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Trustees Take Action to Strengthen Gateway Development Corporation, GDC Requests Additional Information from Industry

NEWARK – The Board of Trustees of the Gateway Program Development Corporation (GDC) today formally endorsed the updated Portal North Bridge financial plan recently submitted to the Federal Transit Administration, approved an item to pursue legislative action in both New York and New Jersey to allow GDC to qualify as a Capital Investment Grant (CIG) applicant and NEPA Project Sponsor, and issued a follow-up Request for Information (RFI) on the Hudson Tunnel Project.

"With 100% of the required local commitment in place, we look forward to an expedited review of the Portal North Bridge Project and restoration of its previous Medium-High rating," said John D. Porcari – Interim Executive Director of GDC. "Looking forward, our plan has always been for GDC to develop and manage the Gateway Program and we will continue working with New York and New Jersey to take the actions we need to deliver on that plan."

The RFI seeks further private sector dialogue with the infrastructure market on the Hudson Tunnel Project at a time when the important milestone of 30% preliminary engineering is being reached. As GDC and the Project Partners progress towards procurement and construction, the RFI solicits feedback from the private sector on topics such as risk allocation, early works, contract packaging, lifecycle maintenance, procurement considerations and ancillary revenue opportunities.

The effort builds upon GDC's initial RFI in August 2017, which successfully sought private sector interest in and feedback on project risks and procurement methods for construction of the new Hudson River Tunnel and rehabilitation of the existing North River Tunnel.

"We look forward to continuing the valuable discussions we began last year with our industry colleagues as we develop a world-class procurement strategy that encourages innovative technical solutions for this crucial project and delivers the best value for the money for GDC and the Project Partners," said **Frank Sacr, Interim Finance Director for GDC**. "We appreciate the enthusiastic industry involvement thus far in helping shape the strategy that will propel this important project through to completion."

As part of the Request for Information, an Industry Information Session will be held on July 31 in New York. Additional details are available at <u>www.gatewayprogram.org/workwithus</u> including the RFI document and a registration link. Register by July 27 (space is limited!). RFI responses are due August 21. Respondents should direct inquiries and other requests to <u>info@gatewayprogram.org</u>.

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The Gateway Program is the most urgent infrastructure program in the country – a comprehensive rail investment program that will improve commuter and intercity services, add needed resiliency and create new capacity for the busiest section of the Northeast Corridor (NEC). The NEC is the most heavily used passenger rail line in the country hosting more than 2,200 train movements and 800,000 passenger trips daily. The Gateway Program Development Corporation is a New Jersey not-for-profit entity with Board members representing Amtrak and the States of New York and New Jersey. It was incorporated in 2016 to oversee and effectuate the Gateway Program in coordination with federal and local partner agencies.