

Petition to the Surface Transportation Board Re AB 167 1189 X and National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Review

EI-25355
CN

AB 167 (1189X)



St. Anthony feast under the Embankment.



Plaque noting State and National Register listing.



Stone façade, similar to embankment

The undersigned are parishioners of St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church at 437 Monmouth Street, Jersey City, built by Polish immigrants in 1892.

Our church is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The *Nomination* notes our proximity to other recognized historic resources: " Located in the Hamilton Park neighborhood of Jersey City one block southwest of the designated Hamilton Park National Register Historic District, and across the street from the Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment." Like the nearby Holy Rosary Church, which is the first Italian parish in New Jersey, St. Anthony is the first Polish parish in New Jersey, and the mother of other Polish immigrant churches in Jersey City. Its establishment and growth parallel the growth of the railroads in the Downtown and the immigrant communities that developed between them.

We therefore ask the Office of Environmental Assessment to recommend the preservation of the entire Harsimus Branch and its Embankment, which are inseparable from the greater historic fabric of the Downtown. Their demolition and replacement with residential development would have devastating adverse effects on our church and our community.