

NEW YORK STATE REDISTRICTING IN RESPONSE TO 2020 CENSUS

U-Act Voting Reform Committee

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Some Quick Background

- **Redistricting every 10 years**
- **New York State Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) established in 2014**
- **4 Republicans, 4 Democrats, 2 nonaffiliated members**
- **Responsible for drawing district lines for**
 - o **63 State Senate districts**
 - o **150 State Assembly districts**
 - o **26 Federal House of Representatives districts**
- **Two chances to submit maps for legislative approval**
- **If neither approved, state legislature determines the lines**

Requirements for Drawing District Lines

- Equal population (approximately)
- Compact
- Contiguous
- Preserve political subdivisions
- Preserve 'communities of interest'
- Preserve core of prior districts
- Cannot intentionally favor or disfavor
 - Incumbents
 - Political parties
 - Particular Candidates
- Cannot intentionally disfavor minority groups

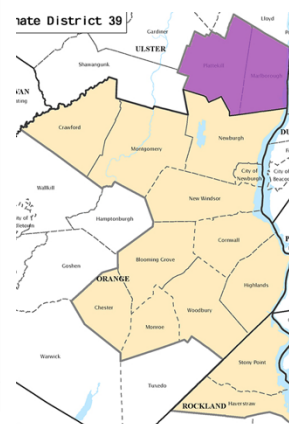
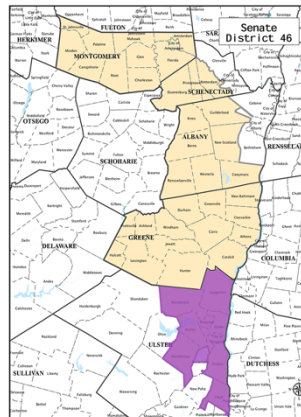
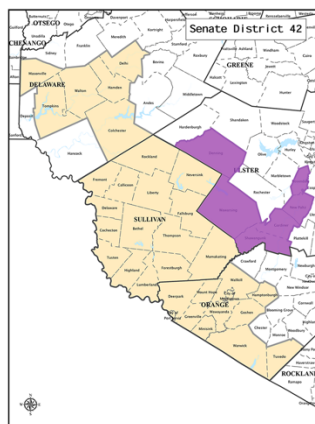
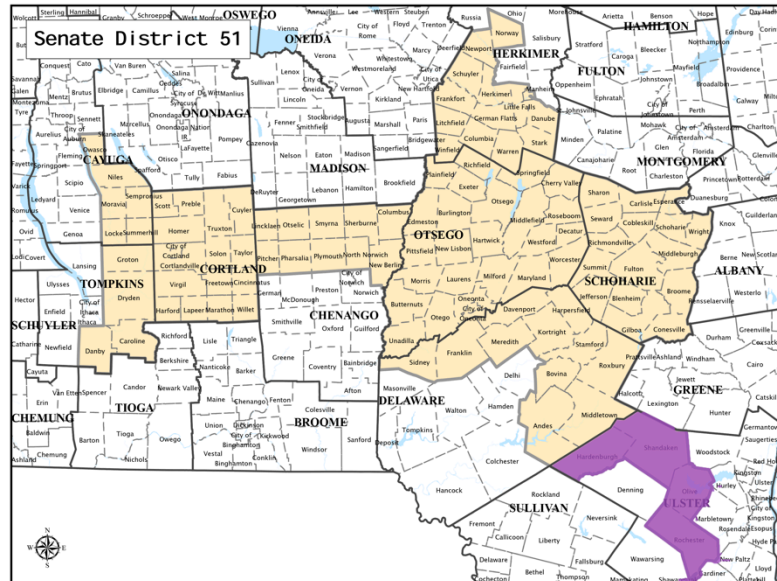
Recent IRC Developments

- **Regular remote meetings**
- **Funding**
- **Staffing**
- **Website and YouTube channel**
- **Regional public input sessions**

Timeline

July 20 – August 15, 2021	Preliminary regional public hearings
August 15, 2021	Census data available
September 15, 2021	Initial draft maps
October, November, 2021	Mandated regional public hearings
January, 2022	Maps submitted to legislature
February, 2022	Second round submission (if needed)
June, 2022	Federal and State primaries
November, 2022	General election

Ulster County in New York State Senate



Voting Reform Committee Public Hearing Input

County-wide issues

- Affordable housing
 - o Exacerbated by pandemic and NYC access
- Opioid Epidemic and Mental Health Crisis
 - o mental health beds

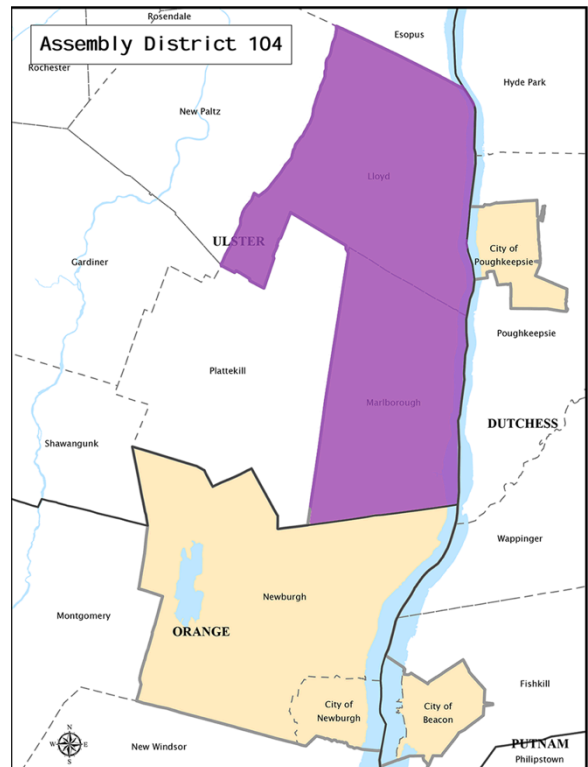
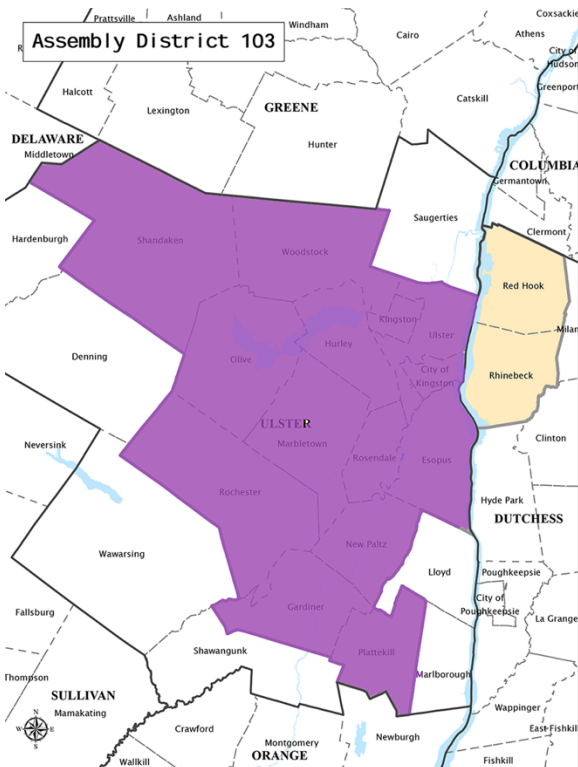
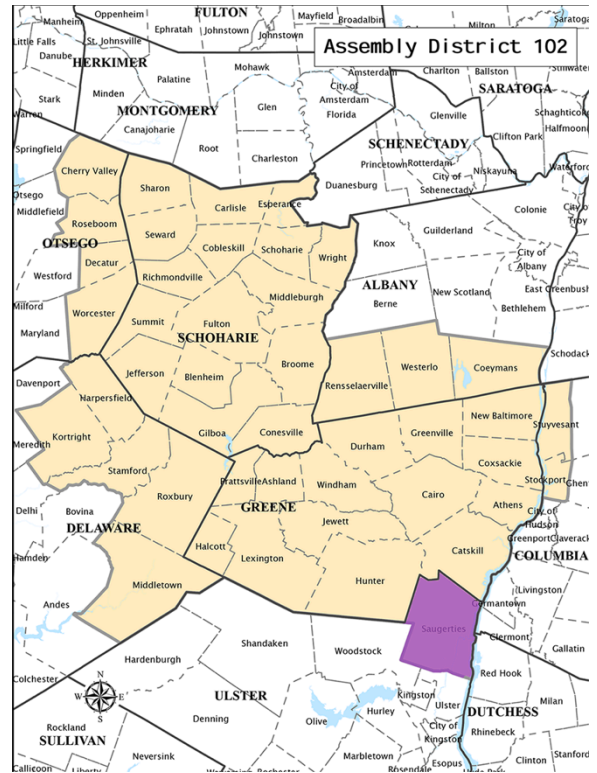
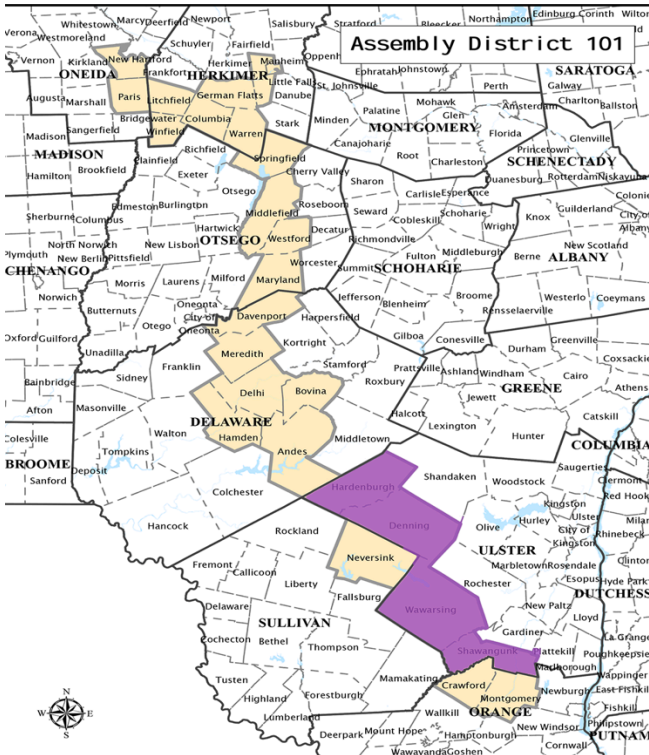
State has a role in solutions to these issues

Ulster County scattered in 4 Senate districts

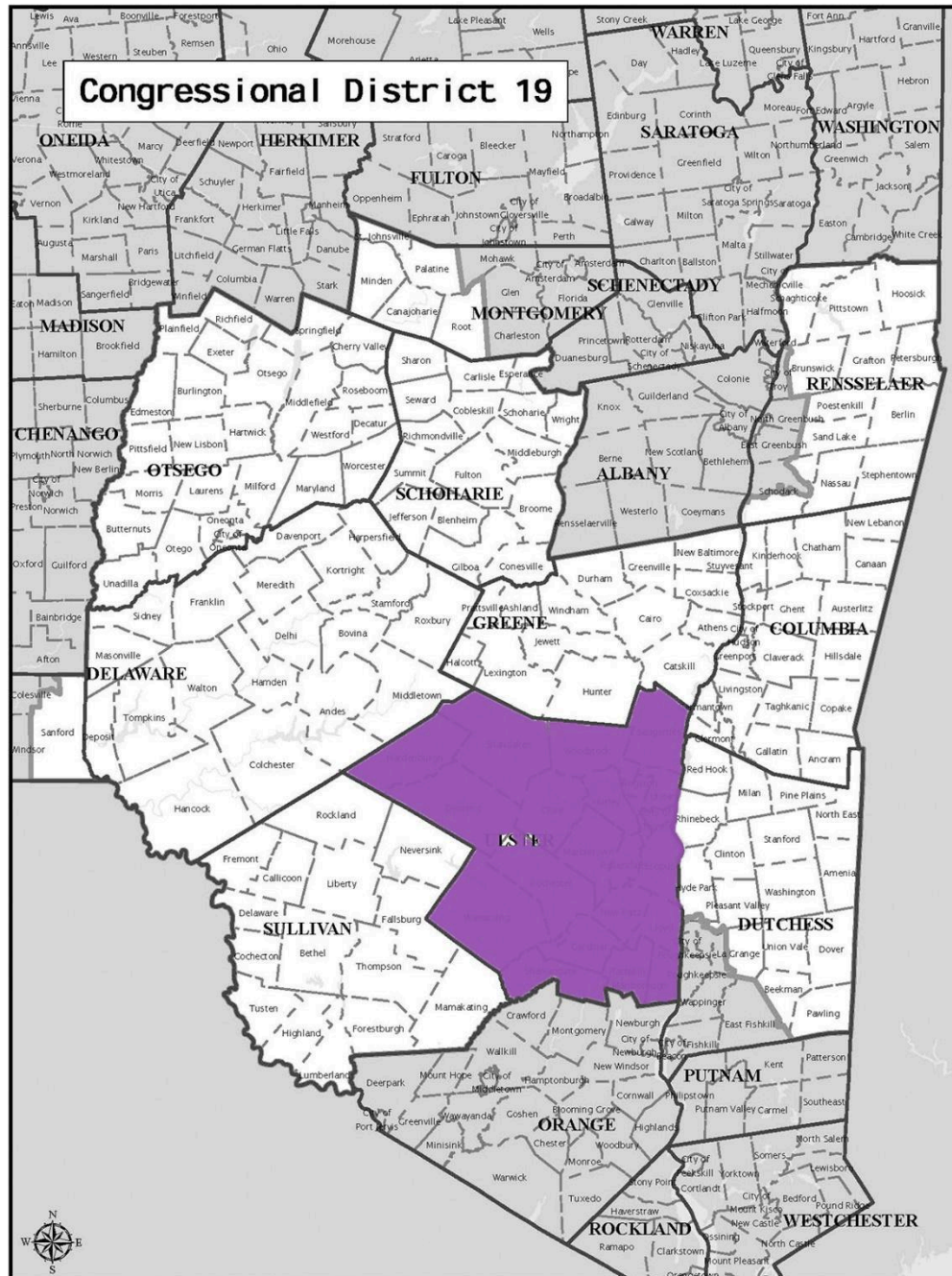
Request: give Ulster County a more consolidated voice in the state senate

Recording is on IRC website

State Assembly



Ulster County in Federal House of Representatives



Potential Pitfalls and Opportunities for Advocacy

Enforcement of redrawing requirements

U-Act Autumn input to public hearing

Legislative approval

4Q21 and 1Q22 calendar

Effect of new lines on Martucci, Hinchey, Cahill, Delgado

Resources

Maps of all New York state senate, assembly and federal congressional districts:

<https://latfor.state.ny.us/maps/>

New York Independent Redistricting Commission website (meeting schedule, commissioners and staff information, FAQs, history, etc.):

<https://nyirc.gov/home>

Mid-Hudson and Capital Regions Public Meeting (including U-Act

Voting Reform committee input 28 minutes in):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7HgDIwfiMmw>

League of Women Voters resources:

<https://lwvny.org/redistricting-2021-people-powered-fair-maps-nys/>