



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATEMENT FROM GLOBAL GATEWAY ALLIANCE ON CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION PUSHING FOR FREE WI-FI IN NYC-AREA AIRPORTS

The following is a statement from Joseph Sitt, Chairman of Global Gateway Alliance, and Steve Sigmund, Executive Director of Global Gateway Alliance:

“New York is woefully behind the rest of the country in providing free Wi-Fi to airport passengers, and we’re thrilled that our report helped spur Council Member Brewer to action. We look forward to working with her as this Resolution moves through the City Council. We urge the Council to pass this resolution overwhelmingly, and for the Port Authority and its contractor Boingo to act on it to finally bring an amenity that is good for customers, for our brand and for our economy to the more than 100 million passengers who use our airports each year.

“Global Gateway Alliance will continue to work with the Port Authority to help highlight and provide the amenities that not only greatly improve the passenger experience, but make our airports competitive with the rest of the United States and the world.”

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For more information on Resolution 1954, please see below.

For more information on the Global Gateway Alliance, please contact Stefan Friedman, sfriedman@mercuryllc.com or [\(646\) 241-7786](tel:6462417786).

ABOUT GGA

Global Gateway Alliance (GGA), was established to address the major challenges facing the metropolitan region’s airports and related infrastructure that, if left unaddressed, will serve as a major impediment to the long-term growth of New York City and surrounding areas. By harnessing the expertise of leaders in business, government, academia, labor and other sectors, we seek to tackle these challenges head-on and serve as the leading advocate in an effort to improve our airports and facilitate the continued growth of the region. For more information regarding the Global Gateway Alliance, please visit the www.globalgatewayalliance.org, or email info@globalgatewayalliance.org. Follow GGA on Twitter @GGA_NYNJ and ‘Like’ the organization on Facebook at <http://on.fb.me/UsqxGw>.

GGA’s board of directors includes: **Joe Sitt** (Chairman), CEO, Thor Equities, **Kathryn Wylde**, President of the Partnership for New York City; **Joseph Spinnato**, President of the Hotel Association of New York City; **William Rudin**, CEO of Rudin Management Company, Inc. and Chairman of ABNY; **Stuart Appelbaum**, President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union; **Dan Glickman** former Congressman and U.S. Agriculture Secretary; **Jared Kushner**, Owner of Kushner Properties and the New York Observer; **Alvin S. Trenk**, Chairman and CEO of Air Pegasus Corp; **Mitchell Moss**, Henry Hart Rice Professor of Urban Policy and Planning at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University; **Peter Ward**, President of the Hotel Trades Council on New York, and **David Hopkins**, Senior Director of Aviation at the New York City Economic Development Corporation.

Res. No. 1954

Resolution calling upon the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to amend its contract with Boingo Wireless, Inc. in order to provide free Internet access at its three major airports.

By Council Member Brewer

Whereas, In 1999, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey signed a 15-year contract which gives Boingo Wireless, Inc. exclusive rights to provide wireless Internet access at LaGuardia Airport, John F. Kennedy International Airport, and Newark Liberty International Airport; and

Whereas, The contract can be renewed for another 10 years during a six-month window which began in August 2013; and

Whereas, Boingo currently charges \$4.95 per hour or \$7.95 for 24 hours for wireless Internet access at the three airports; and

Whereas, According to a July 2013 survey conducted by the Global Gateway Alliance, 15 of the 20 largest airports in the country provide free wireless Internet access and, despite being the largest airport system in the country, LaGuardia, JFK and Newark are three of the five busiest airports in the nation without free wireless Internet access; and

Whereas, Boingo already offers free advertising-support wireless Internet access at other locations, including Calgary International Airport; and

Whereas, Free wireless Internet access has become increasingly commonplace at various public spaces and facilities, reflecting our society's growing reliance on consistent access to technology and the Internet for both work and leisure; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to amend its contract with Boingo Wireless, Inc. in order to provide free Internet access at its three major airports.