters of color have an opportunity to elect candidates of choice.

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Incredibly -- and there has been Section 2 litigation on Long Island. There has been Section 2 litigation here

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in Nassau County. It's extremely important that we are cognisant of these requirements and take them into account. It goes far beyond the Municipal Home Rule Law.

We are also obligated to follow a new statute: The New York Voting Rights Act, or the John Lewis Voting Rights Act of New York which I referenced earlier, which is now law and applies to Nassau County 100%.

We are obligated to follow the requirements and the prohibition on racial vote dilution, which is actually a more expansive standard than the standard under Section 2 of the Federal Law.

These are significant requirements. I believe our counsel e-mailed a few days ago to request that all of these statutes, the text of these statutes, be posted on the website. I don't believe they've been posted on the website. Did you receive any response to the e-mail?

COMMISSION ATTORNEY CLINES: No.

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COMMISSIONER PERNICK: No response to that e-mail. We've asked that these statutes, each of the ones that I mentioned, to be posted on the website so that members of the public can see them and educate themselves about them. I appreciate your question.

Mr. Chair, I appreciate your answer. It was correct as to the Municipal Home Rule Law, but there are many other statutes that we need to take into consideration.

MR. OPPENHEIMER: I appreciate that clarification. It seems, and I think appropriately so, that the racial dilution is far more of an important standard than simply meeting the population. The population could be off by 5% and still would be an acceptable district if it met the other more important standards that you referred to.

COMMISSIONER PERNICK: Yeah. You should endeavor to follow all of those standards. It's important to be aware

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2 and think about each of those  
3 requirements: The Municipal Home Rule  
4 Law requirements; the requirements in  
5 Federal Law; the New York Voting Rights  
6 Act. I have full confidence if we work  
7 together and collaborate, we can present  
8 a map to the Legislature that complies  
9 with all of these components.

10 MR. OPPENHEIMER: Thank you very  
11 much for your time.

12 (Applause.)

13 CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Denise Thompson.

14 MS. THOMPSON: Good evening,  
15 everyone. Thank you for allowing me to  
16 speak.

17 My name is Denise Thompson. I am a  
18 proud resident of Westbury. I am here to  
19 strongly advocate to keep the  
20 Westbury-New Castle community together.  
21 I want this to be a part of the record.

22 The reason I'm here is because I was  
23 a part of this process ten years ago and  
24 Westbury was actually apportioned off to  
25 Old Westbury in the initial map, but then

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Westbury was put back together with Legislative District 2. Westbury was peeled off and proposed to be put with Old Westbury. They have nothing in common except the name "Westbury". It clearly didn't belong there. Instead what happened was -- I live west of Old Country Road and the part that I live in is now represented by Laura Schaefer. Everything east of Post Avenue is LD2 and I believe that is the way it should stay. The Westbury-New Castle community should remain together and it should remain with LD2 which includes Lakeview, Village of Hempstead and one other minority community. It's a minority/majority community and that's the way I believe it should stay. That's what I'm asking this commission to do.

With Westbury in LD2 we retain community values, common values, and the interests with similar communities of color. That's what we want to retain. Westbury is well served with its current



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configuration and our voices are stronger because we have voices of commonality. People of common voices. We are speaking the same language and we are saying the same thing and our representation is fair and strong.

As I mentioned, ten years ago, the original proposed maps removed Westbury from LD2 and placed with Old Westbury. That should not have happened and I'm happy new maps were proposed and approved where Westbury-New Castle remained part of LD2.

Lastly, we had a recent experience with our most recent primary. The congressional districts were reconfigured and Westbury was a part of CD4 and is now part of CD5. Something interesting happened in that vote. The candidate that the residents of Westbury overwhelmingly selected by a 4:1 margin, that candidate didn't win. I would subscribe the candidate didn't win because Westbury's vote was suppressed

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because it was mixed in with a majority voice. We are small minority community among voices of the majority and our vote was suppressed because we didn't have that minority representation.

I am asking this Commission, again for the record, that Westbury remain a part of LD2.

Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Bishop Harvey.

(Whereupon, no response.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Cynthia Johnson.

MS. JOHNSON: Good evening to the Commission. Thank you for allowing me to speak. I must say that much of what I want to say has already been covered by other people from the Westbury-New Castle community.

More transparency is what I heard when I first came in. That's very important. We need to keep more transparency and we need to keep our district cohesive the way it has been

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drawn.

I am a former principal, principal emeritus, from Malvern and I am the chairperson of the Board of Education of the Westbury Senior Center Board. I am here tonight with other members of the Westbury community.

We ask you not to consider recommending any proposed legislative district map that removes the predominantly minority portion of the Village of Westbury and all of New Castle from Legislative District 2. This community has been part of LD2 since the Nassau Legislature was first formed more than 25 years ago and it should remain fully intact within the boundaries of the Second Legislative District.

I'm also here to urge you to do everything in your power to safeguard and sanctify the integrity of the process that is now in place.

My neighbors and I have experienced firsthand how disorganized, chaotic

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redistricting process inevitably made it harder for citizens to participate fully in their representative democracy. I am speaking specifically of congressional representation for the residents of Westbury and New Castle.

Over time the lawsuits over the maps have concluded and the special masters finally drew the maps that were used in the June primary. Many of the neighbors -- well-informed people -- all were profoundly confused about who was running represent them in congress when they arrived at the polls. Not only was this process demeaning to the constituents of the Westbury and New Castle community, it was downright undemocratic in how it suppressed the vote by frustrating people and discouraging several of my neighbors from voting at all.

Now as we begin the process of redrawing our legislative maps for the next ten years, which is a long time, we have an opportunity to learn from the

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mistakes of the recent past. I urge you to take every necessary step and precaution to ensure that the residents of Nassau County get a better and more orderly outcome than the people of New Castle and Westbury did just a few months ago.

So many of our predecessors fought and died to secure and preserve the right to vote. We must treat that process that is now unfolding with the seriousness and care that it deserves.

I thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Leslie Davis.

MS. DAVIS: Good evening, everyone.

I know I am going to sound redundant and echo the sentiments of everybody behind me that is from the Westbury-New Castle area. Please, hear from our hearts.

This is my vice president, Robin Bowling (indicating), and I am the president of the Westbury-New Castle NAACP. I'm a lifelong resident of the

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Westbury-New Castle community, a former trustee of the Westbury Board of Education, and the current president of the Westbury-New Castle NAACP. I am joined tonight by other members, my vice president, and other members of my executive board of our branch.

We have come tonight to ask the Commission to not consider recommending to the Legislature any map of Nassau's legislative districts that removes the predominantly minority portion of the Village of Westbury and all of New Castle from Legislative District 2. This community has been a part of Legislative District 2 since the Nassau Legislature was first formed more than 25 years ago. We are concerned that consideration may be given to removing us from Legislative District 2 because there was an attempt to do that in the last redistricting ten years ago. Swift and negative reaction from the community force the option from given further consideration and the

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proposed map was withdrawn. We are acting preemptively now, rather than waiting for a new, perhaps offensive, map to be drawn and having to then bring awareness to our concerns after the fact.

When the initial legislative districts were established in 1996, it was recognized that Westbury-New Castle had more in common with the communities of color to the south; such as, Hempstead, Lakeview, Uniondale, Roosevelt, and Freeport, with the predominantly white communities on its borders; such as Jericho, Hicksville, and Old Westbury.

The communities of color share familiar bonds that extend across geographic boundaries. They attend the same places of worship. They have similar social economic backgrounds and share similar social values and political interests.

Finally, they share similar problems and concerns which can best be addressed

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by being joined together with other communities of color in one district represented by one legislator who has personal knowledge of many or may share the same problems and concerns.

By chiseling off Westbury-New Castle from this historic inclusion from Legislative District 2 and placing it with communities that with it shares limited political interests, social values, and commonalities or real life experiences, would be a disservice to its residents. Further placing Westbury-New Castle community into a majority district would dilute the ability of the predominantly black and brown community to elect a representative of its choice and would do a disservice to the voting process.

Westbury-New Castle has been well served by the inclusion of Legislative District 2, and we pray that it remains that way.

We thank you for your consideration.



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(Applause.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Thank you for  
your testimony.

Kevin McKenna.

MR. MCKENNA: Kevin McKenna. I want  
to give you -- I'm going to try to talk  
real light.

I heard you say a little while ago  
that you might not redraw, redistrict. I  
want to give you a real example of why  
you might think twice about that. I'm  
going to talk about Hicksville.

A couple of people before me spoke  
about Laura Schaefer's district. I think  
the gentleman showed you a squiggly map  
Hicksville, right now, in case you don't  
know, has three legislators. Two of them  
are Republican and one of them is a  
Democrat.

Hicksville since ten years ago has  
changed dramatically; population,  
ethnicity, so on and so forth. There is  
a major rat problem; rats, you know,  
those animals with the tails. There is

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also a rat problem across Nassau County. When Legislator Walker, one of the Republican Legislators, was at a community meeting a few months ago, she heard the residents load and clear about the rat problem in Hicksville. Simply because the Town of Oyster Bay doesn't enforce town code in Hicksville. Legislative Walker told everybody at the community meeting that Nassau County lost their funding that goes to the Department of Health to help prevent the rat problem. Legislator Walker said she was going to do what she could, and she did. She worked with Legislator Ferretti. I just found out a couple of weeks ago that Legislator Walker announced a program. She put together a flyer that I guess was paid for by Nassau County. That flyer about the rat preventative program that Legislator Walker spearheaded, that flyer only went out to Legislator Walker's constituents in one part of Hicksville. The other two legislators in the same

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town knew nothing, and still knows nothing, about the program that Nassau County -- or Legislator Walker says Nassau County -- announced. That's a whole 'nother (sic) story. I'm not going to get into that. The program she announced really doesn't even exist, but that's marketing. All smoke and mirrors.

But that's a real example of how three districts in one -- not even a one mile circumference affects the residents.

I'm going to give you one other in Hicksville. There is the Broadway Mall. The examples I'm giving you are real life examples that might apply to other hamlets all over Nassau County, but I'm most familiar with Hicksville; I live in Syosset. The Broadway Mall happens to have a Second Precinct or maybe Eighth Precinct Nassau County Police Department satellite office. The democratic legislator who likes to promote himself, I won't mention any names, he announces -- and he announces it only on his

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Facebook page even though he says he works across the aisle with the other two legislators in the same area, he announces a come to the -- this is only three weeks ago -- he announces a "Come meet the Nassau County Department", bring your kids and they can touch the fire trucks and they can touch the police cars, and plus, we are going to give you free school supplies. The Broadway Mall merchants are going to give free school supplies. Only his constituents in Hicksville. Only the kids in his district were able to come and touch the fire trucks and touch the police cars and get the free school supplies. I strongly encourage you to seriously think twice about that statement, because I really believe, Mr. Chairman, on this side (indicating) you don't want to redraw the districts.

In closing -- and I thank you for not cutting me off; I'm used to be cut off -- I listened a lot to the -- or have

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heard a lot -- Chairman Mejias say that these guys didn't do this and didn't do that. The fact of the matter is, I'm probably the only person -- I'm broadcasting this right now on Nassau County, NY News, live -- for the past two weeks. I am the only person, only person, that right now has put up a post for my 16,000 followers in Nassau County that follow my page, and I get 40,000 views a month on my page -- I'm the only person that has put up a meeting that I was able to get thankfully from the Clerk of the Nassau County Legislature or his assistant. I'm the only person that has posted that for the public to see the dates with the addresses. I guarantee you tonight -- and you should check. How many people tonight went to 1550 Franklin Avenue for this meeting? Because when you go on the Nassau County Legislature website, I don't care what you say. You can show me as many maps as you want up there, Mr. Chairman, the addresses of the

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meetings between now and the last meeting you announced on October 3rd, the addresses are not on the Nassau County Legislature website. I am the only person who has made the public aware of that.

What I don't understand is that, Mr. Mejias, rather than -- they're never gonna do it. They're never gonna do it. All the great suggestions that you have, they're never gonna do it. What is stopping you from getting your democratic legislators from announcing on their Facebook pages what the main leg (sic) is not doing. There are some democratic legislators that are doing it now, because I've called them and asked them to do it. But why aren't all the democratic legislators doing what you want them to do? I don't get it. Not one republican legislator, not one, has told their constituents about the importance of these meetings, the times, the date, so on and so forth.

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I ask you, what's stopping you from doing? Don't you have the same authority with the Nassau County person who posts on the website. In other words, I know the Clerk of the Legislature is I guess where it gets posted. Who is the IT person that is told to do this? Don't you have the same authority as the chairman to tell that IT person that I want this posted?

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: I would love to. We submitted a public notice to the Clerk's Office, which was never published or never stamped in. We've tried to do that. Unfortunately, the Clerk of the Legislature controls the website and what's posted on the website. We can only do what we can do, which is follow the law, follow the procedure. When we want a public notice published, we submit it to the Clerk's Office. We did that. It wasn't even time stamped in. We didn't get a stamped copy and it was never published.

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MR. MCKENNA: Is the clerk, Mr. Pulitzer, is he requesting to an IT person? I know this gentleman here. I gotta believe he is trying to have it posted. Is there somebody -- I'm sure he is not the IT guy that goes on the computer and posts it.

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: Do you think Mr. Pulitzer is incapable of coding?

MR. MCKENNA: No. I'm saying he's not the person who does the technical part. Is he requesting, please put these dates and times up with the addresses and are they not listening to him? I'd like to know the answer to that question.

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: We are doing the best that we can to try and get as many people notice of this meetings. We're the ones posting everywhere and trying to call the community members. The public notices -- there are none on the County website. As far as we're concerned --

MR. MCKENNA: Why not -- your side,



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why not create your own? A redistricting website. Why can't you create your own website?

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: We don't have that capacity, the ability or the authority --

MR. MCKENNA: Well, you have someone sitting over there to the right. You have Rachel Whitmore over there to the right who has the technical capability. Why don't you have her put up a website?

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: You asked a question. Let me answer it.

MR. MCKENNA: I just want to say --

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: I'm just saying we don't have the ability to post it on the County website. And the public should not be going to ten different places to figure out what is happening with redistricting. The whole goal of having one central place that everybody can go to where all these laws are posted. Maybe we should even post links to the Supreme Court of New York State

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Decisions as well so the public can read that themselves. The whole goal is to have one place where the entire county can go to get all the information they want about redistricting and where these meetings are. It makes no sense to have people drive to multiple locations to figure out what's going on in the County. The whole purpose of the County spending your tax dollars to have this website is to do exactly that. It's not up to the public to spend their own money and their own time to do the job that the government we are paying for should be doing.

MR. MCKENNA: I ask your co-chairman to the right, does it bother you, Mr. Chairman, that you do not have the addresses of the meetings between now not on the web; does that bother you?

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Actually, if you would have taken the paper that I gave to one of the ladies --

MR. MCKENNA: Sir, before I walked

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in the room, I went on the website.  
There are no addresses on the Nassau  
County website. They're not there. You  
could keep making that statement over and  
over. You can have me look at a piece of  
paper. I'm not looking at a piece of  
paper. I know they're not on the  
website. Thank you very much. Thank you  
for the time.

(Whereupon, Mr. McKenna

walks out of the room.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: They are on the  
website. Mr. McKenna, if you go on the  
--

MR. MCKENNA: Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Okay. Our final  
speaker.

Rory Lansman.

MR. LANSMAN: Good evening,  
everyone.

Back in 2011 in the State Assembly  
during the last redistricting, I was  
summoned to a meeting with the powers  
that be and given a map of my assembly

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district and its surrounding neighborhoods. I was given a pencil and told to draw three things on the map: Those areas that I wanted to keep, those areas that I'd like to add, and those areas that I'd like to get rid of.

Basically, the Assembly Democrats drew the assembly lines. The Senate Republicans drew the senate lines. Since they couldn't agree on the congressional lines, those were drawn by a Federal court appointed special master.

In response to that farce, politicians picking their voters instead of voters picking their politicians, in 2012 we passed the first step of a constitutional amendment which was ultimately approved by the voters in 2014 establishing an independent redistricting commission. It imposed substance and standards which last year the Legislature also imposed on local redistricting, and it mandated a robust public input process through well-publicized and timely

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hearings.

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I'm here tonight to say that this Commission's hearing and public input process is not what it should be. First, on the issue of public information, at least as of three o'clock this afternoon, the hearing schedule is not on the Commission's website and the County website had the wrong time for tonight's meeting.

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The Commission's web page has links to view the "most recent agenda" and "all agendas and minutes". The only items available are from the 2013 Commission. Even though this year's Commission -- you all -- have met and considered and voted against several resolutions seeking to open the process. It lacks links to the governing statutes, charter provisions, and Constitutional sections controlling this process so that people can understand the backdrop and foundation for what this process is about. It lists the commissioners by name, but it

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provides not biographical or professional information. It even lacks links to current maps and census data for voters to easily see where the Commission is starting from. All of these things are standard features on redistricting commission websites, including the State's website last year and the New York City Council's website as it goes through redistricting this year.

On the issue of public input, if I understand the schedule put out by the majority, the Commission is not going to hold public hearings for the public to comment on its proposed maps, but rather will transmit them immediately, or almost immediately, to the Legislature. That is not defensible. There needs to be another round of hearings. Not just a separation of time, as I think the Chair indicated there would be, but another round of hearings for the public to comment on the maps that you propose before you finalize them and transmit

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them to the Legislature.

Finally, on the issue of public access, there just aren't enough hearings. Especially in communities of color and poorer communities. I don't need to tell you how difficult mass transit is in Nassau County. You need to have hearings close to where people live so they can find the time to testify. You need to have a virtual hearing for people who have difficulty attending a live hearing early in the evening.

I urge you to address these issues. We all have our partisans reasons, myself as well, but an open and transparent process makes for good government, good results, and especially for results that wont get overturned by a court.

I am confident that no member of this Commission wants to spend the time and effort that you are spending as volunteers only to have it all end up being redrawn by a special master and all of your hard work done for nothing.

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(Applause.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: The next meeting will be on September 22 (sic), Wednesday, at six o'clock, at Hempstead Town Hall at One Washington Street, Hempstead, New York -- September 21st.

MS. GOTTEHRER: Can I ask a question?

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Let me make a correction. It's Wednesday, September 21st, at 6:00 p.m. in Hempstead Town Hall.

MS. GOTTEHRER: I just have a question about some process that I heard. Mr. McKenna was asking about giving things to the County Clerk and then asking for them to be put on the website; is that the process? You can ask the County Clerk to put things on the website and then do you get confirmed for you that it's going on the website?

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: As a commissioner, we asked for a public notice to be sent out.



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MS. GOTTEHRER: Uh-huh.

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: And it was not.

MS. GOTTEHRER: And so does that happen a lot?

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: No. I don't know that it's ever happened.

MS. GOTTEHRER: Okay. I just wanted to find out about the process and wonder if it's happening quite a bit and what can you do about it, if it is?

COMMISSIONER MEJIAS: We can have a vote. What we can do is proposed resolutions to the Commission and have a vote on it. I think you were at the last meeting where a lot of the suggestions and other people's suggestions were actually in our resolutions -- a virtual hearing, there was a litany of resolutions. We asked for the resolutions to be posted and we had a vote of the resolutions.

MS. GOTTEHRER: I'm just worried between the connection between can you

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post this and then something not getting posted.

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: Okay. Any other business?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

CHAIRMAN MORONEY: We are adjourned until the 21st.

COMMISSIONER PERNICK: I will motion to adjourn.

COMMISSIONER KASSCHAU: Second.

COMMISSIONER BEE: Motion to adjourn does not require a second. All those in favor signify by saying, Aye.

(Whereupon, all Commission members respond in favor with, Aye.)

COMMISSIONER BEE: The "ayes" have it unanimously.

(Whereupon, the above matter is adjourned, 8:02 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK            )  
  :  SS.:  
COUNTY OF NASSAU            )

I, KAREN LORENZO, a Notary Public for and  
within the State of New York, do hereby  
certify:

That the above is a correct transcription  
of my stenographic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set  
my hand this 16th day of September, 2022.

Karen Lorenzo

KAREN LORENZO

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