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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

Washington, DC 20515-3011

January 4, 2018

Honorable K. Jane Williams  
Deputy Administrator  
Federal Transit Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20003-3660

Dear Acting Administrator Williams:

I am writing regarding your December 29 letter to the State of New York.

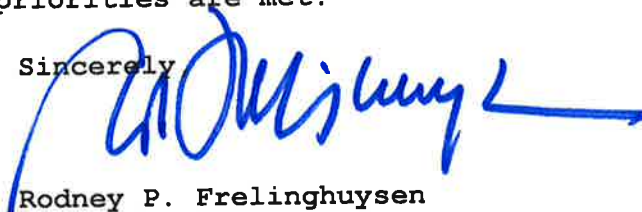
As you may know, there has long been agreement among federal, state, and local officials that the Gateway project is an urgent national infrastructure priority. The existing tunnels under the Hudson River are over 100 years old and were severely damaged by Superstorm Sandy. Absent immediate action, conditions will continue to deteriorate leading to a potential disaster, putting passengers, and major commerce, at serious risk.

It is also imperative we pursue Gateway to ensure millions of Americans continue to access this vital economic Northeast Corridor that enables safe transportation of more than 800,000 daily riders, from Washington to Boston, in an area that supports approximately 20 percent of the nation's gross domestic product (GDP). Further, this rail project serves as a critical choke point for Amtrak's entire operation on the East Coast from Florida to Maine.

A project of this size and scope requires investment from all stakeholders and your vision too! I strongly encourage the Administration to support my state and New York in this effort. I believe it is unrealistic for the Administration to expect the most important infrastructure project in the country to move forward without full participation and investment from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Department of Transportation (DOT).

It is the responsibility of the House Committee on Appropriations to assure that such national priorities are met.

Sincerely,



Rodney P. Frelinghuysen  
Member of Congress