Contact:

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



In Wake of Election Poll Finds Unity in Overwhelming Support for Gateway Program

More than 85% "vote for" project as urgent, 60% fear failure or breakdown, 72% think Federal government should partner in building new tunnel

NEWARK – Residents of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania overwhelmingly support construction of the first projects in the Gateway Program – the Portal North Bridge and Hudson Tunnel Projects – according to a new survey of 400 adults on behalf of the Gateway Program Development Corporation (GDC).

More than 85% of respondents think it's "very or somewhat" important to add a second rail tunnel under the Hudson, and more than 80% favor the current projects to replace a 107-year-old one-track-in, one-track-out system with modern, 21st Century transportation infrastructure.

Other major findings of the survey include:

- 85% of respondents support the States of New York and New Jersey, Amtrak and the Federal government partnering to fund the Gateway projects;
- 90% think a new rail tunnel is important to people being able to get to their jobs and conduct business;
- Almost 80% think a new tunnel system would make commuting and traveling between New York and New Jersey and on the Northeast corridor better;
- 80% believe a new rail tunnel is important to housing prices in the region;
- 72% think the Federal Government should help pay for a new rail tunnel;
- More than 60% say delays have gotten worse in the last 5 years;
- More than 60% are worried about a failure or breakdown in the current tunnel.

"It is encouraging to see continued strong support for the Hudson Tunnel and Portal North Bridge Projects," said **GDC Chairman Steven M. Cohen**. "200,000 daily passengers are relying on us to deliver a more reliable, resilient and safer experience. We have not a minute to lose."

"A new tunnel between New York and New Jersey and a new bridge over the Hackensack River are absolute imperatives for the economic future of the Garden State," said **New Jersey Trustee Jerry Zaro**. "With a nearly 4:1 return on investment projected, Gateway is a smart investment from a regional and national perspective."

The GDC survey also showed that while support is robust among people familiar with the projects, general awareness and faith in the process is lagging. For example, only 20% of respondents have heard of the Portal North Bridge project and just over 40% have heard about the Hudson Tunnel Project. Moreover a third of respondents do not believe a new rail tunnel will be built in the next ten years.

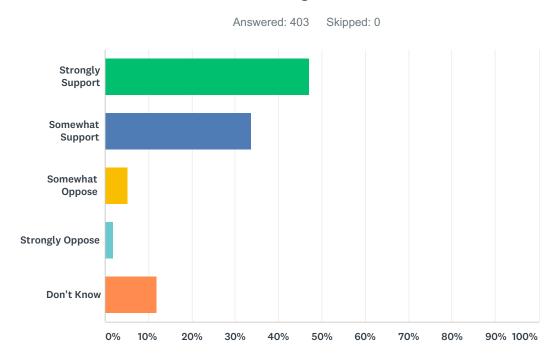
"For too long America has failed to invest in its infrastructure but we have an opportunity to change that," said **GDC Vice Chairman Tony Coscia**. "The Gateway Program is big and bold but also smart and achievable. It's time to pay it forward for a new generation and build 21st Century infrastructure of which America can be proud."

The survey was conducted September 27-October 1 by SurveyMonkey of a representative sample of 403 adults living in New York, New Jersey and northeastern Pennsylvania. Respondents were randomly selected and represent a balance of gender, age, education and income levels. The complete results are attached.

Attachment

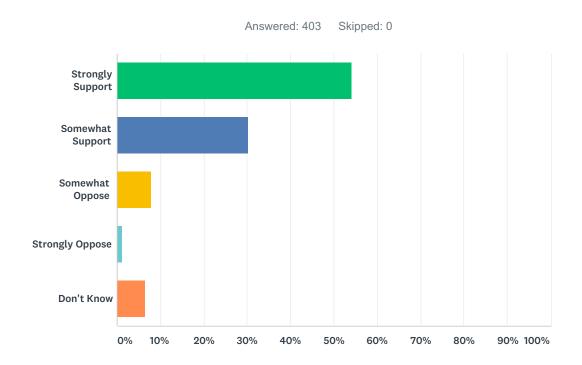
The Gateway Program is the most urgent infrastructure program in the country – a comprehensive rail investment program that will improve commuter and intercity services, add needed resiliency and create new capacity for the busiest section of the Northeast Corridor (NEC). The NEC is the most heavily 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.

Do you support construction of a new rail tunnel and bridge to replace the 107 year old one-track-in one-track-out system currently in use by all NJ TRANSIT trains between New Jersey and New York and Amtrak trains between Washington and Boston?



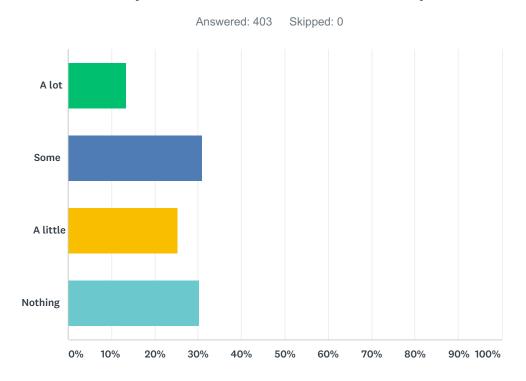
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Support	47.15%	190
Somewhat Support	33.75%	136
Somewhat Oppose	5.21%	21
Strongly Oppose	1.99%	8
Don't Know	11.91%	48
TOTAL		403

Do you support the states of New York and New Jersey, Amtrak and the Federal government working together to fund and build a new rail tunnel to replace the 107 year old tunnel currently under the Hudson River?



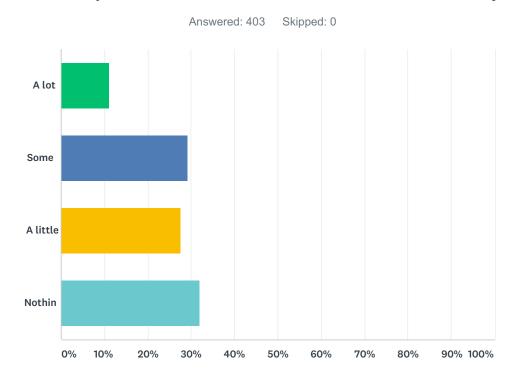
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Support	54.09%	218
Somewhat Support	30.27%	122
Somewhat Oppose	7.94%	32
Strongly Oppose	1.24%	5
Don't Know	6.45%	26
TOTAL		403

How much have you heard about the "Gateway Tunnel"?



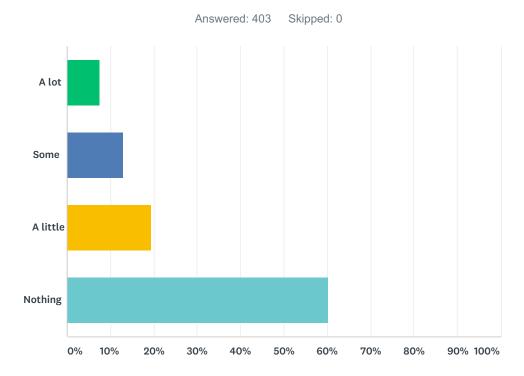
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A lot	13.40%	54
Some	31.02%	125
A little	25.31%	102
Nothing	30.27%	122
TOTAL		403

How much have you heard about the "Hudson Tunnel Project"?



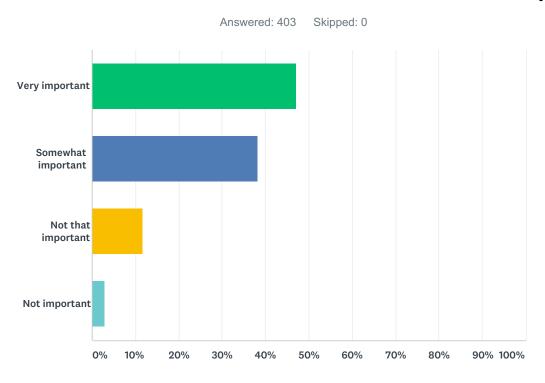
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A lot	11.17%	45
Some	29.28%	118
A little	27.54%	111
Nothin	32.01%	129
TOTAL		403

How much have you heard about the "Portal North Bridge" project?



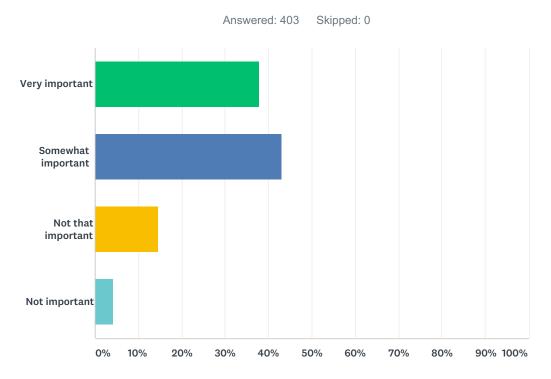
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A lot	7.44%	30
Some	12.90%	52
A little	19.35%	78
Nothing	60.30%	243
TOTAL		403

How important do you think it is to add a second rail tunnel linking the Northeast Corridor between New York and New Jersey?



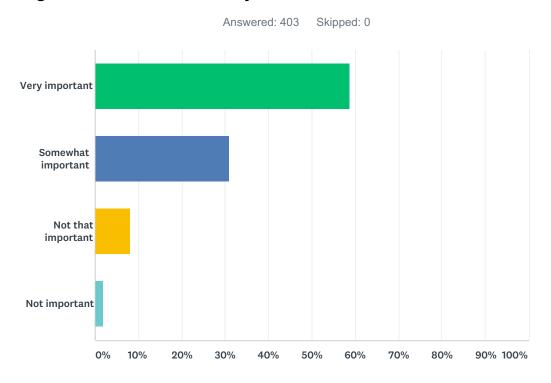
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very important	47.15%	190
Somewhat important	38.21%	154
Not that important	11.66%	47
Not important	2.98%	12
TOTAL		403

How important is a new rail tunnel under the Hudson River to housing prices in New Jersey and New York?



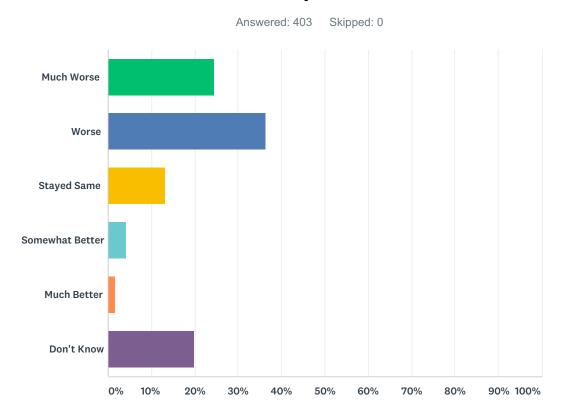
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very important	37.97%	153
Somewhat important	43.18%	174
Not that important	14.64%	59
Not important	4.22%	17
TOTAL		403

How important is a new rail tunnel under the Hudson River to people being able to commute to jobs and do business in New York?



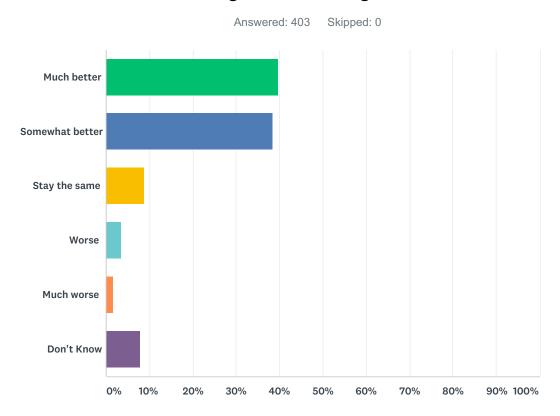
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very important	58.81%	237
Somewhat important	31.02%	125
Not that important	8.19%	33
Not important	1.99%	8
TOTAL		403

Do you believe delays caused by problems with the current 107 year old rail bridge and tunnel have gotten worse, better, or stayed the same in the last 5 years?



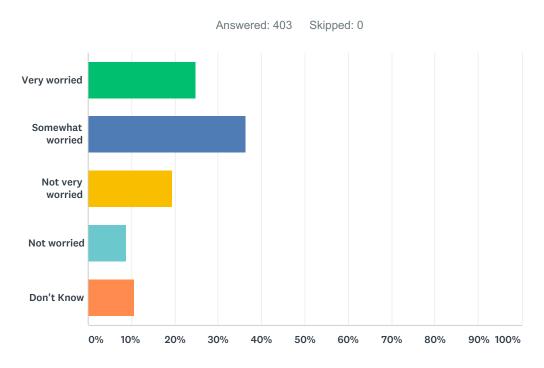
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Much Worse	24.57%	99
Worse	36.48%	147
Stayed Same	13.15%	53
Somewhat Better	4.22%	17
Much Better	1.74%	7
Don't Know	19.85%	80
TOTAL		403

Do you believe a new bridge and rail tunnel linking NJ Transit trtrains between New York and New Jersey and Amtrak's Northeast Corridor would make commuting and traveling to and from New York:



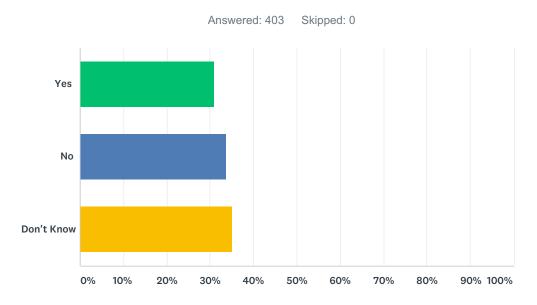
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Much better	39.70%	160
Somewhat better	38.46%	155
Stay the same	8.68%	35
Worse	3.47%	14
Much worse	1.74%	7
Don't Know	7.94%	32
TOTAL		403

How worried are you that the current 107 year old bridge and tunnel to carry 200,000 daily rail passengers under the Hudson will break down or fail?



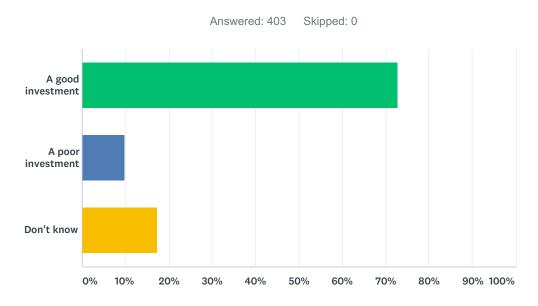
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very worried	24.81%	100
Somewhat worried	36.48%	147
Not very worried	19.35%	78
Not worried	8.68%	35
Don't Know	10.67%	43
TOTAL		403

Do you believe a new rail tunnel under the Hudson will be built in the next 10 years?



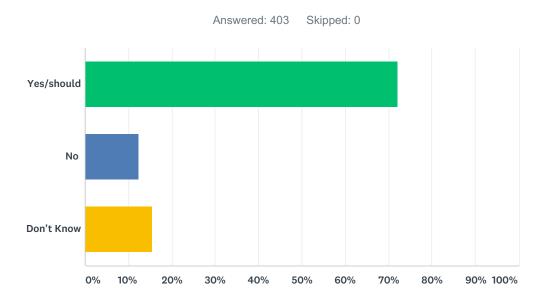
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	31.02%	125
No	33.75%	136
Don't Know	35.24%	142
TOTAL		403

Do you think construction of a new rail tunnel to replace the current 107 year old tunnel linking New York to New Jersey and the Northeast Corridor is:



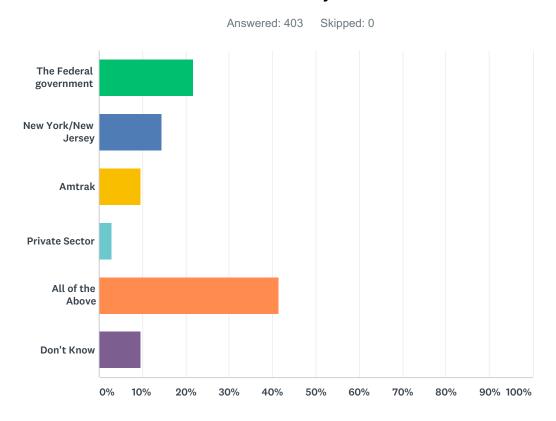
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A good investment	72.70%	293
A poor investment	9.93%	40
Don't know	17.37%	70
TOTAL		403

Do you think the Federal government should provide funding to build a new rail tunnel linking New York to New Jersey and the Northeast Corridor?



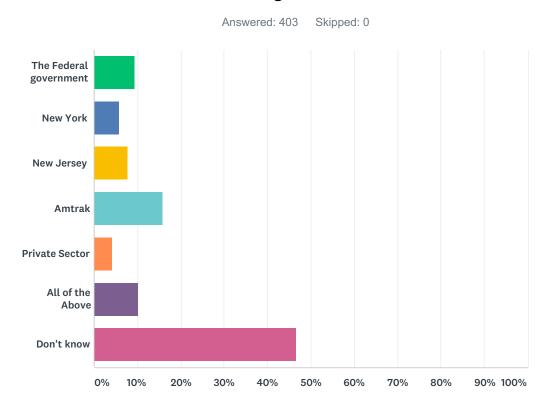
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes/should	72.21%	291
No	12.41%	50
Don't Know	15.38%	62
TOTAL		403

Who do you think should pay to replace the current one track in, one track out bridge and tunnel that carries 200,000 NJ Transit and Amtrak passengers in to and out of New York and is a link to the national economy?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
The Federal government	21.84%	88
New York/New Jersey	14.39%	58
Amtrak	9.68%	39
Private Sector	2.98%	12
All of the Above	41.44%	167
Don't Know	9.68%	39
TOTAL		403

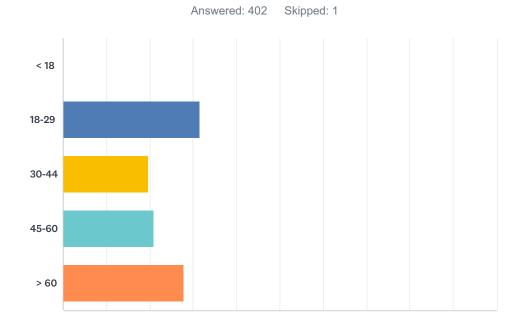
Who owns the current rail bridge and tunnel that carries NJ Transit trains between New York and New Jersey and Amtrak trains between Washington DC and Boston



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
The Federal government	9.43%	38
New York	5.96%	24
New Jersey	7.69%	31
Amtrak	15.88%	64
Private Sector	4.22%	17
All of the Above	10.17%	41
Don't know	46.65%	188
TOTAL		403

Gateway Program

Age



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
< 18	0.00%	0
18-29	31.59%	127
30-44	19.65%	79
45-60	20.90%	84
> 60	27.86%	112
TOTAL		402

0%

10%

20%

30%

40%

50%

60%

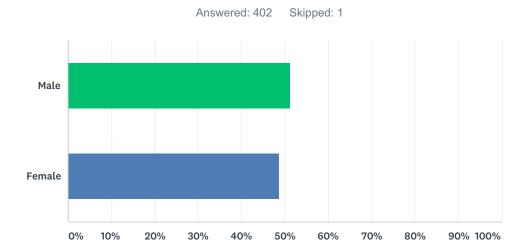
70%

80%

90% 100%

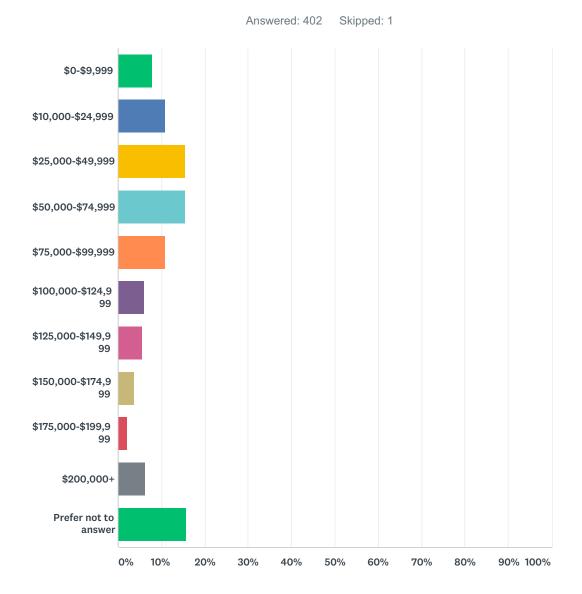
Gateway Program

Gender



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	51.24%	206
Female	48.76%	196
TOTAL		402

Household Income



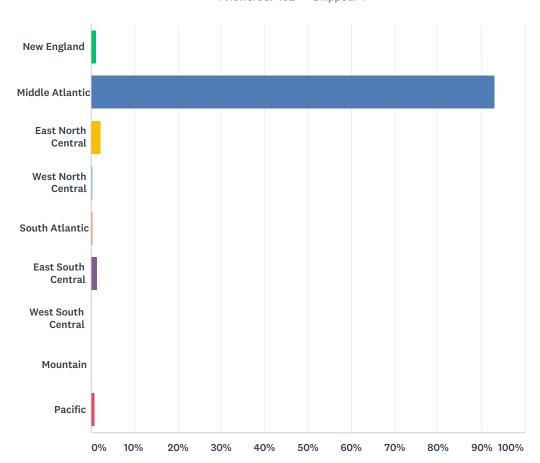
32 44 62
62
62
44
24
23
15
8
25

Gateway Program

Prefer not to answer	15.67%	63
TOTAL		402

Region

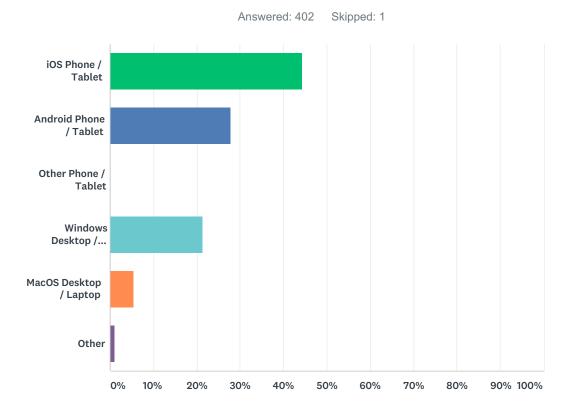




ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
New England	1.24%	5
Middle Atlantic	93.03%	374
East North Central	2.24%	9
West North Central	0.50%	2
South Atlantic	0.50%	2
East South Central	1.49%	6
West South Central	0.00%	0
Mountain	0.25%	1
Pacific	0.75%	3
TOTAL		402

Gateway Program

Device Type



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
iOS Phone / Tablet	44.28%	178
Android Phone / Tablet	27.86%	112
Other Phone / Tablet	0.00%	0
Windows Desktop / Laptop	21.39%	86
MacOS Desktop / Laptop	5.47%	22
Other	1.00%	4
TOTAL		402