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Gateway Program Development Corporation  
2 Penn Plaza East  
Newark, New Jersey 07105

## New York Building Congress Comments to the Gateway Development Commission

The New York Building Congress is emphatic in its support for the Gateway Program, which remains the most critical infrastructure project in the United States. We are thrilled that the program is set to receive federal funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, and we cannot stress enough the importance of getting the necessary funding released as soon as possible so that we can act quickly to begin work on this project.

There is no time to wait on the Gateway Program and we urge the GDC Board of Directors to confirm Kris Kolluri as its Chief Executive Officer and move forward so that we can put shovels in the ground and improve the lives of millions of commuters along the Northeast Corridor (NEC).

The Gateway Program will work in concert with New York State's investments in and around Penn Station to create a world-class transportation rail hub and an expanded central business district in New York City. While the COVID-19 pandemic shut down most offices for more than a year, companies are beginning to resume in-person work and will no doubt begin to see an increase in ridership levels in our transit systems, including the NEC.

This major investment will be a cornerstone piece of 21st Century infrastructure that will be crucial to a corridor which contributes to 20 percent of our nation's GDP, over \$3 Trillion in annual economic output, and serves 17 percent of the U.S. population. Economic engines served by the NEC include 32 percent of Fortune 500 Company headquarters, 30 percent of the nation's 4-year colleges and universities, and 20% of U.S. jobs.

Investing in the Gateway Program can pave the way for our country's economic success, for the benefit of Americans today and generations to come, and we must act now.

Very truly yours,

Carlo A. Scissura, Esq.  
President and CEO  
New York Building Congress