

From: [Tabachnick, Alan](#)
Bcc: 

Subject: Upcoming Section 106 Consulting Parties Meeting, Harsimus Abandonment, Additional Meeting Information
Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 3:30:00 PM
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To: Section 106 Consulting Parties

From: Alan Tabachnick, Historic Preservation Specialist, Surface Transportation Board, Office of Environmental Analysis

Re: Upcoming Section 106 Consulting Parties Virtual Meeting on Oct. 27, 2020 re: Conrail's proposed abandonment of the Harsimus Branch in Jersey City, NJ, Docket No. AB 167 (Sub-No. 1189X).

The Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is looking forward to your participation in the Section 106 Consulting Parties virtual meeting for the proposed Harsimus Branch abandonment project on October 27th, from 7pm to 9pm. You should have already received an email on September 25th with the agenda and registration instructions.

We would like to share some specifics about the format of the meeting in advance, so that you and your organization/party can prepare. The first 35 minutes of the meeting will include a presentation by OEA on the status of the Section 106 process and will focus on addressing adverse effects to historic properties through the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). OEA will be circulating the draft MOA to all consulting parties via email on Wednesday, October 14th, which will initiate a 30-day review period. We will discuss the draft MOA during the meeting on October 27th, which is approximately mid-way through the review period.

After OEA concludes its presentation, we will then move into the comments portion of the meeting. Each consulting party interested in providing oral comments on the draft MOA and addressing adverse effects will be given a maximum of five minutes to speak. Each consulting party may have one representative speak on the party's behalf during that allotted five-minute period. Consulting party representatives wishing to provide comments during the meeting must register in advance (by October 26th) using the form provided on September 25th. To allow for an organized and fair process, consulting parties will be called on in alphabetical order and offered the opportunity to provide oral comments. After all consulting parties have had an opportunity to provide their comments, and if time remains, additional comments of up to five minutes may be provided by attendees.

In addition, we welcome not only oral comments from the consulting parties during the meeting of the 27th, but also written comments that may be submitted before, during, or after the meeting. Members of the public may submit written comments as well. Written comments, including comments on the draft MOA, are due by November 14th, 2020.

We look forward to meeting with you and hearing your comments. Thank you again for your continued interest and participation.

Alan Tabachnick

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