

195 Park Drive
Eastchester, NY 10709
August 8, 2021

Senator Zellnor Myrie
New York State Senate
Chairman of Committee on Elections
188 State Street., Legislative Office Bldg.
Room 903
Albany, NY 12247

Honorable Senator Myrie,

Thank you for allowing me to submit this request to you online for your meeting in Westchester on August 9, 2021.

Last November, 3 of the 4 election districts on Garth Road in Eastchester were not open. This past June, for the Democratic Primary, all 4 were closed. These changes happened very late - too late to adequately inform the residents of alternates. Almost 25% of the Democrats that live in the Town of Eastchester, outside the Villages of Bronxville and Tuckahoe, live on Garth Road. The loss of these polling locations placed an extreme burden on Democratic candidates involved in elections on both of those dates. As I write to you today, I am still not certain where we stand with these polling locations for the November 2, 2021, election.

I would like to request that when a polling location is closed for any reason, after January 1 of the year when an election is to be held at that location, that affected voters be mailed an absentee ballot and a return envelope. Garth Road has many senior citizens, as well as residents who don't have the ability to drive across town to an early voting location, or on election day to the elementary school (as was the case on both of the above stated elections) located over 1 mile away. Mailing absentee ballots to voters in these special and unusual instances, would help to ensure that all residents votes are cast and counted. Last minute surprises like this only act to disenfranchise voters and reduce vote count.

Thank you and your committee members for the work that you do to ensure that our elections processes continue to improve for our voting community.

Sincerely,



John Filiberti