

From: [Aaron Underwood](#)
To: [Tabachnick, Alan](#)
Subject: Harsimus Branch Comments - Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1189X)
Date: Thursday, July 13, 2023 7:27:06 PM

Mr. Tabachnick,

I am contacting you regarding the Surface Transportation Board's ("STB") consideration of authorizing abandonment of the historic Harsimus Branch and Sixth Street Embankment ("Embankment").

It is our understanding that Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 gives consulting parties as well as the public, the opportunity to weigh in on such matters before a final decision is made.

Accordingly, on behalf of the Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association, (a consulting party), we, in our endeavor to provide advocacy and representation to area residents — virtually all of whom live near the Embankment property — hereby call for public meetings in Jersey City in accordance with Section 106. To date, it is our understanding this has not been done, and there are members of the public, even property owners who live right along the Embankment, whom we believe have no idea that the STB will soon be making a decision that will affect not only the significance of the surrounding historic district, but also directly affect their properties. This is a central corridor that runs through the heart of our city and will impact everyone in the adjacent areas.

We also ask that the STB exercise its jurisdiction to protect the historic Harsimus Branch from the adverse effects caused by Conrail's unlawful sale prior to abandonment and support the City of Jersey City's efforts to preserve this important landmark and transportation corridor.

Please feel free to contact us to discuss in further detail. Lastly, please post this email as an Environmental Comment.

Sincerely,
Aaron Underwood
President
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association