



May 30, 2018

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Governor of New Jersey
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Murphy:

There are far better locations to place a ferry maintenance/refueling facility than the former Union Dry Dock property at Hoboken's waterfront. This was objectively determined by NJ Transit's 2009 study entitled *Ferry Berthing and Maintenance Facility – Alternative Site Analysis* that ranked five sites along the Hudson River waterfront as more suitable.

Hoboken has invested heavily over the past three decades in improving and developing its waterfront and building a continuous, public waterfront park. These funds have come from state and federal grants plus private investment from local developers. Today, the Hoboken Cove, where the Union Dry Dock property is located, is a mecca for fishing, kayaking and paddle boarding. It also includes a popular children's playground and a skateboard park. I have enclosed a picture showing the Hoboken Cove Community Boathouse (HCCB) in Maxwell Place Park located at the only natural sand beach along the Hudson River coastline south of the GW Bridge. The all-volunteer HCCB puts over 6,000 kayakers into the Cove each year as part of its free program, the only place at New Jersey's Hudson River waterfront where this takes place.

The Hoboken Cove is also a biodiverse environment for marine and shore wildlife that includes a number of endangered, threatened and species of special concern that we documented in our letter to the Army Corps of Engineers on May 24, 2018. We provided a copy of this letter to you, including the above referenced *Alternative Site Analysis*, via Federal Express on the 25th.

As you know, our Mayor and Council and an overwhelming majority of the Hoboken area population support making the Union Dry Dock property part of Hoboken's string of waterfront parks, one of which has received national awards. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this issue of vital importance to our community.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ron Hine', is written in a cursive style.

Ron Hine
Executive Director

