FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 16, 2023

Contact: Steve Sigmund – ssigmund@gatewayprogram.org; 917-459-7794

GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BOARD AUTHORIZES KEY AGREEMENTS WITH AMTRAK, NJT AS HUDSON TUNNEL PROJECT CONTINUES TO ADVANCE

With Four SEP Agreements in Place, Organizational Architecture for GDC Oversight of All Construction Contracts on New Tunnel is Completed. Initial Construction Mobilization Continues.

Newark/New York – The Gateway Development Commission (GDC) today held a Board of Commissioners meeting at which the Board approved Supporting or Executing Partner (SEP) Agreements with both the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) and the New Jersey Transit Corporation for construction on the Hudson Tunnel Project (HTP).

GDC's SEP Agreement with Amtrak is for Package 2, which includes work on the tunnel and systems fit-out, while the agreement with New Jersey Transit concerns Package 3, which encompasses the tunnel's New Jersey surface alignment.

The Board's action today comes on the heels of GDC's SEP Agreement with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey for services in support of the tunneling and heavy civil work of the HTP, as well as with Amtrak for the Hudson Yards Concrete Casing – Section 3.

With these four construction management agreements now in place, GDC has secured the organizational framework necessary to ensure each contract for the new tunnel is seamlessly executed.

In a joint statement, Alicia Glen, New York Commissioner and Co-Chair, Balpreet Grewal-Virk, New Jersey Commissioner and Co-Chair, and Tony Coscia, Amtrak Commissioner and Vice-Chair, said, "There is incredible momentum behind building this tunnel because there is urgent need for it. The millions of commuters who power our region and our nation can't wait any longer. Initial construction is beginning in both New York and New Jersey, but we cannot miss a beat. With these SEP Agreements, GDC and our partners are ensuring this tunnel is built as rapidly as possible."

GDC Chief Executive Officer Kris Kolluri added, "The Biden administration, our Governors, Majority Leader Schumer, our entire Congressional delegation, and our Board of Commissioners have entrusted GDC with the most urgent infrastructure project in the nation. We do not take this responsibility lightly. Today, we have set in motion construction that will not stop until the first train carries its first passengers through the new Hudson River Tunnel."

GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Board was also updated on the continued progress toward early construction work in New Jersey and New York. The Tonnelle Avenue Bridge and Utility Relocation Project, which will create a new roadway bridge located immediately above a future railroad right-of-way, received its "Notice to Proceed" last week. And construction preparation is advancing for the Hudson Yards Concrete Casing – Section 3, the essential rail right-of-way preservation project that connect the new tunnel into New York Penn Station.

In addition to authorizing SEP Agreements with Amtrak and New Jersey Transit, the GDC Board passed a resolution authorizing GDC to adopt a Title VI and Nondiscrimination Program Plan, completing a critical federal civil rights requirement.

GDC has made significant additional progress in recent months to advance key elements of the Hudson Tunnel Project. Other major developments include the following:

- The Hudson Tunnel Project entered the Engineering Phase of the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Program.
- The Hudson Tunnel Project was selected for a \$292 million US Department of Transportation (USDOT) MEGA Grant for work on the Hudson Yards Concrete Casing – Section 3.
- The USDOT Build America Bureau is advancing applications for Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing (RRIF) loans to support the local funding share of the Hudson Tunnel Project.
- Five out of nine contemplated Hudson Tunnel Project contracts are in procurement or construction.

###

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.