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GLOBAL GATEWAY ALLIANCE STATEMENT PRAISING GOVERNOR CUOMO AND VICE PRESIDENT BIDEN FOR NEW AIRPORT REDEVELOPMENT EFFORT; URGES PORT AUTHORITY TO EXPEDITE CENTRAL TERMINAL BUILDING BIDDING PROCESS

NEW YORK – NEW JERSEY – *The Global Gateway Alliance Founder and Chairman Joe Sitt released the following statement on a new process to overhaul JFK and LaGuardia airports and the progress on the bidder selection for the redevelopment of the Central Terminal Building:*

“For the last two years The Global Gateway Alliance has worked for smart investments in modern airport terminals, the timely redevelopment of the Central Terminal Building, increased access via public transportation, the addition of modern amenities and increased passenger capacity.

“Today’s announcement by Governor Cuomo and Vice President Biden is a win for our efforts, and an important step in answering these calls and bringing New York’s airports into the 21st Century.

“New York area airports, and LaGuardia in particular, have lagged behind their national counterparts in basic infrastructure investments for years – costing travelers and the region billions in lost economic opportunity.

“This announcement creates an action plan for moving forward with those key ingredients. But it is only a first step. We hope that this is a serious plan with a clear timeline, budget, and accountability for success, not just political words. Indeed, we need more than words for the idea of world class airports to become a reality and for the redevelopment of LaGuardia’s Central Terminal building (CTB) to move forward without delay.

“As both the busiest terminal at LaGuardia and a symbol of outdated infrastructure, the CTB’s redevelopment is long overdue. We strongly urge the Port Authority and its Board of Commissioners to complete the process quickly and select a bidder for the project.

“In the coming weeks and months, we look forward to a public process and the unveiling of comprehensive redevelopment plans that enable New York-area airports to compete with major airports across the country and the world.”

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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 www.globalgatewayalliance.org. Follow GGA on Twitter @GGA_NYNY and 'Like' the organization on Facebook at <http://on.fb.me/UsqxGw>.

GGA's board of directors includes: **Joseph Sitt** (Chairman), CEO, Thor Equities; **Stuart Appelbaum** (Vice President), President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union; **Angelo Genova**, Founding Partner at Genova Burns Giantomasi Webster and a former New Jersey Commissioner of the Port Authority; **Chris Giamo**, Regional President for TD Bank; **David Hopkins**, Senior Director of Aviation at the New York City Economic Development Corporation; **Jared Kushner**, Owner of Kushner Properties and the New York Observer; **George Miranda**, Teamsters' International Vice President; **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; **William Rudin**, CEO of Rudin Management Company, Inc. and Chairman of ABNY; **Joseph Spinnato**, President of the Hotel Association of New York City; **Alvin S. Trenk**, Chairman and CEO of Air Pegasus Corp; **Peter Ward**, President of the Hotel Trades Council on New York; **Tom Wright**, Executive Director of the Regional Plan Association; **Kathryn Wylde**, President of the Partnership for New York City, and **Tim Zagat**, Co-Founder and Co-Chair of Zagat Survey.