



West Town



West Town Leadership United (WTLU) is a community based organization that serves and empowers residents in the community. This community area is bordered by Kedzie to the west, the Dan Rayan to the east, Bloomingdale to the north and Lake to the south.

West Town is a community of interest. We are a historically Latino community with a rich community history. Over the last decade, our community has changed with gentrification which has increased the need for our community to unite to meet the needs of our long-time residents. Our residents are connected by a shared commitment to reducing violence, immigrant rights, advocating for affordable housing, and improving our local schools.

West Town is currently split into many districts at all levels of government. In 2000, our community was only drawn into three congressional districts (4, 5 and 7), five state house districts (4, 5, 9, 10, 11), three state senate districts (2, 5, and 3) and five city wards (11, 26, 27, 32, and 42). This has made it more difficult for West Town residents to have their voices heard, and needs met. **West Town should be recognized as a community or interest, and should be kept together and drawn into as few districts as possible in the current redistricting process.**

WTLU is a member of the United Congress of Community and Religious Organizations, which is part of the Illinois Coalition for Accountable Redistricting and Draw the Line. We are committed to working with African-American, Latino, Asian, Arab and other communities to ensure the current redistricting process is transparent, equitable and engages communities.

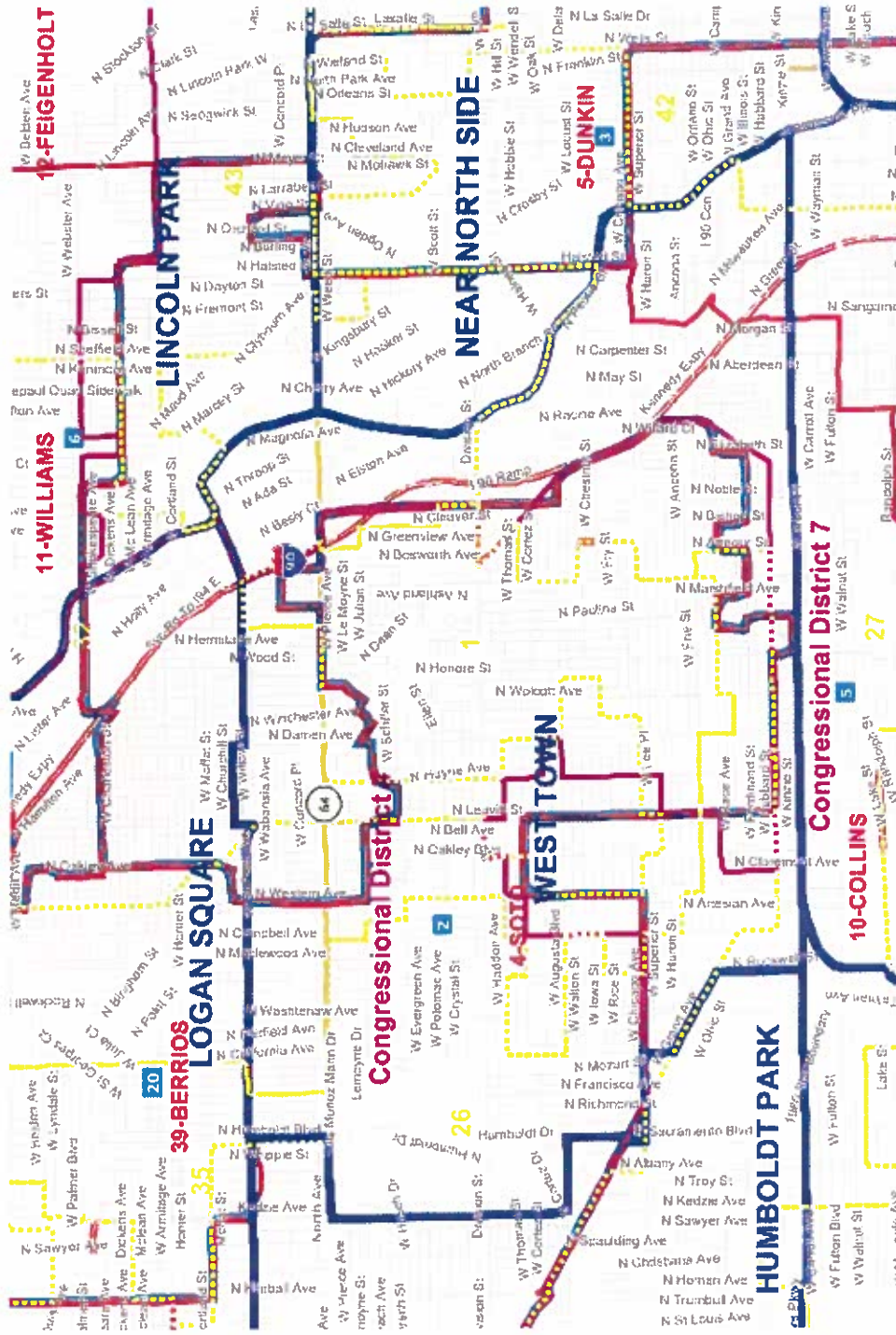
As a coalition, we call on the Senate Redistricting Committee and the General Assembly to do the following:

- Present potential redistricting maps to the public at least a week before a vote so that communities can provide input.
- Ensure fair representation by protecting voting rights under the Federal Voting Rights Act and the new Illinois Voting Rights Act including influence, coalition and crossover districts.
- Recognize and respect communities of interest by keeping them together and not splitting them.

Thank You,

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West Town Community Area



2010 Census Demographics	Total Population		Latino		African American		White		Asian	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Total Population	105,995		24,530	23.14%	24,792	23.39%	50,115	47.28%	4,114	3.88%
Voting Age Population	87,914		18,216	20.72%	18,661	21.23%	45,629	51.9%	3,724	4.24%

