

From: thelashgallery@gmail.com
To: [Tabachnick, Alan](#)
Cc: [Stevens, Karen](#); [Webster, Elizabeth](#)
Subject: Re: Harsimus Branch Abandonment (Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1189X)) - Follow Up
Date: Saturday, September 30, 2023 8:40:18 AM

Subject: Concerns and Hopes Regarding Harsimus Branch Abandonment Sec. 106

To whom this may concern,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Rochelle R. E. Magno, a resident of Jersey City since 2011. My family has had a presence in this community dating back to the 1990s when we acquired a property on 5th Street. Additionally, in 2018, I opened The Lash Gallery on Erie Street, a building that shares a physical connection with the historic Embankment wall.

I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch, Section 106, and the subsequent illegal sale of the Embankment by Conrail. I believe that the Surface Transportation Board, entrusted with enforcing the law in such matters, should have intervened to prevent this sale. The Embankment holds immense historical significance, and I firmly believe that the residents of Jersey City should have a voice and be considered in decisions affecting this landmark.

Preserving the rich history of downtown Jersey City is what makes this area so unique and cherished by its residents. I implore you to recognize the importance of maintaining this historical structure. The prospect of replacing it with yet another apartment complex is disheartening, and I urge you to halt any such plans. Instead, I suggest embracing the idea of converting the Embankment into a public park, a place that has organically become a beloved community space.

I kindly request that you take our concerns into serious consideration, particularly those of us who have invested in and appreciated the historical significance of this ground. The Embankment represents a vital part of Jersey City's heritage, and its preservation should be a priority for all who call this city home.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I hope that our collective voices can contribute to the preservation of this cherished historical landmark.

Sincerely,

Rochelle R. E. Magno
Jersey City Resident & Small-Business Owner

On Sep 29, 2023, at 4:44 PM, Tabachnick, Alan <alan.tabachnick@stb.gov> wrote:

To: Interested Parties

Re: Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act Online Public Meeting on September 28, 2023 for Conrail's request to abandon the Harsimus Branch in Jersey City, NJ, Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1189X)

Thank you for your interest in this proceeding and thank you to those who signed up for the virtual Section 106 public meeting, held last night, on September 28, 2023. We appreciate everyone's participation, input, and heartfelt remarks. As noted at the meeting last night, the meeting was transcribed by a court reporter and the transcript will be posted on our website when it is finalized, at www.stb.gov. Attached please find the slides we presented last night for your information.

If you would like to submit written comments, you can email them to me, or you can submit them through our online system. Please follow the instructions below. We are very interested in hearing from as many people as possible on this case.

To provide comments through the Board's website, access the homepage at www.stb.gov and then select "File an Environmental Comment" below the "Need Assistance?" button on the right side of the home page. Clicking on "File an Environmental Comment" brings you to the comment form where you can type your comments directly into the form. Longer comments and documents can be attached to this form as Word, Adobe Acrobat, or other formats.

You can also submit comments via email to Alan.Tabachnick@stb.gov, and written comments can be mailed to:

Alan Tabachnick, Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001,

Attention: Environmental Filing, Docket No. AB 167 (Sub-No. 1189X).

If you have any questions, please contact me via the email address above or by phone at 202-245-0367.

Alan Tabachnick

Federal Preservation Officer
Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis
395 E St SW
Washington, DC 20423

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<Harsimus Slideshow 9-28-23 Final.pdf>