

City of Kingston Redistricting 2023

Comments received 12/6/22 through 1/8/23:

Plan A is the best plan as it accomplishes mostly all of the redistricting needs...including trying to bring uniformity to the wards...Ward 8 now has all of the waterfront, Ward 4 stays on this side of Broadway, Ward 2 seems a little more compact...same as Ward 3. BR

A quick look at Ward 1 and my home, shows that it cuts either down the middle of Main Street or what looks like right behind all of the houses on this side of Main Street. I think either makes sense. KC

I will say that Plan C for my neighborhood works pretty well - the section from Albany Ave to Cornell St and beyond, Broadway back to Foxhall. It's distinct from the other side of Broadway, but presently divided up between the 2nd, 6th and 4th Wards. Plan C makes it whole so I think it would have better representation.

Personally, of course, I would be sorry to see the loss of the present Uptown section of Ward 2, which I love so much, but I think the neighborhood would be better served as whole rather than divided. It's diverse, good housing stock with the straightest, widest streets in the city. The housing stock is old but was always affordable for blue collar, with workers from the factories and staff from the stores on Broadway.

Those are my first thoughts on looking at the three maps. TH

I've looked at the three options and Option C seems most logical and coherent to me. My focus, not surprisingly, is on Ward 2. It is currently a 'kluge' with two distinctly different parts of town (Uptown business district and Midtown west of B'way) lumped into a single unit. This doesn't make a whole lot of sense, and as a resident of Uptown with non-residing business owners visible outside my window, my natural impulse has been to view Uptown as the higher priority. Not saying that's right or good, but it seems kind of unavoidable if the alderman doesn't live in the other section of Ward 2.

Map C addresses this situation elegantly. It makes the ward heterogeneous and I see this as a good thing.

It's also good that the line goes all the way up to Broadway, which isn't the case with the other maps. That, too, I see as a positive. Broadway is the central dividing line as a matter of social and physical fact. It makes sense for it to have that role in our ward maps, too. CF

My residence is 149 Main St. For me, Plan C is preferable as it collocates me with neighborhoods that I feel strong connections with, including Emerson St., Johnston Ave., Pearl St., Lounsbury St., Sharon Lane, Janet St., Maiden Lane, St. James St., Washington Ave., and most of Uptown. Importantly, Plan C does not bifurcate Main St. I do not favor Plans A and B as

they both bifurcate Main St. and place my residence in Ward 1 which includes neighborhoods that I feel little connection with. DK

I prefer Plan A. I would like to see the constituencies stay the same. Why should people be pushed into other wards? I would like the least disruption. JS (Based on Plan A and B only)

I want the least change. The other redistricting was stressful enough.

I hope to see the least confusion and disruption as possible. RKE (A and B only)

Unless there is some advantage to Plan B (Does it take into consideration the 2030 census possibilities? Does it take into account trends that may affect the 2030 census?), I would prefer going with the least amount of change possible (Plan A). In either case, though I know it's true all over the city, I think it's odd that people who live on the other side of the street are in a different ward. I know that there is an ongoing study of the Main Street Brook and there are already 2 wards involved. To add a 3rd at this time would not be advantageous. SS (Before Plan C)

Do the district borders need to be separated along the center of the street, rather than along the rear boundary lines of properties? It seems to unnecessarily divide communities of interest. TG (Before Plan C)

I am unable to attend the public hearing tonight on [the redistricting of the City of Kingston's wards](#). However, I would like to add my input for the committee's consideration. I am cc'ing my neighbors for their awareness of tonight's public hearing at 6pm at the Kingston Library.

The Rondout Historic District is a natural geographic neighborhood that should be intact. Broadway is a natural geographic boundary line, separating the East and West sides of Strand Street. McEntee is another natural geographic boundary line, with one side of the street being uninhabitable due to the mountain. The residential neighborhood behind the Strand has traditionally been segregated unnaturally along Spring Street, so that half of the neighborhood is in Ward 8 and the other half is in Ward 9. While, as a resident of Abeel Street, I can easily walk a few blocks to my neighbors' houses on West Pierpont (Ward 9), I can not as easily walk the 3/4 mile or so to Ponckhockie (Ward 8). This unnatural segregation disenfranchises a natural neighborhood from having a single representative to advocate for our needs as a neighborhood.

It would make more sense to keep the Rondout Historic District intact: either separate Wards 8 and 9 down Broadway (as it is in most of the city) or up at McEntee (where one side of the street is uninhabitable due to the mountain). HH (Before Plan C)

I prefer Plan C because it is the most comprehensive in creating new wards based on demographic changes that occurred over the past 10 years. Plan C will amplify the voices of the City's communities and enhance representation for like-minded neighborhoods, rather than attempt to keep current ward boundaries. LD

Hello all - first and foremost, thank you for what you contribute to our city and its communities. We live at 35 Brook Street in the Wilbur section of Kingston. Our rather close-knit neighborhood of Brook, Lebert and Chapel Streets (we think of ourselves as "upper Wilbur") is mainly represented within Ward 9. But there's a few of us that (I believe just one other occupied home besides ours) that are represented within Ward 3. The balance of the Wilbur area also falls within Ward 9. I would hope that with the current redistricting process that our neighborhood and the Wilbur community in general could be kept together as a whole. I realize that this is a daunting puzzle for you guys and is tightly restricted with population requirements, but would like to see this small, historic corner of Kingston represented as a unit. Thank you! RK (Before seeing the maps)

I think it is so important to keep Wilbur together. As the former representative of Ward 9, I know that the folks in that neighborhood hold the history dearly. AS

Tinti, Elisa

From: Hill, Barbara
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 8:35 PM
To: Alderman; Graves-Poller, Barbara; Clark, Johnathan; Shaut, Andrea
Subject: Kingston Redistricting - Comments to date
Attachments: Kingston Redistricting Comments_ 12-27-22_to_1-11-23_.docx

Hello all,
Another exciting day talking to people about maps!

I have been going to several community leaders and asking their opinions on Plan A and Plan C. I have kept to an educational position with them and have not pushed one plan or another. I mostly just explain Plan C very briefly as Plan A is self-evident. Several residents have pointed things out that I hadn't noticed that make Plan C desirable. Plan C has been by far the most favored.

I was expecting more comments but have not received them yet.

QUESTION: How will the public see these comments? Will they be read at the hearing? Does everyone know how to find them on the City website or Engage Kingston? I am new to this.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Barbara
845-338-2050

Barbara Hill
Alderman, Ward 1
City of Kingston
(845) 392-2519

Tinti, Elisa

From: Hill, Barbara
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2023 11:22 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: Fwd: Comment for maps

For redistricting Comments

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Muhammad, Naimah" <Ward5@kingston-ny.gov>

Date: Jan 12, 2023 11:19 AM

Subject: Fwd: Comment for maps

To: "Hill, Barbara" <ward1@kingston-ny.gov>

Cc:

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Muhammad, Naimah

Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 8:47:40 PM

To: Graves-Poller, Barbara <BGraves@kingston-ny.gov>

Subject: Comment for maps

Comment is below:

Regarding maps A and C they are both in compliance however, plan C takes it a step further with diversifying the wards which have great benefits for resources.

The City of Kingston has changed tremendously in the past 10 years, Plan C appears to be the most reflective in our times.

-Naimah Muhammad, Ward 5.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Tinti, Elisa

From: Hill, Barbara
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2023 11:22 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Public Comment

Redistricting comments

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Romero Duffy <romeroduffy@gmail.com>
Date: Jan 12, 2023 10:44 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Public Comment
To: "Hill, Barbara" <ward1@kingston-ny.gov>
Cc:

Good evening. I am reaching out to the redistricting subcommittee in support of Plan C. From a simple perspective, it provides for more compact districts. With this, Kingston residents will be represented by alderpeople who are close to them and have similar interests. Beyond this, the population and demographic report suggests that communities who are typically underrepresented will have a much larger chance of having an alderperson from their community. While Plan A meets the legal requirements for redistricting, it would be a disservice to Kingston residents to stick with the current plans, and not embrace the plan that will work better for all Kingston residents. Thank you!

--
-Romero Duffy
RomeroDuffy@gmail.com
(W) (845) 481-3536
(C) (845) 389-5015

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Hill, Barbara
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2023 11:23 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Legislative Districts

Redistricting comment

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Abe Uchitelle <Abe.Uchitelle@co.ulster.ny.us>
Date: Jan 12, 2023 10:23 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Legislative Districts
To: "Hill, Barbara" <ward1@kingston-ny.gov>
Cc:

To the Common Council and City of Kingston,

I would like to share my appreciation for your diligent and thoughtful approach to redistricting. It's no secret that our county redistricting process involved a few stumbling blocks as we lurched towards the finish line - but we made it! My only comment here relates directly to this recent milestone at the county level.

To the extent possible I respectfully ask that the Common Council endeavor to align the new ward map with the new county legislative districts. I realize this will be challenging due to the addition of a fourth legislative district for Kingston, a mathematically unavoidable outcome.

It is important that residents know who their representatives are and that issues relating to specific wards are able to find their voice in representative at the county level to the fullest extent possible. While we all work hard to serve effectively, the confusion caused by each legislative district representing slivers and pieces of many more wards will add a new dimension to this challenge.

I have the highest confidence in the Common Council in making the best effort possible to solve this issue, or at least to minimize its impact. Thank you for your consideration.

Best,
Abe Uchitelle
County Legislator, District 5

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Barbara Hill <bhillward1@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2023 11:27 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fwd: Redistricting meeting

Redistricting comment

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Tom Hoffay <thoffay160@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Jan 12, 2023, 10:17 AM
Subject: Redistricting meeting
To: Barbara Hill <bhillward1@gmail.com>

Good morning Barbara....

I have a commitment that will keep me from tonight's meeting, unfortunately.

But I want to go on record with you and the sub committee as favoring Plan C of the options presented.

As I previously mentioned, my neighborhood - which shares a street grid laid out in the 19th century expansion of the former Village of Kingston, with a majority architectural style of the early 20th century (more stained glass windows can be found here than anywhere else in the city), a working class population which has diversified over the years - bounded by Albany Ave., Broadway and Foxhall Ave. was subject to being an appendage to three different wards for many years now.

The result was a lack of effective (if unintentional) representation by Council members who lived elsewhere. The 6th Ward had Roosevelt Park, the 4th Ward was centered on the other side of Broadway and the 2nd Ward was always distracted by the controversies of Uptown (even I fell victim to the Uptown-centric criticism). This neighborhood didn't have a consistent voice on the Council, even though crime, street paving, garbage collection, snow plowing, sewers and tree trimming are common interests. This Mayor has improved services considerably, although there are concerns about how the proposed zoning change will affect and already densely populated area.

The neighborhood needs a voice, whose concern is the well being of its residents and property owners alike. Plan C is the best one to make that a reality. Cornell St. is being repurposed for the arts with new residential units planned as well Gentrification is an issue, as I am told by someone who works in Herzogs that this is the new go-to place for their services for new and younger home buyers. There are good trends for the future of these streets and deserve a focused voice on the Council.

I trust you will forward my thoughts to the sub committee and hopefully will support Plan C.

respectfully
-Tom Hoffay.

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Hill, Barbara
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2023 11:28 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fwd: Redistricting meeting

Redistricting comment. This is a duplicate.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Barbara Hill <bhillward1@gmail.com>
Date: Jan 12, 2023 11:24 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fwd: Redistricting meeting
To: "Hill, Barbara" <ward1@kingston-ny.gov>
Cc:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tom Hoffay** <thoffay160@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Jan 12, 2023, 10:17 AM
Subject: Redistricting meeting
To: Barbara Hill <bhillward1@gmail.com>

Good morning Barbara....

I have a commitment that will keep me from tonight's meeting, unfortunately.

But I want to go on record with you and the sub committee as favoring Plan C of the options presented.

As I previously mentioned, my neighborhood - which shares a street grid laid out in the 19th century expansion of the former Village of Kingston, with a majority architectural style of the early 20th century (more stained glass windows can be found here than anywhere else in the city), a working class population which has diversified over the years - bounded by Albany Ave., Broadway and Foxhall Ave. was subject to being an appendage to three different wards for many years now.

The result was a lack of effective (if unintentional) representation by Council members who lived elsewhere. The 6th Ward had Roosevelt Park, the 4th Ward was centered on the other side of Broadway and the 2nd Ward was always distracted by the controversies of Uptown (even I fell victim to the Uptown-centric criticism). This neighborhood didn't have a consistent voice on the Council, even though crime, street paving, garbage collection, snow plowing, sewers and tree trimming are common interests. This Mayor has improved services considerably, although there are concerns about how the proposed zoning change will affect and already densely populated area.

The neighborhood needs a voice, whose concern is the well being of its residents and property owners alike. Plan C is the best one to make that a reality. Cornell St. is being repurposed for the arts with new residential units planned as well Gentrification is an issue, as I am told by someone who works in Herzogs that this is the new go-to place for their services for new and younger home buyers. There are good trends for the future of these streets and deserve a focused voice on the Council.

I trust you will forward my thoughts to the sub committee and hopefully will support Plan C.

respectfully
-Tom Hoffay.

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Phil Erner <Phil.Erner@co.ulster.ny.us>
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2023 1:16 PM
To: Hill, Barbara
Cc: Shaut, Andrea; Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] prefer Plan C

Dear Redistricting Subcommittee of the Common Council of the City of Kingston:

Thank you for your work. Between the redistricting plans under consideration I endorse **Plan C**, which I believe better reflects the changing demographics of the city as well as aligning with the new county legislative districts.

Furthermore after the 2030 United States Census I urge this board and the county Commission on Reapportionment to coordinate to the extent permissible and practicable, and to ask that the state and federal governments do the same, such our that our people will have consistent, understandable representation in all their legislatures.

Sincerely,

Phil Erner
Legislator, District 6: City of Kingston wards 3, 5 & 9
Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board, Legislative Representative

Cc: common council president; city clerk

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Hill, Barbara
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2023 12:23 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Plan A

Redistricting comment

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ameer Peterson <ameepeterson0201@gmail.com>
Date: Jan 12, 2023 11:58 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Plan A
To: "Hill, Barbara" <ward1@kingston-ny.gov>
Cc:

Good morning, Madam Chair,

After considerable and careful review of the two (2) proposals for redistricting the City of Kingston's nine (9) wards following the 2020 census to make the wards more equitable, I have decided that I prefer Plan A.

Though both plans have positive points, Plan C has some wards that sprawl to such an extent that representation would be difficult. Homogeneity provides the representative the ability to truly understand and address the issues of the ward.

Plan A closely mirrors the current Ward boundaries with minor changes and, while not dismissing diversity, ensures better representation and is less confusing for the City's citizens.

Some have posited that Plan C encourages diversity. We need to be mindful that the demographics are a snapshot of 2020 and a lot can change by 2030. District lines should never be "gerrymandered" to accommodate or exclude current or potential representatives or any segment of the population.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Ameer Peterson
230 Lucas Ave.
Kingston, NY 12401

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

City of Kingston Redistricting 2023

Comments received 12/6/22 through 1/8/23:

Plan A is the best plan as it accomplishes mostly all of the redistricting needs...including trying to bring uniformity to the wards...Ward 8 now has all of the waterfront, Ward 4 stays on this side of Broadway, Ward 2 seems a little more compact...same as Ward 3. BR

A quick look at Ward 1 and my home, shows that it cuts either down the middle of Main Street or what looks like right behind all of the houses on this side of Main Street. I think either makes sense. KC

I will say that Plan C for my neighborhood works pretty well - the section from Albany Ave to Cornell St and beyond, Broadway back to Foxhall. It's distinct from the other side of Broadway, but presently divided up between the 2nd, 6th and 4th Wards. Plan C makes it whole so I think it would have better representation.

Personally, of course, I would be sorry to see the loss of the present Uptown section of Ward 2, which I love so much, but I think the neighborhood would be better served as whole rather than divided. It's diverse, good housing stock with the straightest, widest streets in the city. The housing stock is old but was always affordable for blue collar, with workers from the factories and staff from the stores on Broadway.

Those are my first thoughts on looking at the three maps. TH

I've looked at the three options and Option C seems most logical and coherent to me. My focus, not surprisingly, is on Ward 2. It is currently a 'kluge' with two distinctly different parts of town (Uptown business district and Midtown west of B'way) lumped into a single unit. This doesn't make a whole lot of sense, and as a resident of Uptown with non-residing business owners visible outside my window, my natural impulse has been to view Uptown as the higher priority. Not saying that's right or good, but it seems kind of unavoidable if the alderman doesn't live in the other section of Ward 2.

Map C addresses this situation elegantly. It makes the ward heterogeneous and I see this as a good thing.

It's also good that the line goes all the way up to Broadway, which isn't the case with the other maps. That, too, I see as a positive. Broadway is the central dividing line as a matter of social and physical fact. It makes sense for it to have that role in our ward maps, too. CF

My residence is 149 Main St. For me, Plan C is preferable as it collocates me with neighborhoods that I feel strong connections with, including Emerson St., Johnston Ave., Pearl St., Lounsbury St., Sharon Lane, Janet St., Maiden Lane, St. James St., Washington Ave., and most of Uptown. Importantly, Plan C does not bifurcate Main St. I do not favor Plans A and B as

they both bifurcate Main St. and place my residence in Ward 1 which includes neighborhoods that I feel little connection with. DK

I prefer Plan A. I would like to see the constituencies stay the same. Why should people be pushed into other wards? I would like the least disruption. JS (Based on Plan A and B only)

I want the least change. The other redistricting was stressful enough.

I hope to see the least confusion and disruption as possible. RKE (A and B only)

Unless there is some advantage to Plan B (Does it take into consideration the 2030 census possibilities? Does it take into account trends that may affect the 2030 census?), I would prefer going with the least amount of change possible (Plan A). In either case, though I know it's true all over the city, I think it's odd that people who live on the other side of the street are in a different ward. I know that there is an ongoing study of the Main Street Brook and there are already 2 wards involved. To add a 3rd at this time would not be advantageous. SS (Before Plan C)

Do the district borders need to be separated along the center of the street, rather than along the rear boundary lines of properties? It seems to unnecessarily divide communities of interest. TG (Before Plan C)

I am unable to attend the public hearing tonight on [the redistricting of the City of Kingston's wards](#). However, I would like to add my input for the committee's consideration. I am cc'ing my neighbors for their awareness of tonight's public hearing at 6pm at the Kingston Library.

The Rondout Historic District is a natural geographic neighborhood that should be intact. Broadway is a natural geographic boundary line, separating the East and West sides of Strand Street. McEntee is another natural geographic boundary line, with one side of the street being uninhabitable due to the mountain. The residential neighborhood behind the Strand has traditionally been segregated unnaturally along Spring Street, so that half of the neighborhood is in Ward 8 and the other half is in Ward 9. While, as a resident of Abeel Street, I can easily walk a few blocks to my neighbors' houses on West Pierpont (Ward 9), I can not as easily walk the 3/4 mile or so to Ponckhockie (Ward 8). This unnatural segregation disenfranchises a natural neighborhood from having a single representative to advocate for our needs as a neighborhood.

It would make more sense to keep the Rondout Historic District intact: either separate Wards 8 and 9 down Broadway (as it is in most of the city) or up at McEntee (where one side of the street is uninhabitable due to the mountain). HH (Before Plan C)

I prefer Plan C because it is the most comprehensive in creating new wards based on demographic changes that occurred over the past 10 years. Plan C will amplify the voices of the City's communities and enhance representation for like-minded neighborhoods, rather than attempt to keep current ward boundaries. LD

Hello all - first and foremost, thank you for what you contribute to our city and its communities. We live at 35 Brook Street in the Wilbur section of Kingston. Our rather close-knit neighborhood of Brook, Lebert and Chapel Streets (we think of ourselves as "upper Wilbur") is mainly represented within Ward 9. But there's a few of us that (I believe just one other occupied home besides ours) that are represented within Ward 3. The balance of the Wilbur area also falls within Ward 9. I would hope that with the current redistricting process that our neighborhood and the Wilbur community in general could be kept together as a whole. I realize that this is a daunting puzzle for you guys and is tightly restricted with population requirements, but would like to see this small, historic corner of Kingston represented as a unit. Thank you! RK (Before seeing the maps at all)

I think it is so important to keep Wilbur together. As the former representative of Ward 9, I know that the folks in that neighborhood hold the history dearly. AS

Comments 1/8/23 through 1/11/23:

I support Plan C. The Wards would be created by census data.
The Plan C design would create a Ward that offers more minority opportunities. KM Crown St.

I like Plan C. It seems more representative of the actual communities. BJ librarian

I have had the opportunity to learn about the maps in more depth, and believe that the changes in Map "C" are positive for Kingston. I am changing my comment from last week.
RKE

I live in a new ward that will be part of the new Plan C...it will be called Ward 2. It has many people from Latin countries and the way it is shaped will provide better representation. I am happy to see a set of maps that really took a look at census data and worked towards communities that would be better represented. AD

I am pleased to see in the Plan C set of maps that there will be better representation possible in mid-town Kingston. As a Latino, I am happy to learn about the increase in the % of Latino voters and it will be valuable to see what could happen in years to come re: the opportunity for a Latino to be elected to the Kingston Common Council. AG

Thank you for your work. Between the redistricting plans under consideration, I endorse **Plan C**, which I believe better reflects the changing demographics of the city as well as aligning with the new county legislative districts.

Furthermore, after the 2030 United States Census, I urge this board and the county Commission on Reapportionment to coordinate to the extent permissible and practicable, and to ask that the state and federal governments do the same, such our that our people will have consistent, understandable representation in all their legislatures. Phil Erner, Legislator, District 6: City of Kingston wards 3, 5 & 9

Since the 2020 Census, and the last redistricting map, Kingston has changed significantly. The proposed Plan C is a more forward thinking, more holistic, and more equitable approach to redrawing the ward lines. I think it will serve residents of Kingston for years to come. Peter Criswell, Legislator, Kingston

I am in favor of Plan C as it considers the changes in our City's demographics over the past 10 years in our communities. Plan C appears to be more closely aligned with the County Legislative districts that were drawn for Kingston.

Abe Uchitele, County Legislator

I am the Reverend at a church in mid-town Kingston. Plan C looks the best as ward 4 stays on one side of Broadway and the new ward 2 is on the other side of Broadway. I think that the community will be better represented. FS

I am a host on Radio Kingston and as I learn about the redistricting maps that the City of Kingston is considering, I am excited to learn that maps are being considered that reflect the changes in the census in a fresh manner with deferring to using the same basic 2010 ward boundaries. Yes, more change but better representation. IH

I live and work in Kingston and I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the maps being considered. I can see that the proposed Wards in Plan C attempt to bring more diversity to each ward. Although it will be a big change for some of us in the City it will make for better representation for some of our communities. I support Plan C. Daniel UIDN

I would like to support the Plan that has the most support for our neediness populations. I think that may be Plan C but I need to take a deeper look. I run an organization in midtown Kingston and I am a life-long resident. I support the Plan that would best celebrate our diverse communities. DA

SEE NEXT PAGE.....

I am a pastor at a church in uptown Kingston. I have looked closely at both Plan A and Plan C. I like Plan C on a few counts. It considers our diverse communities and uses the demographic data to create the new wards in a more representative manner. We rely on various sources of funding to support renovations and some programming and I see that in Plan C the ward we fall into will still have some large buildings with low-income populations included which will help our ability to obtain funding. The unit of demographic data that is sometimes utilized in grant applications is wards/districts. The new ward 3 makes more sense and other wards do also that next to it. RS

Tinti, Elisa

From: Hill, Barbara
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2023 4:28 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Cc: Shaut, Andrea
Subject: Kingston Redistricting - Comments that were sent last night for the Public Hearing and into the public record

Redistricting Public Comments 1/8/23 through 1/11/23:

I support Plan C. The Wards would be created by census data.
The Plan C design would create a Ward that offers more minority opportunities. KM Crown St.

I like Plan C. It seems more representative of the actual communities. BJ librarian

I have had the opportunity to learn about the maps in more depth, and believe that the changes in Map "C" are positive for Kingston. I am changing my comment from last week. RKE

I live in a new ward that will be part of the new Plan C...it will be called Ward 2. It has many people from Latin countries and the way it is shaped will provide better representation. I am happy to see a set of maps that really took a look at census data and worked towards communities that would be better represented. AD

I am pleased to see in the Plan C set of maps that there will be better representation possible in mid-town Kingston. As a Latino, I am happy to learn about the increase in the % of Latino voters and it will be valuable to see what could happen in years to come re: the opportunity for a Latino to be elected to the Kingston Common Council. AG

Thank you for your work. Between the redistricting plans under consideration, I endorse **Plan C**, which I believe better reflects the changing demographics of the city as well as aligning with the new county legislative districts.

Furthermore, after the 2030 United States Census, I urge this board and the county Commission on Reapportionment to coordinate to the extent permissible and practicable, and to ask that the state and federal governments do the same, such that our people will have consistent, understandable representation in all their legislatures. Phil Erner, Legislator, District 6: City of Kingston wards 3, 5 & 9

Since the 2020 Census, and the last redistricting map, Kingston has changed significantly. The proposed Plan C is a more forward thinking, more holistic, and more equitable approach to redrawing the ward lines. I think it will serve residents of Kingston for years to come. Peter Criswell, Legislator, Kingston

I am in favor of Plan C as it considers the changes in our City's demographics over the past 10 years in our communities. Plan C appears to be more closely aligned with the County Legislative districts that were drawn for Kingston.

Abe Uchitele, County Legislator

I am the Reverend at a church in mid-town Kingston. Plan C looks the best as ward 4 stays on one side of Broadway and the new ward 2 is on the other side of Broadway. I think that the community will be better represented. FS

I am a host on Radio Kingston and as I learn about the redistricting maps that the City of Kingston is considering, I am excited to learn that maps are being considered that reflect the changes in the census in a fresh manner with deferring to using the same basic 2010 ward boundaries. Yes, more change but better representation. IH

I live and work in Kingston and I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the maps being considered. I can see that the proposed Wards in Plan C attempt to bring more diversity to each ward. Although it will be a big change for some of us in the City it will make for better representation for some of our communities. I support Plan C. Daniel UIDN

I would like to support the Plan that has the most support for our neediness populations. I think that may be Plan C but I need to take a deeper look. I run an organization in midtown Kingston and I am a life-long resident. I support the Plan that would best celebrate our diverse communities. DA

SEE NEXT PAGE.....

I am a pastor at a church in uptown Kingston. I have looked closely at both Plan A and Plan C. I like Plan C on a few counts. It considers our diverse communities and uses the demographic data to create the new wards in a more representative manner. We rely on various sources of funding to support renovations and some programming and I see that in Plan C the ward we fall into will still have some large buildings with low-income populations included which will help our ability to obtain funding. The unit of demographic data that is sometimes utilized in grant applications is wards/districts. The new ward 3 makes more sense and other wards do also that next to it. RS and RH former pastor

I agree with Plan C as it takes into account census data and income information to create wards that are more diverse and fairly represent different communities. Plan C's goal of putting communities with common interests together will lead to much better representation for our Kingston residents. Plan C is a positive step toward inclusion and equity. I hope that the decision to keep ward 4 mostly the same and not crossing Broadway will help make ward 4 cohesive and easy to represent. Overall Plan C seems to be the most beneficial plan for those in need and for fair representation for all Kingston residents.

Bryant Drew Andrews
Executive Director
Center For Creative Education

Thank you,

Barbara
845-338-2050

Barbara Hill
Alderman, Ward 1
City of Kingston
(845) 392-2519

I agree with Plan C as it takes into account census data and income information to create wards that are more diverse and fairly represent different communities. Plan C's goal of putting communities with common interests together will lead to much better representation for our Kingston residents. Plan C is a positive step toward inclusion and equity. I hope that the decision to keep ward 4 mostly the same and not crossing Broadway will help make ward 4 cohesive and easy to represent. Overall Plan C seems to be the most beneficial plan for those in need and for fair representation for all Kingston residents.

Bryant Drew Andrews
Executive Director
Center For Creative Education
cce4Me.org
845-338-7664

Barbara Hill
Alderman, Ward 1
City of Kingston
(845) 392-2519

City of Kingston Redistricting 2023

Comments received 12/6/22 through 1/8/23:

Plan A is the best plan as it accomplishes mostly all of the redistricting needs...including trying to bring uniformity to the wards...Ward 8 now has all of the waterfront, Ward 4 stays on this side of Broadway, Ward 2 seems a little more compact...same as Ward 3. BR

A quick look at Ward 1 and my home, shows that it cuts either down the middle of Main Street or what looks like right behind all of the houses on this side of Main Street. I think either makes sense. KC

I will say that Plan C for my neighborhood works pretty well - the section from Albany Ave to Cornell St and beyond, Broadway back to Foxhall. It's distinct from the other side of Broadway, but presently divided up between the 2nd, 6th and 4th Wards. Plan C makes it whole so I think it would have better representation.

Personally, of course, I would be sorry to see the loss of the present Uptown section of Ward 2, which I love so much, but I think the neighborhood would be better served as whole rather than divided. It's diverse, good housing stock with the straightest, widest streets in the city. The housing stock is old but was always affordable for blue collar, with workers from the factories and staff from the stores on Broadway.

Those are my first thoughts on looking at the three maps. TH

I've looked at the three options and Option C seems most logical and coherent to me. My focus, not surprisingly, is on Ward 2. It is currently a 'kluge' with two distinctly different parts of town (Uptown business district and Midtown west of B'way) lumped into a single unit. This doesn't make a whole lot of sense, and as a resident of Uptown with non-residing business owners visible outside my window, my natural impulse has been to view Uptown as the higher priority. Not saying that's right or good, but it seems kind of unavoidable if the alderman doesn't live in the other section of Ward 2.

Map C addresses this situation elegantly. It makes the ward heterogeneous and I see this as a good thing.

It's also good that the line goes all the way up to Broadway, which isn't the case with the other maps. That, too, I see as a positive. Broadway is the central dividing line as a matter of social and physical fact. It makes sense for it to have that role in our ward maps, too. CF

My residence is 149 Main St. For me, Plan C is preferable as it collocates me with neighborhoods that I feel strong connections with, including Emerson St., Johnston Ave., Pearl St., Lounsbury St., Sharon Lane, Janet St., Maiden Lane, St. James St., Washington Ave., and most of Uptown. Importantly, Plan C does not bifurcate Main St. I do not favor Plans A and B as

they both bifurcate Main St. and place my residence in Ward 1 which includes neighborhoods that I feel little connection with. DK

I prefer Plan A. I would like to see the constituencies stay the same. Why should people be pushed into other wards? I would like the least disruption. JS (Based on Plan A and B only)

I want the least change. The other redistricting was stressful enough.

I hope to see the least confusion and disruption as possible. RKE (A and B only)

Unless there is some advantage to Plan B (Does it take into consideration the 2030 census possibilities? Does it take into account trends that may affect the 2030 census?), I would prefer going with the least amount of change possible (Plan A). In either case, though I know it's true all over the city, I think it's odd that people who live on the other side of the street are in a different ward. I know that there is an ongoing study of the Main Street Brook and there are already 2 wards involved. To add a 3rd at this time would not be advantageous. SS (Before Plan C)

Do the district borders need to be separated along the center of the street, rather than along the rear boundary lines of properties? It seems to unnecessarily divide communities of interest. TG (Before Plan C)

I am unable to attend the public hearing tonight on [the redistricting of the City of Kingston's wards](#). However, I would like to add my input for the committee's consideration. I am cc'ing my neighbors for their awareness of tonight's public hearing at 6pm at the Kingston Library.

The Rondout Historic District is a natural geographic neighborhood that should be intact. Broadway is a natural geographic boundary line, separating the East and West sides of Strand Street. McEntee is another natural geographic boundary line, with one side of the street being uninhabitable due to the mountain. The residential neighborhood behind the Strand has traditionally been segregated unnaturally along Spring Street, so that half of the neighborhood is in Ward 8 and the other half is in Ward 9. While, as a resident of Abeel Street, I can easily walk a few blocks to my neighbors' houses on West Pierpont (Ward 9), I can not as easily walk the 3/4 mile or so to Ponckhockie (Ward 8). This unnatural segregation disenfranchises a natural neighborhood from having a single representative to advocate for our needs as a neighborhood.

It would make more sense to keep the Rondout Historic District intact: either separate Wards 8 and 9 down Broadway (as it is in most of the city) or up at McEntee (where one side of the street is uninhabitable due to the mountain). HH (Before Plan C)

I prefer Plan C because it is the most comprehensive in creating new wards based on demographic changes that occurred over the past 10 years. Plan C will amplify the voices of the City's communities and enhance representation for like-minded neighborhoods, rather than attempt to keep current ward boundaries. LD

Hello all - first and foremost, thank you for what you contribute to our city and its communities. We live at 35 Brook Street in the Wilbur section of Kingston. Our rather close-knit neighborhood of Brook, Lebert and Chapel Streets (we think of ourselves as "upper Wilbur") is mainly represented within Ward 9. But there's a few of us that (I believe just one other occupied home besides ours) that are represented within Ward 3. The balance of the Wilbur area also falls within Ward 9. I would hope that with the current redistricting process that our neighborhood and the Wilbur community in general could be kept together as a whole. I realize that this is a daunting puzzle for you guys and is tightly restricted with population requirements, but would like to see this small, historic corner of Kingston represented as a unit. Thank you! RK (Before seeing the maps)

I think it is so important to keep Wilbur together. As the former representative of Ward 9, I know that the folks in that neighborhood hold the history dearly. AS

Tinti, Elisa

From: Shaut, Andrea
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2023 4:14 PM
To: Hill, Barbara; Tinti, Elisa
Subject: Re: Special Laws & Rules Meeting

Yes, Barbara. That would be very helpful.

Andrea Shaut

Council President, City of Kingston

From: Hill, Barbara <ward1@kingston-ny.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2023 4:03 PM
To: Shaut, Andrea <ashaut@kingston-ny.gov>; Tinti, Elisa <emtinti@kingston-ny.gov>
Subject: Re: Special Laws & Rules Meeting

Hi Andrea,

Should I get the comments to date re: redistricting to Elisa so that she can post them with the agenda? There aren't many but they are useful in terms of concrete types of feedback that others can learn from.

Thanks,

Barbara

Barbara Hill
Alderman, Ward 1
City of Kingston
(845) 392-2519

From: Shaut, Andrea <ashaut@kingston-ny.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2023 3:57 PM
To: Alderman <Alderman@kingston-ny.gov>
Cc: Graves-Poller, Barbara <BGraves@kingston-ny.gov>; Smith, Summer <ssmith@kingston-ny.gov>
Subject: Special Laws & Rules Meeting

Good afternoon,

I am hereby calling for a Special Laws & Rules Committee meeting on Thursday, January 12th. This meeting will take place immediately after the Public Hearing scheduled for January 12th at 6 pm. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss and decide on the redistricting maps based on the subcommittee's work so far and the public comments received, including comments from the public hearing.

Please mark your calendars accordingly!

Elisa & Summer - can you please take the appropriate steps to inform the public? Website & facebook. Thank you!

Elisa - this email can serve as the agenda, as well as Maps A & C.

Sincerely,

Andrea Shaut

Council President, City of Kingston