



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GGA: JetBlue Flight Halt Necessary, Shows Need for New Air Traffic Technology, Modernized Airports

(NEW YORK NEW JERSEY) – With JetBlue announcing a 17-hour stoppage for flights at all three New York City area airports today and tomorrow due to inclement weather, Global Gateway Alliance today issued a statement calling it a wake-up call for federal leaders to invest in modern airports and new air traffic technology, especially NextGen.

"JetBlue is taking a responsible step to help clear up the backlog of cancellations and delays that have bogged down our airports since New Year's and get its operations back to normal as quickly as possible, but that doesn't make it any easier for the thousands of people who are stuck. Travelers understand that bad weather happens, but they also expect smart investments to keep air travel safe, efficient and modern. Right now, that's just not happening. The storms this week should be a clarion call for the Federal Government and aviation stakeholders to step up and invest in NextGen air traffic technology to better manage delays, and modernized terminals to improve the experience when passengers are forced to spend more time in airports."

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: **Joe Sitt** (Chairman), CEO, Thor Equities; **Stuart Appelbaum**, President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union; **Chris Giamo**, Regional President for TD Bank; **Dan Glickman** former Congressman and U.S. Agriculture Secretary; **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; **Kathryn Wylde**, President of the Partnership for New York City, and **Tim Zagat**, Co-Founder and Co-Chair of Zagat Survey.

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