

June 13, 2017

EI-26121

Emmy Tiderington
Jersey City Democratic Organization
E13 Committeeperson
210 ½ 3rd Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302

Ms. Victoria Rutson, Director
Surface Transportation Board Office of Environmental Assessment
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20472

Re: AB_167_1189X

Dear Ms. Rutson,

I write to you in support of the Embankment Preservation Coalition's comments on the Cultural Resources ID Report (CRID) regarding the Harsimus Branch issued by STB OEA on May 5, 2017 and ask that the STB OEA reconsider the CRID Report's recommendation regarding the Harsimus Branch's ineligibility as an Historic District.

This Report states that while the Branch has "historic significance," one of the qualities necessary, it lacks "physical integrity." However, multiple historic preservation experts have refuted this determination. I ask that you right the NHPA Section 106 process at STB and ensure that the entire Harsimus Branch, from Marin to approximately Chestnut St, not just the Embankment, is recommended eligible for the National Register.

As a committeewoman for the E13 district in the historic Harsimus Cove, it is my job to communicate on behalf of those in my district. This Embankment is a precious resource for our community and the residents of Harsimus Cove are strongly in favor of preserving it, in its entirety, for public use and benefit. We hope that you will help us in this endeavor.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emmy Tiderington', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Emmy Tiderington