

**GATEWAY PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES: TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2019**

The following are the minutes of the actions taken at the Open Session of the Regular Meeting of the Gateway Program Development Corporation (GDC) Board of Trustees, held at 4 World Trade Center, 150 Greenwich St., New York, New York on Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 11:00 am.

**Present**

Jerry Zaro, Chairman

Anthony R. Coscia, Vice Chairman

Steven M. Cohen, Trustee

**1. Call to Order**

- Chairman Zaro called the Open Session of the Regular Meeting of GDC’s Board of Trustees to order at approximately 11:05 am.

**2. Roll Call, Notice of Meeting**

- Diana Lopez, Secretary, confirmed that all attendees were present, and that there was quorum. Secretary Lopez announced that adequate notice of today’s Regular Meeting of GDC’s Board of Trustees had been provided to provide full transparency and afford the public with an opportunity to participate. Notices were filed on March 29, 2018 with the New Jersey Secretary of State, the Clerk of Essex County, New Jersey, and the Clerk of Hudson County, New Jersey. Secretary Lopez noted that the meeting notice was provided on the GDC website. Secretary Lopez indicated that this meeting was being videotaped.

**3. Adoption of February 22, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

- Copies of the minutes from the February 22, 2019 Meeting of GDC’s Board of Trustees were distributed prior to this meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

**4. Gateway Program Update Presentation**

- GDC Interim Executive Director Frank Sacr and GDC Chief of Public Outreach Stephen Sigmund provided an update on the Gateway Program.
- Mr. Sacr provided a status update on federal grant submissions to USDOT and FTA for the Portal North Bridge and Hudson Tunnel Projects. Mr. Sacr noted that the FTA rated both projects as “Medium-Low.” Mr. Sacr stated that the Portal North Bridge Project was rated poorly despite the actions taken to substantially strengthen the financial plan, including the State of New Jersey adding commitments to the project. Mr. Sacr stated that the Hudson Tunnel Project, despite the additional commitments from both New York and New Jersey since the FY2019 submittal, was also rated poorly. Presentation slides with additional details on both project ratings are contained in the Corporation’s records, as well as on GDC’s public website.

- Mr. Sacr noted that there is significant work taking place for the Hudson Tunnel Project. Mr. Sacr provided an overview on the Value for Money Analysis work that GDC and the Project Partners are currently undertaking to determine the best-value strategy for procuring and constructing the new Hudson River Tunnel. Mr. Sacr stated that this analysis was on-going and would help inform GDC's procurement decisions.
- Mr. Sacr provided an update on the Virtual Data Room and the Hudson Tunnel Project Phase 2 Supplemental Boring Program. Additional geotechnical investigations can help reduce unknowns, reduce construction risks, and help reduce project cost. Mr. Sacr stated that over 60 firms had received access to the Virtual Data Room and that GDC received feedback from industry on the existing project data that had been provided in the Virtual Data Room. Industry commented on the proposed Phase 2 Supplemental Boring Program and GDC conducted one-on-one meetings with those firms. Mr. Sacr noted that the Phase 2 Supplemental Boring Program was revised based on this feedback and the work would take place in Spring/Summer 2019. Mr. Sacr stated that the cost of this work would be approximately \$10 million.
- Mr. Sigmund provided an update on the temporary rule change requested by Amtrak at suggestion of Senators Menendez and Booker and Governor Murphy, working closely with the United States Coast Guard to prohibit opening of the existing Portal Bridge during the rush hour periods. Mr. Sigmund noted that the maritime community wants and needs navigable waterways and that justifies the need for a new, fixed, higher bridge. Mr. Sigmund stated that the temporary rule change is a benefit to passengers to make sure that during the rush hours, the existing Portal Bridge is closed more often since a 20-minute delay is created every time it opens.
- Mr. Sigmund described the continued stakeholder outreach activities with Senators Schumer, Menendez, Booker, and Gillibrand, as well as with the House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee staff and the New York-New Jersey House of Representatives Delegations in Washington, DC. Mr. Sigmund discussed two legislative items including the Letter of No Prejudice Legislation from Senator Schumer and the Plan B Legislation from Senators Gottheimer and King. Mr. Sigmund also noted the Regional Plan Association's "A Preventable Crisis" report that discussed the impact if one of the two tracks under the Hudson River needed to be taken out of service: a \$16 billion loss to the national economy, \$22 billion loss to property values, increased congestion, and increased pollution.

##### **5. Project Counsel Request for Proposals**

Mr. Sacr provided an update on the Project Counsel Request for Proposals. GDC's Hudson Tunnel Project Counsel will be a key part of the team, together with GDC's financial advisor, helping to procure and execute delivery of the new Tunnel. Mr. Sacr stated that GDC is procuring these services now so that the Project Counsel can assist GDC in taking the steps to

be ready for construction procurement activities. Mr. Sacr noted that expected tasks include governance, project development, project procurement, and funding and financing.

**6. Public Comments on Agenda Items and Other Matters**

- Secretary Lopez announced that there were 5 registered speakers and began the public comment period.
- Speaker: Joseph Clift, Private Citizen
- Speaker: Neile Weissman, Complete George
- Speaker: Christopher Boylan, General Contractors Association of New York
- Speaker: Nat Bottigheimer, Regional Plan Association & Build Gateway Now Coalition
- Speaker: Justin Pascone, New York Building Congress

**7. Action Item: Designation of Officers and Delegation of Authority to Interim Executive Director**

- Chairman Zaro announced the first action item before the Board, Item #0419-01, a resolution that designates the Interim Executive Director and Chief Administrative Officer as Officers of GDC pursuant to GDC bylaws. The resolution also delegates certain categories of actions, in addition to those delegated to the Chief Executive Officer in the bylaws, to Frank Sacr in his role as Interim Executive Director.
- Chairman Zaro made a motion to advance the item. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Coscia and passed with unanimous vote.

**8. Action Item: Hudson Tunnel Project – Endorsement of Supplemental Phase 2 Geotechnical Boring Program**

- Chairman Zaro announced the second action item before the Board, Item #1904-02, a resolution that endorses actions taken by Amtrak to advance the Hudson Tunnel Project Phase 2 Geotechnical Boring Program as part of the Hudson Tunnel Project's Preliminary Engineering and Design activities. Chairman Zaro noted that Amtrak's actions are part of Amtrak's contribution to the Hudson Tunnel Project in a reasonable amount presently estimated to be approximately \$10 million and that these actions are consistent with prior and ongoing support that Amtrak has provided for preliminary engineering.
- Chairman Zaro made a motion to advance the item. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cohen and passed with unanimous vote.

**9. Adjournment**

- At approximately 11:48 a.m., Chairman Zaro made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- Vice Chairman Coscia seconded the motion and it was unanimously adopted.
- There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.