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STATEMENT OF GLOBAL GATEWAY ALLIANCE ON PRESIDENT OBAMA'S VISIT TO NY HIGHLIGHTING INFRASTRUCTURE

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY –Global Gateway Alliance Chairman and Founder Joe Sitt released the following statement regarding President Obama's visit to New York to highlight federal infrastructure investments:

"We are pleased that President Obama has come to New York to highlight the need to address our region's and our nation's decaying infrastructure. While regional bridges and roads matter, New York area airports are the most delayed in the nation, and need to be at the top of the national and local transportation agenda.

"Our airports suffer from an aging and outdated air traffic control system. Replacing ancient radar technology with 'NextGen' satellite air technology should be the federal government's top infrastructure priority, and it must be fully implemented in the New York area first.

"Right now, NextGen continues to see budget cuts and delays. Rather than pushing for the funding needed to keep NextGen on schedule, the FAA requested a \$65 million cut in next year's budget. If the administration is serious about wanting to change our airports from what Vice President Biden described as 'third world,' it needs to focus on real, long term solutions.

"We simply can't wait any longer to fix our broken air traffic infrastructure."

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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: **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 Wyld**, President of the Partnership for New York City, and **Tim Zagat**, Co-Founder and Co-Chair of Zagat Survey.