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## NEWS **Bob Diamond Suing City for Access to 19th Century Atlantic Avenue Tunnel**

Posted by [Benjamin Sutton](#) on Tue, Dec 13, 2011 at 9:47 AM



Bob Diamond rediscovering the Atlantic Avenue tunnel in 1980. (Courtesy the **Brooklyn Historic Railway Association**)

For three decades after he re-discovered it in 1980, Brooklyn railway historian **Bob Diamond** offered tours of the abandoned 1844 Long Island Railroad tunnel under Atlantic Avenues between Court and Hicks streets with the city's blessing, but **last year** the FDNY brought a stop to the urban spelunking after shutting down a planned Rooftop Films screening down there. But Diamond, never one to back down—see: his fight for **trolleys in Red Hook**—is suing the city and fire department to regain access to the tunnel.

Diamond filed a \$100 million lawsuit against the city's Department of Transportation and fire department last week, though the *Post* **reports** yesterday that the city has yet to be served.

Last week, shortly after filing the suit, Diamond **told** Gothamist:

I'm pleased to announce that we at **BHRA** have taken an affirmative step to reclaim our rights to the Atlantic Avenue tunnel and the Red Hook streetcar project. A few moments ago, our attorneys filed a nearly \$100 million lawsuit against NYC DOT and the FDNY, for their illegal and immoral activities taken against our public service projects.

While we await the outcome of the case—a **Low Line**-style underground park?—here's a short History Channel segment on Diamond and the Atlantic Avenue tunnel.