

GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
BOARD MEETING
October 16, 2023

Public Comments for October 16, 2023 Board Meeting

(Received as of October 16, 2023)

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

Name	Gerald Keenan
Organization	New Jersey Alliance for Action
Comment Topic	In support of the Commission and recent developments relating to the Gateway Project
See video/audio in the following link .	

Name	Sophie Cappello
Organization	Regional Plan Association/Build Gateway Now Coalition
Comment Topic	HTP
<p>Thank you to the Gateway Development Commission for accepting public comment for the October virtual Board Meeting.</p> <p>RPA and the Build Gateway Now coalition are thrilled about the continued progress of the Hudson Tunnel Project. With pre-construction set to start in the coming weeks, the hard work and cooperation between the agencies, states and project partners to reach this milestone is evident. This continued collaboration will be necessary as progress continues.</p> <p>We are excited to be close to reaching the point of inevitability for the Hudson Tunnel Project, and as advocates and experts across industries, the Build Gateway Now coalition will continue to do our part to move this project forward. We are also excited to learn that Portal North Bridge is 33% of the way through construction, with construction having started just over a year ago. This project will transform the rider experience on Amtrak and NJT. With each passing milestone, we are one step closer to a faster, safer, and more reliable trip for riders on this section of the Northeast Corridor. As Phase 1 projects proceed on track, the Build Gateway Now coalition looks forward to making sure Phase 2 projects are also getting funding commitments needed to improve the rest of the corridor between New York and New Jersey. Yet we know the unprecedented levels of federal funding for rail projects may not last forever, so the time to act is now. Once a completed Gateway Program is built, we will double capacity, improve air quality and encourage travelers between New York and New Jersey to take the train, leading to a more sustainable future.</p> <p>Thank you to the GDC for your continued leadership and for inviting public comment to be submitted.</p>	

Name	Maddie DeCerbo
Organization	The Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY)
Comment Topic	Support Letter
<p>The Real Estate Board of New York to The Gateway Development Corporation:</p> <p>The Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY) is the City’s leading real estate trade association representing commercial, residential, and institutional property owners, builders, managers, investors, brokers, salespeople, and other organizations and individuals active in New York City real estate. REBNY appreciates the opportunity to submit comments to the Gateway Development Commission in support of funding the Gateway project, one of the most ambitious and critical infrastructure projects in the Northeast.</p> <p>Continued investment in our region’s infrastructure is essential for attracting and retaining businesses and an in-person workforce, which will help accelerate a robust and equitable economic recovery. This point is one of many reasons why REBNY is a proud member of the Build Gateway Now Coalition, comprised of civic, labor, and business leaders supporting the construction of this new rail tunnel.</p> <p>REBNY supports the Gateway Program, which is progressing through the first phase of work, the Hudson Tunnel Project. Early work on both sides of the river is set to begin soon, encompassing Tonelle Avenue and the Hudson Yards Concrete casing. The Hudson Tunnel Project will improve reliability and resiliency to the regional and national rail network, while creating more than 72,000 jobs over the Project’s construction period.</p> <p>Construction on Portal North Bridge is one-third complete. The replacement of this outdated structure is critical to improving safety and efficiency for the 450 Amtrak and NJ Transit Portal Bridge carriers per day. These milestones are a direct result of the strong partnerships between GDC, Amtrack and New Jersey Transit and continued partnerships are critical to the advancement of the Gateway Project.</p> <p>The Gateway Project is critical to the region’s economic growth and recovery. As an organization representing private sector real estate interests, REBNY is proud to support these efforts. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>	