



COMMITTEE:
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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

September 17, 2014

The Honorable John J. Degnan
Chairman
Port Authority of New York/New Jersey
225 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10003

Re: DBE/MBE Participation on La Guardia Central Terminal Project

Dear Chairman Degnan:

As Dean of the New York Congressional Delegation, I would like to bring to your attention the importance of DBE/MBE participation on the La Guardia Central Terminal Project (LCT). As one who has worked on infrastructure issues for our great city during my forty year tenure in Congress, I understand what the importance this project means to the growth of our city, which will be a financial boon for the metropolitan area, creating nearly 15,000 jobs and roughly \$4.5 billion in economic activity throughout the region.

The \$3.6 billion makeover that includes a three-level, 1.3-million-square-foot new beaming terminal will be one-third larger than the current existing 50-year-old facility - insuring that La Guardia Airport remains an important global transportation hub in the 21st century.

Again, the La Guardia Central Terminal Project will translate into thousands of jobs and numerous contracting opportunities for our city residents, and therefore I am urging that the project contract not be awarded without minimally the inclusion of a 35% DBE/MBE participation. No winning bid should be issued a contract without showing that it has made more than a good faith effort to add 35% DBE/MBE partnership not only for construction but for soft costs such as operations, financing and design contracts.

It is crucial that every facet of this project meet federal DBE and state MBE goals. Diversity must be emphasized on the team selected to build and design this project. Atlanta, New Orleans and Washington, D.C. have taken the lead to increase DBE/MBE goals and New York City should not be in default. In a city as diverse as New York, working together we can achieve unprecedented results.

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I stand ready to assist in what undoubtedly could be an historic turning point for New York City and indeed the entire tri-state area as it relates to minority and women owned businesses. I look forward to speaking with you in an effort to begin dialogue to assist the Port Authority of New York/New Jersey in achieving these important and necessary goals to add 35% DBE/MBE participation in the La Guardia Central Terminal Project. I can be reached at (202) 225-4365 in my Washington office or at (212) 663-3900 in my New York office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Rangel', written over a printed name.

CHARLES B. RANGEL
Member of Congress

Cc: Congressman Bill Shuster
Chair, Congressional Transportation & Infrastructure Committee

FAA Administrator Michael P. Huerta

Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York

Honorable Bill De Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York

CBR:ge