

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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IN SECOND BOARD MEETING, GATEWAY COMMISSION FORMALIZES COMMITMENT TO ULTIMATELY BECOME PROJECT SPONSOR FOR HUDSON TUNNEL PROJECT

Provides Update on EIS progress, Portal North Bridge

Newark, NJ – The Board of the Gateway Development Commission met today and voted to formally recognize its commitment to take over project sponsorship of the Hudson Tunnel Project from the Port Authority of NY/NJ prior to a Full Funding Grant Agreement with the Federal government.

The Commission also heard from staff updating it on progress in meeting the US Department of Transportation’s commitment to a joint Final Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision on the tunnel project by May 28, as well as continued procurement advancement on the Portal North Bridge project.

The Resolution formalizing the project sponsorship commitment highlighted that the Commission “confirms its commitment to assume the role of federal grant recipient and NEPA Project Sponsor for the Hudson Tunnel Project from the Port Authority, prior to the signing of a CIG Full Funding Grant Agreement or other federal funding agreement, consistent with the legislative purpose of the Commission.”

The Gateway Development Commissioners said jointly, “Today’s action formalizes what we’ve all been working together towards for many years. GDC will be a strong, active, well developed partnership between Amtrak, New Jersey and New York, working hand in hand with the Federal government, meeting its responsibility to deliver on the most urgent infrastructure project in the region and the nation. One step at a time, we’re moving closer to the day when hundreds of thousands of daily riders will finally benefit from truly 21st Century rail transportation.”

During the meeting, the Commission also voted to appoint acting officers including **Edmund Caulfield** as Acting General Counsel, Acting Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer, and Acting Secretary, **Suma Mandel** as Acting Chief Administrative Officer, **Frank Sacr** as Acting Chief Financial Officer and **Stephen Sigmund** as Acting Chief of Public Outreach.

The Commissioners of GDC are:

- Steven M. Cohen, New York Commissioner & Co-Chair
- Balpreet Grewal-Virk, New Jersey Commissioner & Co-Chair
- Tony Coscia, Amtrak Commissioner & Vice Chair
- Jamey Barbas, New York Commissioner
- Janine Bauer, New Jersey Commissioner
- Marie Therese Dominguez, New York Commissioner
- Jerry Zaro, New Jersey Commissioner

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The Gateway Program is the most urgent infrastructure program in the country – a comprehensive set of rail investments 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.