



May 15, 2012

Jim Weinstein
Executive Director, NJ Transit
1 Penn Plaza East
Newark NJ 07105

Arthur Imperatore
CEO, NY Waterway
4800 Avenue at Port Imperial
Weehawken, NJ 07086


Dear Mr. Weinstein and Mr. Imperatore,

I have recently heard from several residents who expressed concern that NJ Transit and NY Waterway are in negotiations to purchase the Union Dry Dock in Hoboken to use for ferry repairs. As you may know, this property is something our community has hoped would one day become open space and part of the continuous Hudson River Waterfront Walkway.

I am writing to ask you for the status of this process. If the site is in fact being considered for acquisition, I believe the public deserves an opportunity to understand all the facts and be part of a discussion about why the State is interested in the property and how it could impact ferry service and our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Mayor Zimmer

Chris Christie, Governor
Kim Guadagno, Lieutenant Governor
James S. Simpson, Board Chairman
James Weinstein, Executive Director

NJ TRANSIT
One Penn Plaza East
Newark, NJ 07105-2246
973-491-7000

June 1, 2012

Honorable Dawn Zimmer
Mayor, City of Hoboken
94 Washington Street
Hoboken, NJ 07030



Dear Mayor Zimmer,

Thank you for your letter expressing your interest in the future of the Union Dry Dock (UDD) property in Hoboken.

The UDD property is the last remaining working marine property along a major stretch of the Hudson waterfront, and is zoned for its current use of marine vessel maintenance and repair.

NJ TRANSIT's enabling statutes recognize the important role of ferries in providing the people of New Jersey and the region with safe, efficient and convenient transit options to access employment, recreation and other opportunities.

The statutes give NJ TRANSIT responsibility to construct, operate and maintain capital projects and facilities for ferries, including improvements that support robust ferry service in the trans-Hudson corridor. Over the past 15 years, New Jersey has invested nearly \$200 million in ferry projects, including the Weehawken Ferry Terminal and most recently the \$115 million renovation of the ferry slip at Hoboken Terminal.

These improvements are more vital than ever in meeting future local and regional travel demand and assuring the optimal use of Hoboken Terminal as a premier multi-modal facility. Indeed, ferries are the only trans-Hudson transportation mode that has significant unused capacity remaining. Optimizing the availability and use of this capacity will be a crucial part of a coordinated transportation strategy to meet the future travel needs of our citizens.

In order to help assure the long-term viability of Trans-Hudson ferry service, NJ TRANSIT has been discussing potential acquisition of the UDD property for use as a ferry maintenance and fueling facility. However, we have had no discussion of which I am aware with the owner of the property.

Nonetheless, should this project go forward, NJ TRANSIT recognizes and respects the longstanding community interest in the role the Union Dry Dock property can play in the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway, as well as in Hoboken's open space plans for the City, and would work with you and the City to determine how best to integrate the walkway into plans for the property.

We will keep you fully apprised as we proceed in this important endeavor. Thank you for your interest in this project on behalf of your citizens.

Sincerely,

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

James Weinstein
Executive Director