

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY of DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR PUBLIC **COMMENT** and **ANNOUNCEMENT** of

PUBLIC HEARINGS for the Hudson Tunnel Project in Hudson County, New Jersey, and New York County, New York

For the Hudson Tunnel Project, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and NJ TRANSIT have prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The Project is intended to preserve the current functionality of the existing passenger rail crossing under the Hudson River, the North River Tunnel, between New Jersey and Penn Station New York (PSNY) and strengthen the resiliency of Amtrak's Northeast Corridor (NEC). The North River Tunnel, which is over 100 years old and sustained damage during Superstorm Sandy, is a critical link in the NEC and is used daily by thousands of Amtrak and NJ TRANSIT passengers.

The Hudson Tunnel Project DEIS evaluates a Preferred Alternative that consists of construction of a new passenger rail tunnel between Secaucus Junction, New Jersey, and PSNY, along with accompanying infrastructure, to allow for the rehabilitation of the existing North River Tunnel, without major interruption in NJ TRANSIT and Amtrak NEC service. The DEIS also evaluates a No Action Alternative in which no new tunnel is built and the existing North River Tunnel is not rehabilitated.

FRA and NJ TRANSIT are now accepting comments on the Preferred Alternative and analyses presented in the Hudson Tunnel Project DEIS. The DEIS also contains a Draft Programmatic Agreement (PA) prepared in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; the Draft PA explains what impacts to historic and archaeological resources are and how they will be avoided, minimized, or mitigated. Comments will

be accepted through August 21, 2017. See below for information on how to submit comments. Note that all information in submitted comments is subject to public release (e.g., names, addresses, email addresses, etc.), unless otherwise stated by commenter.

To **REVIEW THE DEIS**, please visit: www.hudsontunnelproject.com/deis.html or you can view a printed copy of the DEIS at local libraries and government buildings in the project area. A list of these locations is available on the Project website, or by calling the Project team at 973-261-8115.

HOW TO COMMENT ON THE DEIS:

Comments may be submitted through August 21, 2017

- In person at the public hearings
- Via the project website: www.hudsontunnelproject.com/ contact.html
- Via email: comment@hudsontunnelproject.com
- Project Contacts:
 - » Ms. Amishi Castelli, Ph.D. **Environmental Protection Specialist** USDOT Federal Railroad Administration One Bowling Green, Suite 429 New York, NY 10004
 - » Mr. RJ Palladino, AICP, PP Senior Program Manager NJ TRANSIT Capital Planning One Penn Plaza East - 8th Floor Newark, NJ 07105

FRA and NJ TRANSIT will hold three **PUBLIC HEARINGS** to provide in-person opportunities for the public to comment on the DEIS and Draft PA. The public hearings will take place on the dates and locations listed below:

August 1, 2017

Hotel Pennsylvania Skytop Ballroom, 18th floor 401 Seventh Ave at W 33rd St New York, NY 10001

August 3, 2017

Secaucus Junction Rail Station Union City High School Upper Level Long Hallway County Rd & County Ave Secaucus, NJ 07097

August 10, 2017

2500 Kennedy Blvd Union City, NJ 07087

Each hearing will include an afternoon and evening session, from 3-5 PM and from 6-8 PM, with a brief presentation about the Project at 3:15 PM and again at 6:15 PM. At the hearings, members of the public are invited to provide an oral statement or to submit comments in writing. The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Spanish and American Sign Language translators will be present. If other special accommodations are needed, please contact the Project team at least five days prior to the hearings at 973-261-8115, or email team@hudsontunnelproject.com.