



23 March 2021

Ms. Danielle Gosselin, Acting Director  
Mr. Alan Tabachnik, Historic Preservation Specialist  
Office of Environmental Analysis, Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20423

Mr. Reid Nelson, Executive Director, Acting  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
401 F Street NW, Suite 308  
Washington, D.C. 20001-2637

Re: STB licensing of unlawful de facto rail abandonment despite section 110(k) violation and foreclosure of comment, ACHP Connect Case 001682

Consolidated Rail Corporation – Abandonment Exemption – in Hudson County, NJ, STB Docket AB 167 (Sub-No. 1189X) (Harsimus Branch) and related discontinuance exemption dockets of CSX Transportation and Norfolk Southern Railway Company [AB 55 (Sub-No. 686X) and AB 290 (Sub-No. 306X) respectively]

Dear Ms. Gosselin and Messrs. Nelson and Tabachnik:

The Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment Preservation Coalition (“Coalition”) is an association of individuals, neighborhood associations, and other organizations that has been seeking the preservation for public use, including light rail and trail and other purposes consistent with historic preservation of the Harsimus Embankment since 1999. The issue on the table is STB’s failure to implement section 110(k) of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and a

related foreclosure of any meaningful comment by purportedly cutting off all public remedies that otherwise could have been implemented by STB.

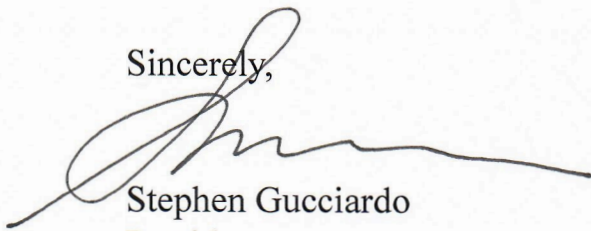
Both Conrail, who illegally sold a portion of the Harsimus Branch, and the LLC's who purchased it, have repeatedly attempted to rewrite history, claiming for years that the Harsimus Branch was not a line of railroad, and also maintaining that the City of Jersey City was not interested in acquiring the property. STB's section 110(k) "analysis," so far manifest only in a 2009 "environmental assessment," indorses this railroad revisionism, claiming that Conrail did not engage in an intentional anticipatory demolition but instead was simply implementing the City's wishes when it sold off the Embankment. STB's analysis is utterly false as shown herein.

Attached please find 21 letters sent to Conrail in 2003 from our City and State legislators and our local and regional groups advocating for Conrail's cooperation in preserving the Harsimus Branch for rail, trail and open space. By the time these letters were written in 2003, it was clear to us that the Harsimus Branch was a rail line. It had been determined to be eligible for the State and National Registers of Historic Places. These letters illustrate that the City of Jersey City intended to acquire the rail line properties and had support for the acquisition. By the time Conrail sold the property in mid-2005, our organization had raised sufficient funds for the City to acquire the property. Conrail completely ignored us, our fellow advocacy organizations and individuals, and our City, County, and Congressional government officials and instead in 2005 sold portions of the Harsimus Branch regulated rail line to a private developer, foreclosing federal and state protections for the public interest.

Conrail's willful evasion of the law must be remedied in a meaningful fashion, not rubberstamped with a plaque and an authorization for abandonment. Laws are meaningless unless enforced.

We are providing this to our rail counsel for filing with STB in connection with ACHP's March 8 letter relating to the Harsimus Branch.

Sincerely,



Stephen Gucciardo  
President

cc. Jaime Loichinger, Assistant Director, Federal Permitting, Licensing,  
and Assistance Section, Office of Federal Agency Programs, ACHP  
Kate Marcopul, Administrator and Deputy Director, NJ SHPO  
Andrea Tingey, Historic Preservation Specialist, NJ SHPO  
Elizabeth S. Merritt, Deputy General Counsel, Nat. Trust Hist. Pres.

CITY OF  
JERSEY CITYGLENN D. CUNNINGHAM  
MAYORCITY HALL  
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302  
TEL: (201) 547-5200  
FAX: (201) 547-4288

March 10, 2003

Mr. Robert Ryan  
Real Estate Director of Conrail  
510 Thornall Street  
Edison, New Jersey 08818

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

Dear Mr. Ryan:

I recently met with members of the Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition with regards to the abandoned Conrail Property located on 6<sup>th</sup> Street in Jersey City. I support the Coalition's efforts to preserve the embankment's historic structure and look forward to working with all parties concerned to achieve a wonderful mixed-use open space for our residents to enjoy.

I have asked Mark Munley, director, Housing Economic Development and Commerce (HEDC) to reach out to your office to go over some of the possibilities and future plans Conrail may have for this site. Mr. Munley can be reached at 201-547-5070.

I look forward to working with both Conrail and the Embankment Preservation Coalition for a better Jersey City. I have designated Deputy Mayor Anthony Cruz as my contact person he may be reached at 201-547-5575.

Sincerely,

Glenn D. Cunningham  
Mayor

# PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD HARSIMUS STEM EMBANKMENT PRESERVATION COALITION

March 13, 2003

Robert Ryan, Real Estate Director  
Conrail  
510 Thornall Street, Suite 390  
Edison, NJ 08837

Sent by Certified mail and Fax to 732-549-7926

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth St, Jersey City (Case 72931)

Dear Mr. Ryan:

Jersey City Mayor Glenn Cunningham and the Municipal Council have stated that the Administration is willing to receive the Embankment property on Sixth Street, contingent on Conrail/CSX/Norfolk Southern being a willing seller, a mutually satisfactory agreement, and the assembly of appropriate funding. A letter signed by the entire Council is appended to this letter; a letter from the Mayor is expected to be sent to you next week. A lawyer will be assigned to negotiate the matter.

The Embankment meets criteria for funding in three state and federal areas: historic preservation, conservation, and transportation. It is listed on the State Register of Historic Places, is eligible for the National Register, and is a Municipal Landmark. Its top provides habitat for many animal species and is a monarch flyway. The site is a key link in existing and planned greenways. The project satisfies additional requirements of state, federal, and private grantors: endorsements from elected representatives and broad-based public support. Finally, Governor James McGreevey's "smart growth" program directs more state resources toward acquisition of urban green space.

The Embankment Preservation Coalition has prepared groundwork for grant applications and fund-raising for site acquisition and development. Please note the following:

1. NY/NJ Baykeeper has pledged \$250,000 to jump-start a broader fund-raising effort, and Preservation Director Gregory Remaud is actively working with the Coalition; *see* his letter (appended).
2. N.J. State Senator Bernard F. Kenny, Jr., hosted John Watson, Administrator of the state Green Acres program, and Urban Coordinator Martha Sapp at a site visit on March 11. Mr. Watson and Ms. Sapp said that, if Conrail was a willing seller and the City a willing receiver of the property, the site would be eligible for funding. They urged the submission of a Green Acres application by April 1, 2003, and offered technical assistance.

Maureen Crowley, President  
Embankment Preservation Coalition  
263 Fifth Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302  
201-963-0232 [Moherl@aol.com](mailto:Moherl@aol.com)

**PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD HARSIMUS STEM  
EMBANKMENT PRESERVATION COALITION**

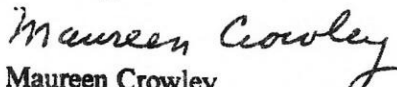
Mayor Glenn Cunningham has directed his Green Acres coordinator, Betty Kearns, to give the preparation of a Green Acres application for this site highest priority. Ms. Kearns is preparing a City Council resolution that will allow the application to move ahead.

3. Suzanne Mack, Executive Director of the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency and Executive Director of the Transportation Management Association, is exploring transportation set-asides and Transportation Enhancement Act-3 (TEA-3) funding for this project.
4. John Fuller of U.S. Senator Frank Lautenberg's office is pursuing transportation financing.
5. District Director Nicholas Chiaravallotti of U.S. Representative Robert Menendez's office is investigating federal funding sources that we identified. Congressman Menendez has been a strong supporter and spoke at our celebration of State Historic Place designation, where he pledged to use "all the power of my office" to help us achieve preservation goals.
6. Numerous local, regional, and national organizations have pledged support for the goals of site preservation, conservation, and linkage to local and regional greenways.
7. The Embankment Preservation Coalition will dedicate our resources to insure that Conrail-City negotiations succeed. We will initiate a fund-raising drive, write grant applications, assist City agencies, and contribute in every useful way to this project.

We ask Conrail/CSX/Norfolk Southern, before accepting other bids, to enter into negotiations with the City and enable the City and our organization to actively pursue funding opportunities.

At City Council meetings on landmark status, Conrail stated its interest in returning the site to productive use. As the attached letters attest, the community has determined that historic preservation and open space are the highest and best uses for this property, and their elected representatives support them. We look forward to a cooperative endeavor that will result in fair value for your property, public use of the Embankment, and the mutual pride of all who contributed to the transaction.

Sincerely,

  
Maureen Crowley  
President

Encls: Summary of Endorsements; Endorsement Letters

**Copy:**

Mr. John Fiorilla  
Watson, Stevens, Fiorilla & Rutter, LLP  
390 George Street, P.O. Box 1185  
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

Sent by Certified Mail and Fax: 732-214-0242

263 Fifth Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302 201-963-0232

# **PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD HARSIMUS STEM EMBANKMENT PRESERVATION COALITION**

Appended Endorsements, 3/12/03 Letter to Robert Ryan, Conrail

U.S. Senator Jon S. Corzine  
U.S. Senator Frank R. Lautenberg

U.S. Representative Robert Menendez  
U.S. Representative Steven Rothman

N.J. Senator Bernard F. Kenny, Jr.

N.J. Assemblyman Joseph V. Doria, Jr.  
N.J. Assemblyman Anthony Impreveduto  
N.J. Assemblywoman Joan M. Quigley  
N.J. Assemblywoman Elba Perez-Cinciarelli

Hudson County Director of Strategic Revitalization Stephen D. Marks

Jersey City Mayor Glenn L. Cunningham

Jersey City Council President L. Harvey Smith  
Jersey City Councilman Peter Brennan  
Jersey City Councilwoman Mary Donnelly  
Jersey City Councilman William Gaughan  
Jersey City Councilman-at-Large Jerramiah Healy  
Jersey City Councilman Steve Lipski  
Jersey City Councilman E. Junior Maldonado  
Jersey City Councilwoman Viola Richardson  
Jersey City Councilman-at-large Mariano Vega

East Coast Greenway Alliance  
NY/NJ Baykeeper  
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy  
Trust for Public Land

Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy

Downtown Coalition of Neighborhood Associations  
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association  
Harsimus Cove Association  
Historic Paulus Hook Association  
Newport Waterfront Association  
Van Vorst Park Association

263 Fifth Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302  
201-963-0232

JON S. CORZINE  
NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:  
BANKING, HOUSING, AND  
URBAN AFFAIRS  
ENVIRONMENT AND  
PUBLIC WORKS  
JOINT ECONOMIC

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3004

502 SENATE HART OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-4744  
ONE GATEWAY CENTER  
11TH FLOOR  
NEWARK, NJ 07102  
(973) 646-3030  
208 WHITE HORSE Pkce  
SUITE 18-19  
BARRINGTON, NJ 08007  
(856) 757-5353

March 7, 2003

Robert Ryan  
Real Estate Director of Conrail  
510 Thornall St.  
Edison, NJ 08818

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

Dear Mr. Ryan:

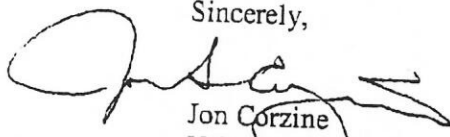
The Embankment Preservation Coalition is interested in acquiring the Harsimus Stem Embankment, a historic site in Jersey City, for public use and enjoyment. I strongly support this preservation initiative.

Historic and cultural sites are vanishing precious resources in our state. Preservation of all-too-rare entities such as this as open space for the public trust is critical to quality of life enhancement in New Jersey. The alternative, letting this historic area be given over to commercial development, would be a missed opportunity I am convinced we would come to sorely regret.

The Embankment preservation and reuse project pursued by the Embankment Preservation Coalition is consistent with federal historic preservation and conservation goals. The Coalition is committed to developing this area as a network of pedestrian and bicycle pathways, including the Hudson Waterfront Walkway and the East Coast Greenway.

I hope you will agree with me that protecting this historic, cultural and environmental resource is a top priority, and I look forward to your favorable determination.

Sincerely,



Jon Corzine  
U.S. Senator

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 4, 2003

Robert Ryan, Real Estate Director  
CONRAIL  
510 Thornall Street  
Edison, NJ 08837

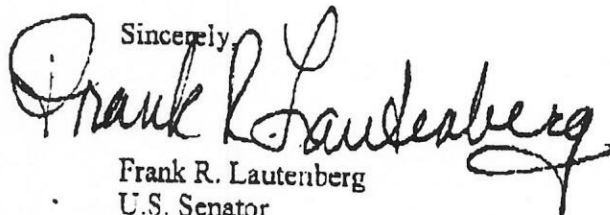
RE: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

Dear Mr. Ryan:

I am writing to express my support for the Embankment Preservation Coalition's efforts to have the Harsimus Stem Embankment acquired by a public entity or land trust, improve the streetscape along Sixth Street, and develop the top as habitat and passive open-space. The site would link to a network of bicycle greenways, including the Hudson Waterfront Walkway and the East Coast Greenway.

Currently my staff is working with the Embankment Preservation Coalition in identifying the funds needed for this important project.

Sincerely,



Frank R. Lautenberg  
U.S. Senator

**ROBERT MENENDEZ**  
13TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY  
VICE CHAIR OF THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

AVIATION  
WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

WESTERN HEMISPHERE, RANKING MEMBER  
INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS AND  
HUMAN RIGHTS



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-3013

REPLY TO:

2229 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6016  
(202) 555-7919

DISTRICT OFFICES:

911 BERGEN AVENUE  
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306  
(201) 222-2828

654 AVENUE C  
BAYONNE, NJ 07002  
(201) 823-2900

893 HOBART STREET  
PERTH AMBOY, NJ 08861  
(732) 224-8212

3109 BERGENLINE AVENUE  
2ND FLOOR  
UNION CITY, NJ 07087  
(201) 538-0800

E-mail: [menendez@mail.house.gov](mailto:menendez@mail.house.gov)  
Web site: <http://menendez.house.gov/>

March 12, 2003

Mr. Robert Ryan  
Director, Real Estate  
CONRAIL  
2001 Market Street  
16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

**RE: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City**

Dear Mr. Ryan,

I am writing to express my support of the Embankment Preservation Coalition's preservation and reuse project for the Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment on Sixth Street in Jersey City, New Jersey (Sixth Street Embankment.)

The Embankment Preservation Coalition seeks to identify the appropriate public entity to acquire the Sixth Street Embankment, as well as improve the streetscape along Sixth Street and develop the top portion as a habitat and passive open space. The site would also link to a network of pedestrian and bicycle greenways, including the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway, the Liberty Watergap Trail, and the East Coast Greenway, providing easy access for a growing population to the natural resources in the area.

Furthermore, the Sixth Street Embankment preservation and reuse project submitted by the Embankment Preservation Coalition is consistent with federal, state, county, and municipal level historic preservation, transportation, and conservation goals. My office has met with members of the coalition to discuss federal funding options and opportunities and will continue to be available for guidance and assistance throughout the process.

Open space is a rare commodity in urban areas such as Jersey City. The preservation of the Sixth Street Embankment would conserve an extraordinary open space in one of the most densely populated cities in our nation, and would provide an oasis where our residents can play and spend time with their friends and family. Also, as the Embankment is listed on the State Register of Historic Places, preserving the site as open space would allow further commemoration to this fact.

Sixth Street Embankment, Page 2

Again, I support the Embankment Preservation Coalition's preservation and reuse project for the Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment on Sixth Street in Jersey City, New Jersey. I respectfully request that you grant full consideration to their project proposal.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact my District Director, Nicholas Chiaravalloti, at 201-222-2828 if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Robert Menendez  
Member of Congress

RM:dr

cc: Maureen Crowley, Embankment Preservation Coalition

STEVEN R. ROTHMAN  
9TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

1607 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5061  
FAX (202) 225-0851

DISTRICT OFFICES:

25 MAIN STREET  
COURT PLAZA  
HACKENSACK, NJ 07601-7088  
(201) 846-0808  
FAX (201) 846-1844

130 CENTRAL AVENUE  
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306-2118  
(201) 733-1388  
FAX (201) 733-1723

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT  
FINANCING AND RELATED PROGRAMS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TREASURY,  
POSTAL SERVICE AND  
GENERAL GOVERNMENT

E-MAIL:  
steven.rothman@mail.house.gov

WEB SITE:  
http://www.house.gov/rothman

Mr. Robert Ryan, Real Estate Director  
Comrail  
510 Thornall Street  
Edison, NJ 08837

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Jersey City (Case 72931)

Dear Mr. Ryan,

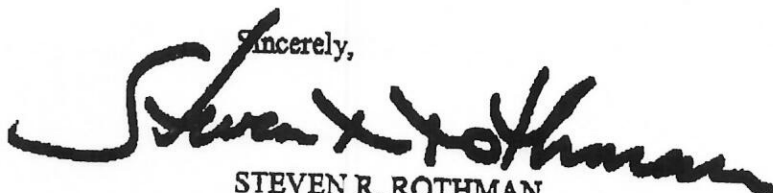
I am writing to express support for the Embankment Preservation Coalition's efforts to have the Harsimus Stem Embankment acquired by a public entity or land trust. I am also supportive of their efforts to improve the street scape along Sixth Street, and develop the top as a habitat and passive open space. The site would link to a network of pedestrian and bicycle green ways, including the Hudson Waterfront Walkway and East Coast Green way.

The Embankment preservation and reuse project pursued by the Embankment Preservation Coalition is consistent with federal historic preservation and conservation goals. The goal to link the Embankment site to the Hackensack Meadowlands via the Bergen arches aligns with one of my top priorities, which has been to protect and preserve the last parcels of open space left in the Meadowlands for eventual use as an environmental park.

It is my sincere hope that the Embankment Preservation Coalition's goals are realized. Should you need my assistance, please feel free to contact my Staff Assistant, Mr. Mauro Raguseo, at my Hackensack office.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



STEVEN R. ROTHMAN  
Member of Congress

SRR:mdr



NEW JERSEY SENATE

**BERNARD F. KENNY, JR.**  
DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY LEADER  
SENATOR 33<sup>RD</sup> DISTRICT  
HUDSON COUNTY  
235 HUDSON STREET  
HOBOKEN, NJ 07030  
TEL. 201-683-1488  
FAX. 201-714-6688

SENATE COMMITTEES  
BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS  
JOINT BUDGET OVERSIGHT  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON  
ETHICAL STANDARDS  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
RELATIONS COMMISSION  
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES  
COMMISSION

February 27, 2003

To Whom it May Concern:

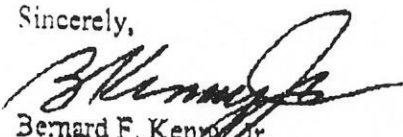
RE: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment  
Sixth Street  
Jersey City, NJ

I am writing to endorse the efforts of the Embankment Preservation Coalition to find an appropriate owner and acquisition financing for the Harsimus Stem Embankment. The purpose of the Embankment Preservation Coalition is to provide: site preservation; improvement of the streetscape along Sixth Street; reuse of the top as habitat and passive green space; and links to other pedestrian and biking greenways.

The majority of the development that has occurred along the Hudson River Waterfront in Jersey City has taken place in ways that typically preclude public access to the waterfront and has provided very little public open space. The coalition's project will provide a rare nature sanctuary and passive open space in a linear form extending through the interior of Jersey City's residential downtown, with links to the Hudson Waterfront walkway and a larger network of greenways, including the East Coast Green way.

Again, I strongly support the Embankment Preservation Coalition and their endeavors.

Sincerely,

  
Bernard F. Kenny, Jr.  
Senator, 33rd District

BFK/so



## NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLYMAN

JOSEPH V. DORIA, JR., Ed.D.  
31ST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT  
595 BROADWAY  
BAYONNE, NJ 07002  
201-437-5150, 5151  
FAX 201-437-1749

### COMMITTEES

CHAIRMAN, EDUCATION  
CHAIRMAN, ASSEMBLY LIGHT RAIL PANEL  
REGULATED PROFESSIONS  
AND INDEPENDENT AUTHORITIES  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### COMMISSIONS

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES COMMISSION

March 6, 2003

Mr. Robert Ryan  
Real Estate Director  
Conrail  
510 Thornall Street  
Edison, New Jersey 08837

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

Dear Mr. Ryan:

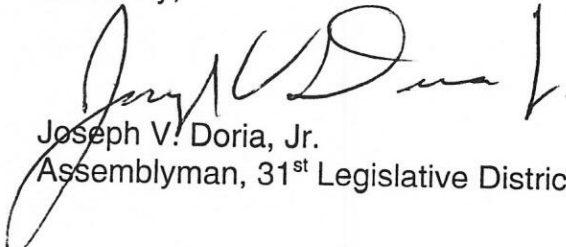
I am writing to express support for the Embankment Preservation Coalition's efforts to have the Harsimus Stem Embankment acquired by a public entity, improve the streetscape along Sixth Street, develop the top as habitat and passive open space, and link the site to a network of pedestrian and bicycle greenways, including the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway, the Liberty Watergap Trail and the East Coast Greenway.

The Embankment preservation and reuse project pursued by the Embankment Preservation Coalition is consistent with federal, state, county and municipal historic preservation and conservation goals.

As a member of the New Jersey General Assembly, I look forward to having the opportunity to work with you and the members of the Embankment Preservation Coalition in developing the strategies necessary to guarantee that this important historic and environmental area is preserved for future generations.

Please feel free to contact me if I can provide you with any further support or information.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph V. Doria, Jr.  
Assemblyman, 31<sup>st</sup> Legislative District

cc: Maureen Crowley

*Printed on Recycled Paper*



**NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**ANTHONY IMPREVEDUTO**  
DEPUTY SPEAKER  
ASSEMBLYMAN, 32ND DISTRICT  
400 PLAZA DRIVE  
SECAUCUS, NJ 07094  
(201) 664-3232  
FAX (201) 848-8625

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES:**  
CHAIR-REGULATED PROFESSIONS  
CHAIR JOINT COMMITTEE ON  
ETHICAL STANDARDS  
TRANSPORTATION  
BANKING & INSURANCE  
STATE HOUSE COMMISSION

March 11, 2003

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express support for Embankment Preservation Coalition efforts to have the Harsimus Stem Embankment acquired by a public entity or land trust, improve the streetscape along Sixth Street, and develop the top as habitat and passive open-space. As a member of the Transportation Committee, I especially endorse site linkage to a network of pedestrian and bicycle greenways, including the Hudson Waterfront Walkway and the East Coast Greenway.

The Embankment preservation and reuse project pursued by the Embankment Preservation Coalition is consistent with federal, state, county, and municipal historic preservation and conservation goals. Therefore, I offer all the services of my office in support of the Embankment Preservation Coalition Project.

Sincerely,

*Anthony Imprevuto*  
Anthony Imprevuto

**NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY****JOAN M. QUIGLEY**

ASSEMBLYWOMAN, 32nd DISTRICT  
THE HAMILTON PARK FOUNDRY  
242 10TH STREET, SUITE 101  
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302  
(201) 217-4614

**CHAIR OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
& STATE PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE**

**MEMBER OF HEALTH &  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

March 12, 2003

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment  
Sixth Street, Jersey City

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express support for the efforts of the Embankment Preservation Coalition to have the Harsimus Stem Embankment acquired by a public entity or land trust, improve the streetscape along Sixth Street and develop the top of the embankment as habitat and passive open space. The site linkage to a network of pedestrian and bicycle greenways, including the Hudson Waterfront Walkway and the East Coast Greenway will promote physical exercise and recreation in the area.

The Embankment Preservation Coalition has advised that this preservation and reuse project is consistent with federal, state, county, and municipal historic preservation and conservation goals.

I endorse the efforts of the Coalition to pursue acquisition options with the owner, Conrail/CSX/Norfolk Southern.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan M. Quigley".

Joan M. Quigley  
Assemblywoman

JMQ:jk



# NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**ELBA PEREZ-CINCIARELLI**  
 ASSEMBLYWOMAN, 31ST DISTRICT  
 1736 J.F. KENNEDY BOULEVARD  
 JERSEY CITY, NJ 07305  
 (201) 209-9499  
 E-MAIL: [AswPerez-Cinciarelli@njleg.org](mailto:AswPerez-Cinciarelli@njleg.org)

COMMITTEE  
 ASSEMBLY BUDGET

March 13, 2003

Robert Ryan, Real Estate Director  
 Conrail  
 510 Thornall Street  
 Edison, NJ 08837

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

Dear Mr. Ryan,

I am writing you today to express my utmost support for the efforts of the Embankment Preservation Coalition's efforts to have the Harsimus Stem Embankment acquired by a public entity, improve the streetscape along the Sixth Street, develop the top as a habitat and passive open-space, and also link the site to a network of pedestrian and bicycle greenways, including the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway, the Liberty Watergap Trail and the East Coast Greenway.

Please note that the Embankment Preservation and reuse project pursued by the Embankment Preservation Coalition is consistent with municipal, county, state and federal historic preservation, transportation and conservation set goals.

My legislative office can offer various means of support to the Embankment Preservation Coalition, or the acquirer of this property during the many phases of the project and thereafter.

Thanking you for your time,

*Elba Perez-Cinciarelli*  
 Assemblywoman Elba Perez-Cinciarelli



COUNTY OF HUDSON  
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC REVITALIZATION  
BRENNAN COURT HOUSE  
583 NEWARK AVENUE  
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY 07306

THOMAS A. De GISE  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

ABRAHAM ANTUN  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

STEPHEN D. MARKS, PP, AICP  
DIRECTOR

(201) 217-5137  
Fax (201) 796-1903

February 28, 2003

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem  
Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter of support for the Embankment Preservation Coalition's efforts to have the Harsimus Stem Embankment acquired by a public entity or land trust, improve the streetscape along Sixth Street, and develop the top as habitat and passive open-space. The site would link to a network of pedestrian and bicycle greenways, including the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway, Liberty Watergap Trail, and the East Coast Greenway.

The preservation and reuse of the Embankment pursued by the Preservation Coalition is consistent with the goals and objectives of Hudson County's 2002 Master Plan; the Strategic Revitalization Plan for the Hudson County "Urban Complex"; the New Jersey Development and Redevelopment Plan; and the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority's Regional Transportation Plan. In addition, the East Coast Greenway Alliance views the Embankment as a key link in its main Hudson County route from the Waterfront Walkway through the Bergen Arches to the Meadowlands. The East Coast Greenway route is 50 percent complete in New Jersey, and if implemented in Hudson County, would promote alternative means of transportation, physical exercise, and recreation for residents along this corridor, and would open up Jersey City and Hudson County to outdoors enthusiasts and historic site tourists from the region.

My office can offer the planning and technical expertise to the Embankment Preservation Coalition, or the acquirer of this property, during the acquisition, development and maintenance phases of this project. In addition, as a historic feature, the embankment should be eligible for funding if Hudson County's Open Space and Historic Trust is approved by voters through a ballot referendum occurring later this year. If you have any questions, please feel free to call any time.

Sincerely,

  
Stephen D. Marks, PP, AICP  
Director

An equal opportunity employer

# CITY OF JERSEY CITY

L.HARVEY SMITH  
Council President



CITY HALL  
280 GROVE STREET, RM.202  
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302  
(201) 547-5204

March 12, 2003

Mr. Robert Ryan  
Real Estate Director  
Conrail  
510 Thornall Street  
Edison, N.J. 08837

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City, NJ

Dear Mr. Ryan:

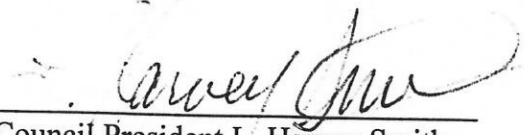
The Jersey City Municipal Council supports the Embankment Preservation Coalition's effort to have a public entity acquire the Sixth Street Embankment. This public entity could be the City of Jersey City, if appropriate financing for acquisition and development can be assembled.

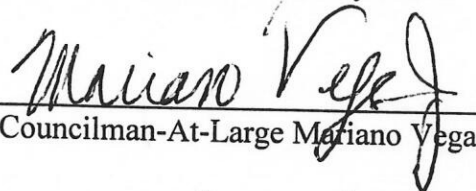
The Coalition is working to assemble these funds, meeting with elected representatives and officials at every level of government, and has kept us informed of their progress.

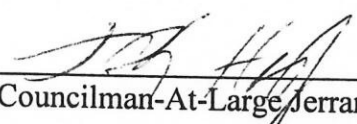
The Embankment preservation and reuse project pursued by the Embankment Preservation Coalition is consistent with Governor Jim McGreevey's "smart growth" program, which calls for more resources to be devoted to urban greenspace. The project aligns with the general goals of the 2002 Master Plan, Hudson County New Jersey, as well as its land use, circulation, economic, housing, social services, conservation, and historic preservation goals. Site acquisition would fill a need in Jersey City, which has a severe deficit in open space. The major associations representing the Downtown Historic Districts as well as citywide, regional, and national organizations support the Coalition project.

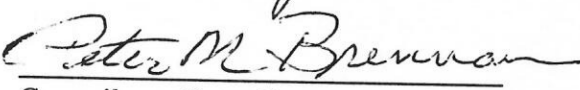
While acquisition scenarios are being explored and financing identified, we ask Conrail/CSX/Norfolk Southern to work with the Coalition and other interested parties on a plan to transfer the property to a new appropriate owner. We will do everything in our power to support the Coalition goals as this process unfolds.

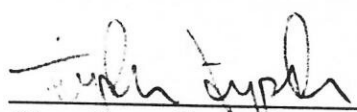
Sincerely,

  
Council President L. Harvey Smith

  
Councilman-At-Large Mariano Vega, Jr.

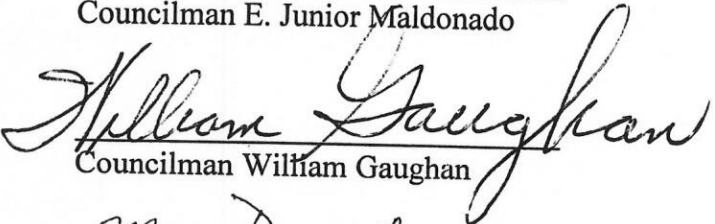
  
Councilman-At-Large Jeremiah Healy

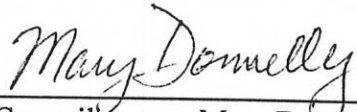
  
Councilman Peter Brennan

  
Councilman Steve Lipski



Councilman E. Junior Maldonado

  
Councilman William Gaughan

  
Councilwoman Mary Donnelly

  
Councilwoman Viola Richardson

CITY OF  
JERSEY CITY

MARIANO VEGA, JR.  
Councilman At Large  
E-Mail [marianovega@msn.com](mailto:marianovega@msn.com)



CITY HALL  
200 GROVE STREET, RM.202  
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302  
(201) 547-1134  
FAX (201) 547-4676

March 4, 2003

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

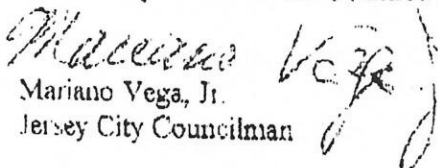
I am writing in support of Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment Preservation Coalition efforts toward site acquisition by a public entity, and the preservation and improvement of the street scape along Sixth Street. The Embankment has historically served as a railroad linkage to the waterfront, and will continue to provide access to the Hudson Waterfront Walkway and a network of greenways, including the East Coast Greenway.

As the Councilman-At-Large, representing the citizens of Jersey City, and formerly Councilman for Ward E, I have found strong support among my constituents, especially among those in the area that encompasses the Harsimus Stem Embankment and its adjoining National Historic Districts. The Embankment has historically served as railroad linkage to the waterfront.

The East Coast Greenway Alliance, which is creating a 2,600 mile trail from Florida to Maine - 50 percent complete in New Jersey - views the Embankment-Bergen Arches corridor in Jersey City as a key link in its main East Coast Greenway route through Hudson County. If this route is implemented, residents of densely populated Jersey City and Hudson County will be able to travel short distances from their homes for physical exercise, open park space, and local points of interest. Jersey City and Hudson County will in turn be opened up to regional outdoors enthusiasts and historic site tourists. In addition, local business establishments will benefit from this client base.

I will be working with the Coalition and others to explore acquisition alternatives and financing for the development of a new park in Jersey City. I can offer the following support to the Coalition, or the acquirer of this property, during the acquisition and development of the project phase with grants, planning and design work.

Please cooperate with the Coalition as acquisition efforts continue.

  
Mariano Vega, Jr.  
Jersey City Councilman



February 13, 2003

**Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City**

To Whom It May Concern:

**EAST COAST  
GREENWAY®  
ALLIANCE**

135 Main Street  
Wakefield, RI 02879-3511  
401-789-1706 401-789-4625  
FAX: 401-789-4625  
E-MAIL: [ecga@greenway.org](mailto:ecga@greenway.org)  
WEB: [www.greenway.org](http://www.greenway.org)

**OFFICERS**

David Dionne, *Chair*  
Kelly McClintock, *Vice-Chair*  
Sue Barker, *Treasurer*  
Dennis Winters, *Secretary*

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Karen M. Votava

The East Coast Greenway Alliance (ECGA) is creating the nation's first long-distance, urban trail, one of 16 National Millennium trails. This 2600-mile, largely off-road trail for hikers, bicyclists, the physically challenged, and other non-motorized users, will extend from Florida to Maine. The Greenway will serve as a spine route, linking with other long-distance trails to make an interlinked national trail system. It will link cities to cities, cities to suburbs, and suburbs to rural areas. It will connect such key sites as the capitals of most of the eastern seaboard states, major university campuses along the corridor, and many urban, state, and national park systems, including several historic Olmsted parks.

The Alliance views the Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment-Bergen Arches corridor in Jersey City as important pieces of the main East Coast Greenway route through Hudson County. This route connects the Meadowlands, via the Arches and the Embankment, with the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway, which is an alternate Greenway route to the George Washington Bridge. It will enable residents of densely populated Jersey City and Hudson County to travel short distances from their homes for physical exercise, park space, and local points of interest, and well beyond. Jersey City and Hudson County will in turn be opened up to regional outdoors enthusiasts and historic site tourists who want to discover areas without resorting to the automobile. Local business establishments will benefit from this wider audience.

We endorse the Embankment Preservation Coalition's efforts to secure the Embankment site as part of the East Coast Greenway; the Embankment's history, architecture and location will make it an ideal part of the ECG. The Alliance pledges the following support should the site be acquired for this use and designated as an official segment of the East Coast Greenway:

- volunteer services in developing and maintaining the trail
- signage, maps, user guides, and common services for the trail
- monitoring of the trail once it is completed

Our community-based initiative has received support from federal programs administered by the United State Departments of the Interior and Transportation, the Centers for Disease Control, and branches of the Armed Services. Individual trail projects that are part of the ECG trail network have garnered millions of federal transportation dollars for design and



THE EAST COAST GREENWAY® ALLIANCE WAS FOUNDED IN 1991 TO DEVELOP A MULTI-USE TRAIL LINKING CITIES FROM MAINE TO FLORIDA.

construction. Twenty-three U.S. Senators have petitioned the President of the United States to make the Greenway a priority for discretionary funding and technical assistance programs by federal departments.

Several state governments have shown the ECG great generosity. For instance, the State of Maine hosted a series of town meetings to determine the route of the trail, and the State of North Carolina sponsored public meetings we held in Durham last year. In New Jersey, the Alliance has received strong support from the Governor and the legislature, and the trail is more than 50% complete in the State. The New Jersey Department of Transportation is currently funding a routing feasibility study for the Middlesex County-to-Hudson River portion.

The Embankment will supply a key link to the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway from the interior of the City and County. Please lend the Embankment Preservation Coalition your support as they work to secure this site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen M. Votava".

Karen M. Votava, Executive Director

c: Maureen Crowley, Mike Selender



# NY/NJ BAYKEEPER®

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Sandy Hook Bay • Gravesend Bay • Sheepshead Bay

Building 18, Sandy Hook • Highlands, New Jersey 07732 • Tel: (732) 291-0176 • Fax (732) 291-7727  
www.nynjbaykeeper.org • email: nynjgov@keeper.org

February 24, 2003

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

To Whom It May Concern:

NY/NJ Baykeeper is prepared to grant \$250,000 from its share of non-profit funds from the Garden State Preservation Trust (earmarked in the New Jersey Senate for our use and currently awaiting NJ Assembly release) for acquisition of the Harsimus Stem Embankment. The purpose of this grant would be to jump-start a joint funding effort to complete the acquisition. Our grant will be contingent on the following: NJDEP Green Acres approval, matching funds, and a process that moves forth in timely fashion.

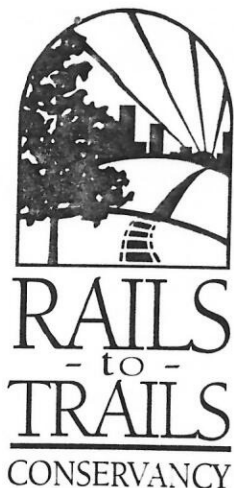
NY/NJ Baykeeper, founded in 1990 as an affiliate of the American Littoral Society, works to protect, preserve and restore the ecological integrity and productivity of the Hudson/Raritan Estuary. Baykeeper pursues opportunities for direct land preservation and habitat restoration and helps advance the Estuary's habitat preservation as well as land that is valued as a recreational and cultural resource. We have worked with many municipalities and counties to preserve and restore open space for public benefit.

Baykeeper supports the Embankment Preservation Coalition as it works to secure the Conrail/CSX/Norfolk Southern property on Sixth Street for green uses. The Harsimus Stem Embankment is a unique open space asset that will greatly benefit Jersey City and Hudson County. Its top is returning to nature and presents a rare opportunity to preserve habitat near the otherwise developed Downtown waterfront. The Coalition's goal of improved public access to the Hudson River Waterfront, with links to a network of greenways, including an East Coast Greenway route from the Meadowlands through the Bergen Arches to the Waterfront via the Embankment site, aligns with our goals.

We also request that Conrail/CSX/Norfolk Southern support this acquisition effort. Thank you for your consideration, we look forward to working together on this innovative and very worthwhile project

Sincerely,

Gregory A. Remaud  
Preservation Director



February 25, 2003

Robert W. Ryan  
Director, Real Estate  
Conrail  
510 Thornall St., Suite 390  
Edison NJ 08837

Re: **Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City**

Northeast Regional  
Field Office

To Whom It May Concern:

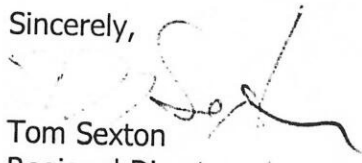
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC) is a nonprofit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., six field offices, and more than 100,000 members and supporters. Our mission is to build a nationwide network of public trails from former rail lines and connecting corridors.

We endorse the Embankment Preservation Coalition's efforts to secure the Harsimus Stem Embankment, preserve the historic structure, reuse the top as a nature sanctuary and passive green space, and link the site to a network of greenways, including the Hudson Waterfront Walkway and the East Coast Greenway and the Liberty to Delaware Water Gap Trail.

A year ago we walked the Embankment site with Coalition members and viewed firsthand its linkage to the Waterfront Walkway views of the Manhattan skyline. We see the potential of this site to be a major Jersey City and Hudson County asset, especially if the greenway is continued through the Bergen Arches and the Hackensack Meadowlands. Recreation, alternative means of transportation, community revitalization, and habitat conservation are all Coalition goals that we support.

Rails-to-Trails staff have contributed consultative services to the Coalition and will continue to do so. When an appropriate owner is identified and project implementation begins, RTC can provide expertise and low-cost services in all aspects of trail building from initial consultation to laying the groundwork for trails through trail development and beyond.

Sincerely,

  
Tom Sexton  
Regional Director

Northeast Regional Field Office  
105 Locust Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
717-238-1717  
FAX: 717-238-7500

National Office:  
1100 Seventeenth Street, NW  
10th Floor  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-331-9696  
FAX: 202-331-9680

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for People

March 10, 2003

Mr. Robert Ryan  
Real Estate Director  
Conrail  
510 Thornall Street  
Edison, NJ 08837

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

Dear Mr. Ryan:

The Trust for Public Land has consulted with the Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment Preservation Coalition for several years. We support Coalition goals to preserve the historic Harsimus Stem Embankment, improve the streetscape along its base, reuse the top as nature sanctuary and passive green space, and link the site to a network of parks and greenways, including the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway, Liberty Watergap Trail, and the proposed main Hudson County route of the East Coast Greenway.

Land conservation is central to TPL's mission. Founded in 1972, the Trust for Public Land works to protect land for human enjoyment and well-being. TPL helps conserve land for recreation and to improve the health and quality of life of American communities. We are happy to offer our advisory support as this project is pursued.

Sincerely,

*Terence Nolan* EM  
Terrence Nolan  
Project Manager  
The Trust for Public Land

The Trust for Public Land  
New Jersey Field Office  
30 Community Place, 2nd Floor  
Morristown, NJ 07960

(973) 292-1100  
Fax (973) 292-6272  
[www.cpl.org](http://www.cpl.org)



**JERSEY CITY LANDMARKS CONSERVANCY**

PO Box 68 • Jersey City, NJ 07303 • 201.420.1885 • [www.jclandmarks.org](http://www.jclandmarks.org)

---

February 17, 2003

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

To Whom It May Concern:

The Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy is a city-wide organization whose mission is to preserve, protect and promote Jersey City's historic sites, buildings, objects and districts.

The Harsimus Stem Embankment is listed on the State Register of Historic Places, is eligible for the National Register, and is a Municipal Landmark. We supported the Embankment Preservation Coalition as they sought these protections. We continue to endorse the Coalition's work for site acquisition through donation, grants, and/or low-cost loans. We hope that the City will now move forward with a responsible adaptive reuse plan that will respect the integrity of the site as well as the sensitivity of the surrounding National Historic Districts.

Our organization has sponsored joint events, including tours and displays, with the Embankment Preservation Coalition and will continue to support this organization and an appropriate new owner in developing and maintaining the site.

The Conservancy can offer the following support during the development/maintenance phase of the project:

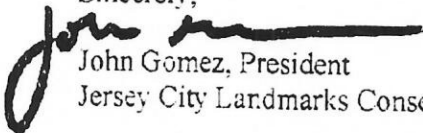
Development – fund-raising/planning/design consultation/habitat consultation/other

Maintenance – supplies/volunteer labor

Program Support – coordination, services, and volunteer labor for historical-cultural activities sponsored by the Embankment Preservation Coalition; co-sponsorship of events

Please support the Embankment Preservation Coalition in their efforts to secure appropriate ownership and reuse of the historic Embankment.

Sincerely,



John Gomez, President

Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy

## **DOWNTOWN COALITION OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS**

HAMILTON PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION • HARSIMUS COVE ASSOCIATION • HISTORIC PAULUS HOOK ASSOCIATION  
VAN VORST PARK ASSOCIATION • THE WATERFRONT ASSOCIATION

February 23, 2003

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

The Downtown Coalition of Neighborhood Associations (DCNA) addresses issues of common concern to the neighborhood associations of Downtown Jersey City, including historic preservation, open space, pedestrian safety, and public access to the Hudson River Waterfront

We have long supported the Embankment Preservation Coalition's efforts to preserve the Embankment historic structure, improve the streetscape along Sixth Street, reuse the top as passive green space, and link the site to the Hudson Waterfront Walkway and a network of greenways, including the East Coast Greenway. The Embankment project, when implemented, will give the Downtown a much needed green space, and a unifying element for the community

Members of our organization have lent a variety of skills to the Embankment Preservation Coalition, participated in public events, educational talks, contributed to site cleanups and tree plantings, and supported the Coalition in other ways.

We now support acquisition of this historic site by an appropriate public entity or land trust and endorse efforts to secure the site through donation, grants and/or low-cost loans and fund-raising.

Once the site is acquired, the DCNA will continue to contribute to the development and maintenance of the site. We'll be making a donation from our organization, and will assist in fund-raising efforts; we have volunteers eager to contribute time and energy on a regular basis, and we'll sponsor and/or support site activities that align with the goals of our organization and the Coalition.

Please do everything in your power to support the Coalition in its efforts.

Sincerely,

*Laura Fraschilla /ab*

Laura Fraschilla  
President, Downtown Coalition of Neighborhood Assns



# HAMILTON PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

February 27, 2003

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

To Whom It May Concern:

Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association is the major organization representing the residents of the National Historic District of Hamilton Park in Downtown Jersey City. The Harsimus Stem Embankment is our southern border, and it is considered integral to the Historic District.

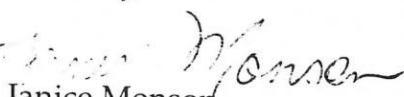
Our association, as its name suggests, is organized around a much-used park and appreciates the considerable and growing needs for open space in this area. Harsimus Cove, our neighboring Historic District, is currently without a park. The fragile historic fabric of both Districts is best served by site preservation and reuse as a passive park. We therefore support acquisition of this historic site by an appropriate public entity or land trust and endorse efforts to secure the site through donation, grants and/or low-cost loans and fund-raising.

Members of our organization have previously participated in site cleanups, donated to tree plantings, and contributed to site preservation in many ways. Once the site is acquired, our organization will contribute to site development and maintenance in the following ways:

- support fund-raising efforts
- support grant applications
- organize volunteer efforts
- sponsor and/or support site activities that align with the goals of our organization and the Coalition

Please do everything in your power to support the Coalition in its efforts.

Sincerely,

  
Janice Monson  
President, HPNA

001-028 Daniel Levin (201) 792-3386 P. 1

# HARSIMUS COVE ASSOCIATION

February 24, 2003

Conrail

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Harsimus Cove Association is the major organization representing the residents of the National Historic District of Harsimus Cove in Downtown Jersey City. The Harsimus Stem Embankment is our northern border. Its preservation and appropriate reuse is of utmost concern to us.

We have long supported the Embankment Preservation Coalition's efforts to preserve the Embankment historic structure, improve the streetscape along Sixth Street, reuse the top as passive green space, and link the site to the Hudson Waterfront Walkway and a network of greenways, including the East Coast Greenway. The Embankment project, when implemented, will give Harsimus Cove a green space, a unifying element for the community. Harsimus Cove is now the only National Historic District in Jersey City without its own park.

Members of our organization have lent architectural design skills to the Embankment Preservation Coalition, organized educational displays and talks about the site, contributed to site cleanups and tree plantings, made monetary contributions and supported the Coalition in other ways.

We now support acquisition of this historic site by an appropriate public entity or land trust and endorse efforts to secure the site through donation, grants and/or low-cost loans and fund-raising.

Once the site is acquired, our organization will contribute to site development and maintenance in the following ways:

- support fund-raising efforts, including a donation from our organization
- support grant applications
- organize volunteer efforts
- sponsor and/or support site activities that align with the goals of our organization and the Coalition

Please do everything in your power to support the Coalition in its efforts.

Sincerely,



Daniel Levin  
President

DANIEL LEVIN  
President

ANNIE KESSLER  
Vice President  
for Communications

MARK ROTELLA  
Vice President  
for Membership

JULIETTE GRAHAM-HAYES  
Treasurer

CLAIRE PERRAULT  
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LYCEL VILLANUEVA  
Board Members At-Large

WISS, JANNEY, ELSTNER 001

# Historic Paulus Hook Association, Inc.

192 Washington Street • Jersey City, NJ 07302 • 201-435-3538 • FAX 201-435-4270

VIA email and Facsimile

March 11, 2003

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment,  
Sixth Street  
Jersey City, New Jersey

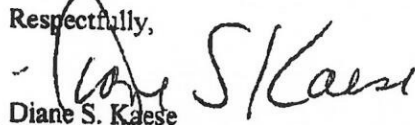
Jersey City residents have long been without the parks and open space that most New Jersey residents take for granted. Development pressures associated with our proximity to New York City make downtown Jersey City residents very aware of the unique opportunities and responsibilities that we have to acquire park land and open space. As such, the Historic Paulus Hook Association (HPHA) supports the Embankment Preservation Coalition's efforts to preserve the historic structure known as the Harsimus Stem Embankment. We also support their efforts to improve the streetscape along Sixth Street, adaptively reuse the top of the embankment primarily as passive green space, and link the embankment to the Hudson Waterfront Walkway and if possible, to a network of greenways including the East Coast Greenway.

We support acquisition of this historic site by an appropriate public entity or land trust and endorse efforts to secure the site through donation, grants and/or low-cost loans and fund-raising. We also suggest that it is a prime candidate for Green Acres funding (see the attached news release from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, dated 2/27/03).

After site acquisition the HPHA will contribute to site development and maintenance by supporting grant applications taking part in volunteer efforts and sponsor and/or support activities related to the embankment.

Please support the Coalition in its efforts to adaptively reuse this important piece of our waterfront history.

Respectfully,

  
Diane S. Kaese

President, Historic Paulus Hook Association

**Newport Waterfront Association, Inc**  
**30 River Court, #2506**  
**Jersey City, New Jersey 07310**  
**Tel: (201) 963-8682**

February 24, 2003

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

To Whom It May Concern:

The Newport Waterfront Association represents residents of the area around Sixth Street/Thomas Gangemi Drive in Jersey City.

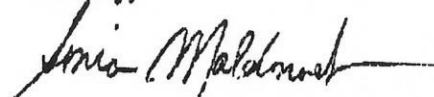
Two of our goals are:

- the development of more and better parklands nearby
- the creation and support of cultural and recreational activities

Both these goals would be well served by the preservation of the Sixth Street Embankment and its reuse as a nature sanctuary, with an improved streetscape along Sixth Street to the Hudson Waterfront Walkway, and links to a network of greenways, including the East Coast Greenway.

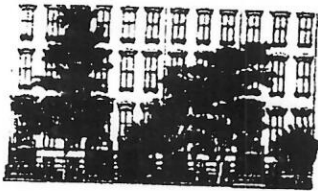
We endorse the efforts of the Embankment Preservation Coalition toward acquisition of this site and its development as a passive green space, and are willing to support their endeavors by corresponding and advocating on their behalf.

Sincerely,



Sonia Maldonado, President  
Newport Waterfront Association, Inc.

Web Address: [www.newportwaterfrontassociation.org](http://www.newportwaterfrontassociation.org)



**VAN VORST PARK ASSOCIATION**  
*The Barrow Mansion* • 201-435-8808  
83 Wayne Street  
Jersey City, NJ 07302

February 23, 2003

Re: Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment, Sixth Street, Jersey City

The Van Vorst Park Association has supported the Embankment Preservation Coalition's efforts to preserve the Harsimus Stem Embankment historic structure, improve the streetscape along Sixth Street, adaptively reuse the top as passive green space, and link the site to the Hudson Waterfront Walkway and a network of greenways, including the East Coast Greenway.

We support acquisition of this historic site by an appropriate public entity or land trust and endorse efforts to secure the site through donation, grants and/or low-cost loans and fund-raising.

Once the site is acquired, our organization will contribute to site development and maintenance in the following ways:

- support fund-raising efforts, including a donation from our organization
- support grant applications
- organize volunteer efforts
- sponsor and/or support site activities that align with the goals of our organization and the Coalition

Please do everything in your power to support the Coalition in its efforts.

Sincerely,

*Laura Fraschilla /ab*

Laura Fraschilla,  
President, Van Vorst Park Association