



# Town of Lancaster

21 CENTRAL AVENUE  
LANCASTER, NEW YORK 14086  
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JOHANNA M. COLEMAN  
*Town Clerk*

April 21, 2011

Robert Graber  
Clerk to the Legislature  
92 Franklin Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, New York 14202

Dear Mr. Graber:

Enclosed is a copy of a resolution adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Lancaster on April 18, 2011.

This resolution requests that the Erie County Advisory Committee on Reapportionment and the Erie County Legislature respect and adhere to the Public Policy of New York State regarding the division of Towns within Erie County.

This resolution also requests that such final plan adhere to such policy and not divide the Town of Lancaster between or among different legislative districts, but maintain the Town of Lancaster wholly within the boundaries of a single county Legislative district.

Sincerely yours,

OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Johanna M. Coleman", is written over the typed name.

Johanna M. Coleman  
Town Clerk

JMC/sb  
cc: Adam Perry, Chairman Reapportionment Committee  
Dino Fudoli, Legislator

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY  
COUNCIL MEMBER ABRAHAM, WHO  
MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY  
COUNCIL MEMBER STEMPIAK, TO WIT:

**WHEREAS**, The Erie County Advisory Committee on Reapportionment is currently working on recommendations for a new eleven (11) member reapportionment plan for the newly reduced in size Erie County Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, it has long been the public policy of the State of New York, in matters of drawing district lines for legislative districts at the state and county level to maintain the integrity of the municipal boundaries of towns whenever possible; and

**WHEREAS**, under the provisions of New York State Municipal Home Rule Law, Section 10 (1), in drawing such districts, no town whose population is less than 110% of the population of an average Legislative district (i.e. 83,549 in Erie County this year) should be divided between different county legislative districts; and

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Lancaster has previously been the victim of political gerrymandering by having been divided between county legislative districts in the past; and

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Lancaster is currently the victim of political gerrymandering at the county level for the past decade, being divided between two (2) county legislative districts, when it should have and could have been wholly contained within one such district; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Lancaster with a 2010 census population of 41,604 does not exceed the threshold number of 91,904 (being 110% of an average size legislative district); and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens and taxpayers of the Town of Lancaster, will be best served in the public policy of maintaining the integrity of municipal boundaries is preserved in drawing the lines for the 2011 Erie County Legislative district plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of the Town of Lancaster will be best served and represented, knowing they have a single representative in the Erie County Legislature, who can respond to their inquires and best represent them in county issues of local importance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Lancaster will also be better able to communicate with the Erie County Legislature on matters of local concern to the Town of Lancaster with a single legislator representing the entire Town of Lancaster.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Lancaster does hereby request that the Erie County Advisory Committee on Reapportionment and the Erie County Legislature respect and adhere to the public policy of New York State in not dividing towns within Erie County with a population of no more than 91,904 being 110% of the size of an average county legislative district, and be it further,

**BE IT FURTHER,**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Lancaster does hereby request, that any such final plan adhere to such policy and not divide the Town of Lancaster between or among different legislative districts but maintain the Town of Lancaster wholly within the boundaries of a single county legislative district, and be it further,

**BE IT FURTHER,**

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be immediately communicated to the Erie County Citizens Advisory Commission on Reapportionment and to the Erie County Legislature for consideration in the upcoming deliberations on the Legislative Reapportionment Plan for 2011.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

COUNCIL MEMBER ABRAHAM	VOTED YES
COUNCIL MEMBER AQUINO	WAS ABSENT
COUNCIL MEMBER RUFFINO	WAS ABSENT
COUNCIL MEMBER STEMPIAK	VOTED YES
SUPERVISOR GIZA	VOTED YES

April 18, 2011