

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 15, 2019

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## **Statement of Gateway Program Development Corporation Chairman Jerry Zaro in Response to Federal Funding Bill Signed Today**

"We're grateful for the tireless commitment of the bipartisan New York and New Jersey Congressional delegations in the Senate and House, their colleagues on the Committees responsible for this bill, and to the Administration in enacting an Appropriations measure that funds the U.S. Department of Transportation and the grant and loan programs available to the Gateway Program.

It's particularly important that a measure is included that makes crystal clear that Federal loans repaid with local funds must be counted as part of the local share of a project, as has historically been the case. The Gateway projects will access these loan programs, and New York, New Jersey and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey will pay them back. We are gratified that Congress and the Administration have recognized that it's just common sense that those payments are local share.

Now, we look forward to working with our Federal partners to expedite construction of a new Portal North Bridge and rail tunnel under the Hudson River – urgent infrastructure priorities for America, not just New York and New Jersey. Replacing the century-old one-track in, out-track out system with 21st Century infrastructure will immediately make the busiest section of the Northeast Corridor more reliable, more resilient, and safer, improve quality of life and keep our economy growing."

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*EDITORS NOTE – Page 1028 of the Bill includes the following:*

*SEC. 165. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used for the implementation or furtherance of new policies detailed in the "Dear Colleague" letter distributed by the Federal Transit Administration to capital investment grant program project sponsors on June 29, 2018.*