

**GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
BOARD MEETING**

April 27, 2026

Public Comments for April 27, 2026, Board Meeting

(Received as of April 26, 2026)

*The public was encouraged to submit public comments via the comment form on
www.GatewayProgram.org.*

Name	Jerry Keenan
Organization	NJ Alliance for Action
Comment Topic	Statement of NJ Alliance for Action
Video statement for the record of the April 27 meeting. Link to Video Testimony	

Name	Christopher Boylan
Organization	General Contractors Association of NY
Comment Topic	Support of the Hudson River Tunnels Project
See Optional File Upload	



**Remarks of Christopher Boylan
The General Contractors Association of New York
at the
Gateway Development Commission Board Meeting
April 27, 2026**

Good Morning. I am here on behalf of the General Contractors Association of New York (GCA), which represents nearly 300 heavy civil public works transportation and infrastructure contractors and related firms in the New York Metropolitan area.

Those companies employ over 25,000 unionized craft and professional workers who have built, rebuilt, and rehabilitated the very underpinnings of the New York metropolitan region, from its building foundations to its roads, bridges, water & sewer systems, and -- most relevant to our discussion today -- its transit and rail systems.

It is our member firms that have been busy building the initial elements of the Hudson River Tunnel (HRT) project, and in that regard we very much look forward to the actions the Commission is taking today to advance additional sections of those critically important tunnels.

As you know from our previous comments at earlier Commission Board Meetings, we have been an ardent supporter of Gateway as far back as 2012 and have actively advocated for its funding in Washington over that nearly decade and a half.

Most recently we have been concerned over the unfortunate pause in federal funding commitments to the project that, if left unaddressed, could have had potential long-term impacts on project schedule and budget. More tangibly, the pause already had a very real, albeit short-term, impact on over a thousand unionized employees who work on the HRT project.

As you know, the pause was not limited to Gateway. It also applied to the MTA's Second Avenue Subway, and at least two additional projects in Illinois. While the physical impact of the pause on those projects was not as immediately felt as it was here at Gateway, the precedent that was being set was deeply troubling.

Accordingly, we have spent a lot of time in Washington over the last 5-6 months pressing USDOT, FTA, and members of our House and Senate Delegations of both parties to help resolve the issue, un-pause the monies, and prevent a reoccurrence in the future.

Additionally, as an active member of the Coalition for the Northeast Corridor (CNEC) we have made the same case far beyond the Delegation, with Congressional leadership and relevant authorization and appropriations Committees.

Along with legal action taken by this Commission, and more recently by the MTA here in New York and the CTA in Illinois, we are cautiously optimistic that the matter has been at least temporarily resolved.

We will nonetheless remain vigilant on behalf of all those who work on, and will benefit from, the efficient execution of HRT -- and all critically important rail and transit projects.

We commend this Commission and other partners in New York and New Jersey for keeping an eye on the ball to expeditiously advance the HRT project despite such unanticipated obstacles, and we look forward to continuing to actively support your efforts to get it done on time and on budget.

In closing, as always, we thank you for your commitment to one of the most important projects in our nation, and for the opportunity to comment and regularly share our thoughts with you and your management team.

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