



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis

October 27, 2015

Najah Duvall-Gabriel
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Office of Federal Agency Programs
401 F Street NW, Suite 308
Washington DC 20001-2637

Re: STB Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1189X), Consolidated Rail Corporation - Abandonment
Exemption - in Hudson County, NJ

Dear Najah,

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Ester Wintner
Civic JC, Inc.
64 Wayne St
Jersey City, NJ 07302

Dear Ms. Wintner:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Robert Jenkins III, Esq.
For Conrail
Mayer Brown LLP
1999 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20006-1101

Dear Mr. Jenkins:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments

will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Andy Hamilton
Mid-Atlantic Coordinator
NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
1099 Pebble Hill Rd
Doylestown PA 18901

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Stephen Gucciardo, President
Embankment Preservation Coalition
495 Monmouth Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302

Dear Mr. Gucciardo:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Sam Pesin, President
Friends of Liberty State Park
PO Box 3407
Jersey City, NJ 07303-3407

Dear Mr. Pesin:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Kirsten Greene, President
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Assoc.
PMB 166 344 Grove Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302

Dear Ms. Greene:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Jeremy Jacobsen, President
Harsimus Cove Association
P.O. Box 101
Jersey City, NJ 07302

Dear Mr. Jacobsen:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Diane Kaese, President
Historic Paulus Hook Association
121 Grand Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302

Dear Ms. Kaese:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Carlene Magurne
Hudson County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs
583 Newark Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Dear Ms. Magurne:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Massiel Ferrara, Director
Hudson County Division of Planning
Bldg 1, Floor 2
Meadowview Complex
595 County Avenue
Secaucus, NJ 07094

Dear Ms. Ferrara:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments

will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Justin Frohwirth, President
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy
P.O. Box 68
Jersey City, NJ 07303-0068

Dear Mr. Frohwirth:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Mayor Steven Fulop
City of Jersey City
City Hall 280 Grove Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302

Dear Mayor Fulop:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Daniel Horgan, Esq.
For Marin Blvd, LLC et al.
Waters, McPherson, McNeill PC
300 Lighting Way, 7th Fl.
Secaucus, NJ 07094-3672

Dear Mr. Horgan:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Robert Vivien, President
Newport Neighborhood Association
40 Newport Parkway, #604
Jersey city, NJ 07310

Dear Mr. Vivien:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis

October 27, 2015

Gregory A. Remaud, Conservation Director
NYINJ Baykeeper
52 West Front Street
Keyport, NJ 07735

Dear Mr. Remaud:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Jerry Britton, President
North Central Chapter
Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
25 Maplewood Drive
Etters, PA 17319

Dear Mr. Britton:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Jill Edelman, President
Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
140 Bay Street, Unit 6J
Jersey City, NJ 07302

Dear Ms. Edelman:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Joseph A. Simonetta, Executive Director
Preservation New Jersey
P. O. Box 7815
West Trenton, NJ 08628

Dear Mr. Simonetta:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review

and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Tom Sexton, Director
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Northeast Regional Office
2133 Market Street, Suite 222
Camp Hill, PA 17011

Dear Mr. Sexton:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Dan Saunders
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Environmental Protection
PO Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

Re: Log #08-0811 - STB Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1189X), Consolidated Rail Corporation -
Abandonment Exemption - in Hudson County, NJ

Dear Mr. Saunders,

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Oona Jackson Moore, President
The Van Vorst Park Association
83 Wayne Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302

Dear Ms. Moore:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments

will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	



***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis***

October 27, 2015

Rob Crow, President
The Village Neighborhood Association
365 Second Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302

Dear Mr. Crow:

As a follow-up to our recent letter re-initiating Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch rail line in Jersey City, New Jersey, we are writing to provide an update on recent and ongoing initiatives. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is conducting a review to consider the potential effects of the abandonment on historic properties. The trackage at issue is an approximately 1.36-mile portion of a line of railroad, extending from Waldo Avenue in Jersey City towards the Hudson River. The abandonment proceeding before the Board is recorded as Docket No. AB 167 (Sub. No. 1189X). With this letter, we provide a revised list of consulting parties and share information on consultant activity.

The table below lists consulting parties for our Section 106 consultation. This list includes those who expressed interest in consultation with the initial filing for abandonment by Consolidated Rail Corporation in 2008 and with the issuance of an Environmental Assessment, prepared by OEA in 2009. This list also includes a small number of parties who responded to our recent letter, each of whom had previously confirmed their interest in consultation. All consulting parties will receive updates on our review as well as information and reports as they become available.

We recently launched a project intended to reach a key step in the Section 106 process. With the assistance of a third-party consultant, we have begun to complete an inventory of historic properties that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. The inventory will identify historic properties eligible for and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This inventory will focus on buildings, structures, and sites within the previously determined Area of Potential Effect (APE). A report defining the APE is available at the Board's website at http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/environment/key_cases.html. We will share the results of this inventory with consulting parties as soon as it is available.

In addition to establishing a historic property inventory, we currently are in the process of working with a consultant to analyze and summarize the comments received on our EA. The comments

will eventually be addressed in a Supplemental EA to be completed at the conclusion of the 106 review and consultation. In the meantime, a summary of these comments will be made available on our website in the near future.

OEA looks forward to continuing consultation in this case. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the Section 106 process, please contact Jeff Irwin at (202) 245-0299 or Jeffrey.irwin@stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Table 1. Consulting Parties for Section 106 Consultation in the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
City of Jersey City	Newport Neighborhood Association
Civic JC	NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway
Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail)	NY/NJ Baykeeper
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association	Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society
Harsimus Cove Association	Powerhouse Arts District Neighborhood Association
Harsimus Embankment Preservation Coalition	Preservation New Jersey
Historic Paulus Hook Association	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Hudson County, Planning Division	The Friends of Liberty State Park
Hudson County, Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs	The Village Neighborhood Association
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy	Van Vorst Park Association
Marin Blvd, LLC et al. (LLCs)	