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**FORMER METRO-NORTH PRESIDENT CATHERINE RINALDI TO SERVE AS GATEWAY
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT**

The Gateway Development Commission (GDC) announced that Catherine Rinaldi, who served as President of MTA’s Metro-North Railroad from 2018 until last month, will be GDC’s first Executive Vice President effective today.

Rinaldi brings deep experience leading the two busiest commuter rail systems in the United States, which includes both her tenure with Metro-North and senior executive positions with the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR). During her seven years as Metro-North President, on-time performance rose to an all-time high and she achieved the highest customer satisfaction of any of the MTA operating agencies. As interim LIRR President in 2022 and 2023, Rinaldi successfully launched service into the new Grand Central Madison terminal, marking the railroad’s largest increase in service.

At GDC, Rinaldi will hold a key leadership position responsible for strengthening the organization’s capacity to deliver the Hudson Tunnel Project (HTP). She will oversee all essential administrative functions, while developing and tracking metrics to ensure GDC achieves its strategic objectives, among other responsibilities.

“Cathy Rinaldi’s impressive track record speaks for itself. At every agency she’s led, she’s succeeded in instilling a results-driven ethic,” said **GDC CEO Tom Prendergast**. “With half our contracts in construction and more on the way, top talent like Cathy will help keep the Hudson Tunnel Project on scope, schedule, and budget.”

Rinaldi began her career in transportation as MTA Deputy Executive Director and General Counsel. She subsequently served as Vice President and General Counsel at LIRR and Chief of Staff and Counsel to the MTA Chair. While President of Metro-North, Rinaldi was tapped to concurrently lead the LIRR in an interim capacity. She was the first woman to serve as Metro-North President, a role she held until March 2025.

Rinaldi joins GDC as the organization transitions fully into heavy civil construction. With work expected to rapidly accelerate in the coming months, the first five packages underway are [projected](#) to support 20,200 jobs and \$4.5 billion in economic output.

The latest construction progress updates include:

- The [Tonelle Avenue Bridge and Utility Relocation Project](#) passed 50% completion on schedule and on budget last year, and is anticipated to conclude this year. Excavation for the middle section of the roadway bridge is in progress and gas main relocation will be complete at the end of the month.

- The [Hudson Yards Concrete Casing – Section 3 \(HYCC-3\)](#) team is focused on excavating 80 feet underground to where the new concrete casing section will be built. The project is expected to reach 50% completion this spring.
- Deep soil mixing within the protective cofferdam for the [Hudson River Ground Stabilization Project](#) is proceeding on schedule, with approximately 200 columns now reinforcing the riverbed.
- Soldier pile installation and other preparatory work on the [Palisades Tunnel Project](#) is underway in advance of the Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) launch in 2026. Similar early preparations are in progress on the [Manhattan Tunnel Project](#), which was awarded in February 2025.

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The Gateway Program is the most urgent major 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.