



North Kenwood and Oakland



The Kenwood Oakland Community Organizations (KOCO) is a community based organization that serves and empowers residents in the community. This community area is bordered by Central Park to the west, Bell to the east, 59th to the north and 75th and 71st to the south.

North Kenwood and Oakland is a community of interest. We are a historically African-American community with a rich community history. Over the last decade, our community has changed with the demolition of public housing and 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, advocating for affordable housing, and improving our local schools.

North Kenwood and Oakland is currently split into many districts at all levels of government. In 2000, our community was only drawn into three congressional districts (1, 2 and 7), two state house districts (25 and 26), one state senate district (13) and one city wards (4). This has made it more difficult for North Kenwood and Oakland residents to have their voices heard, and needs met. **North Kenwood and Oakland 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.**

KOCO 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.

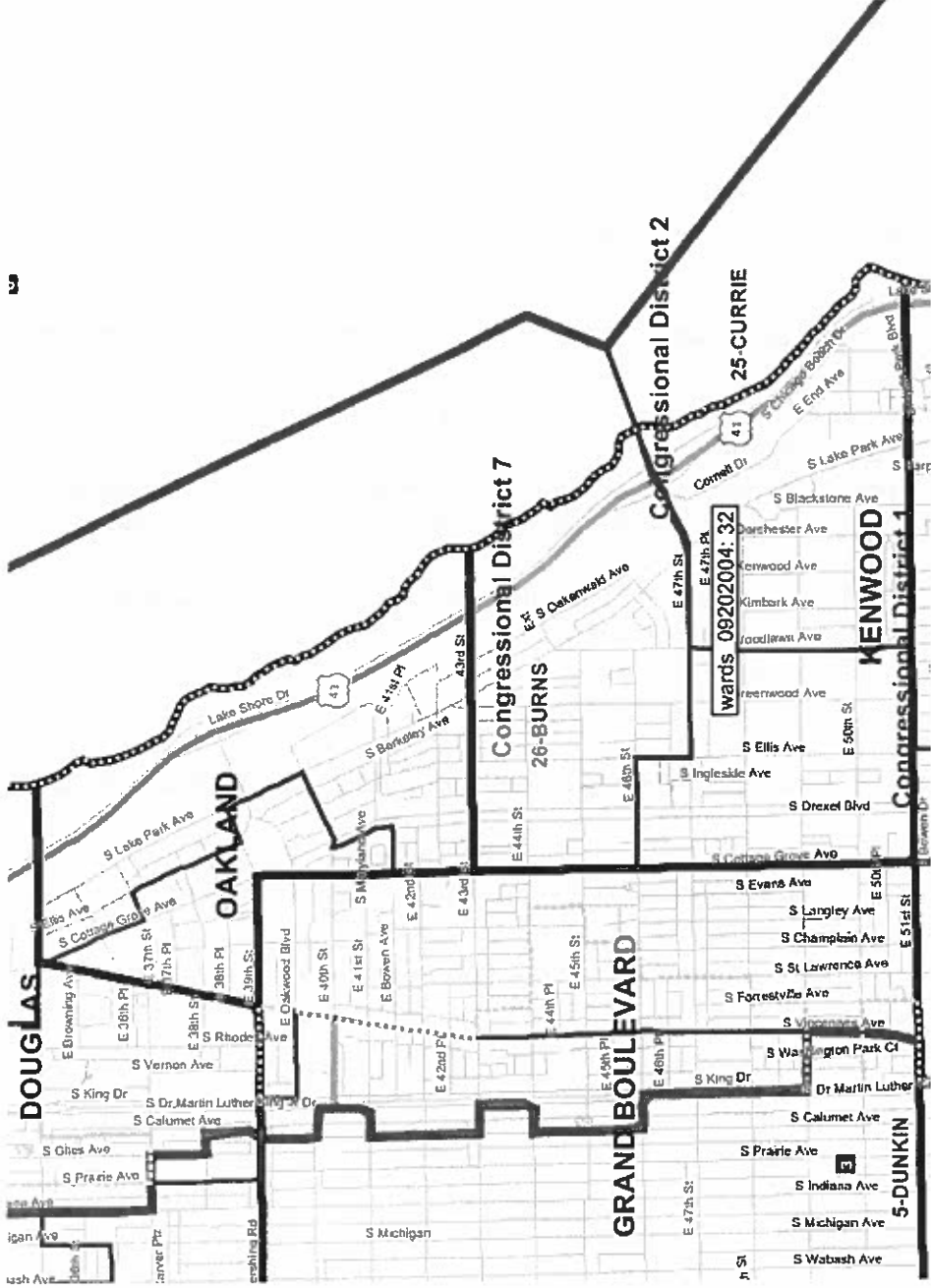
As a coalition, we call on the Senate Redistricting Committee and the General Assembly to do the following:

- 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,

Jhatayn Travis
Executive Director
Kenwood Oakland Community Organization
1005 East 43rd Street
Chicago, Illinois 60653
773.548.7500
Jhatayn@yahoo.com
www.kocoonline.org

North Kenwood and Oakland Community Area



2010 Census Demographics	Total Population		Latino		African American		White		Asian	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Total Population	23,759		659	2.65%	18,388	77.39%	3,064	12.9%	1,008	4.24%
Voting Age Population	18,385		467	2.54%	13,967	75.97%	2,639	14.35%	871	4.74%