



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 3, 2016

**CONTACT**

Joshua Greenwald, (212) 432 3062

## **STATEMENT OF GLOBAL GATEWAY ALLIANCE ON INCREASED PASSENGER TRAFFIC AT NY-NJ AIRPORTS IN 2015; RENEWS CALL FOR AIRPORT AND AIR TRAFFIC MODERNIZATION**

(NEW YORK) – *Global Gateway Alliance Chairman and Founder Joe Sitt released the following statement today in response to the news that passenger traffic increased at New York and New Jersey airports by 7 million, reaching 124.2 million passengers in 2015.*

“The record-breaking 7 million passenger increase at New York area airports speaks to the importance of these transportation hubs as major regional economic drivers, and to our city as a leading global hub.

“However, the airports are operating over capacity and our airways are the most congested in the nation. Unless we bring NextGen to the New York airspace and modernize our terminals to accommodate the rising demand, we risk leaving the potential for future growth on the table and millions of passengers facing unbearable delays.”

###

### **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](http://www.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: **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 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.