



July 18, 2013

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**STATEMENT OF GLOBAL GATEWAY ALLIANCE ON MTA AND NYC DOT
DECISION TO RESCIND PLAN FOR RAPID BUS SERVICE TO LAGUARDIA
AIRPORT**

"The decision by the MTA and NYC DOT to rescind the plan for rapid bus service to LaGuardia from 125th Street will not improve our airports. There is simply a vital need for better public transportation options to LaGuardia Airport from all five boroughs.

Global Gateway Alliance urges the DOT, Port Authority, and MTA to consider new approaches to provide improved transportation service from the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, and Manhattan to LaGuardia Airport. New, express bus options to LaGuardia are essential to maintain the competitiveness of our regional economy and airport system.

LaGuardia Airport serves more than 24 million passengers annually and is located only 8 miles from Midtown Manhattan.

The MTA's own website states, 'LaGuardia Airport is the only major airport in the New York metro area without a rapid transit connection. The idea of providing rapid transit for the airport and surrounding community has been studied many times over the years, but nothing was implemented.'

The proposed SBS service, announced only a year ago, warrants renewed efforts as an initial step to getting New Yorkers a quick, inexpensive, and reliable transit option to our business airport located just a few short miles away. As we strive to foster economic growth and improve quality of life for millions of travelers, we must recognize that ground access to LaGuardia Airport warrants bold, new efforts and innovative strategies."

Signed,

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MITCHELL MOSS, Henry Hart Rice Professor of Urban Policy and Planning

STEPHEN SIGMUND, Executive Director, Global Gateway Alliance