FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 30, 2019

Contact: Steve Sigmund – <u>ssigmund@gatewayprogram.org</u>; 917-459-7794 Craig Schulz – <u>craig.schulz@amtrak.com</u>; 212-630-6041

## STATEMENT BY GAETWAY PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION CHAIRMAN JERRY ZARO ON TODAY'S WHITE HOUSE / CONGRESSIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE MEETING

"We're glad the President & Congressional leaders had a productive discussion on real funding to rebuild the nation's infrastructure, and there is no project more critical to that task than Gateway.

The current 108 year-old tunnel and bridge represent a single point of failure for as much as 20% of America's GDP. Any meaningful discussion about infrastructure must include robust funding opportunities for projects of national significance like Gateway and the full participation of the Federal government as a partner in creating modern, 21st Century transportation this nation can be proud of. "

## ###

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 (GDC) 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. Follow the GDC on Twitter @GatewayProgNews.

**MAMTRAK**