

Resolution for Border Mayors re Cross-Border Transportation Infrastructure

WHEREAS, the cities along the United States-Mexico border have a history of friendship and excellent collaboration on the shared concerns of their border residents, including infrastructure, trade and tourism, and public safety and security;

WHEREAS, the value of trade between the United States and Mexico is now more than \$520 billion per year; Mexico is the #2 Export Market for products from the U.S., the U.S. is the #1 export Market for products from Mexico, and Mexico is the #1 trading partner for all four U.S. Southern Border States;

WHEREAS, the intense interaction between the border cities is reflected in the significant numbers of Bridges and Border Crossings, which are among the busiest in the world;

WHEREAS, the aforementioned economic activity is facilitated by some 10 million annual truck crossings at commercial Ports of Entry along the U.S.-Mexican Border, travelling through our Border Communities and impacting our roads, traffic patterns, and air quality;

WHEREAS, more than 1 million people transit the U.S.-Mexico land Ports of Entry in passenger vehicles or as pedestrians each day;

WHEREAS, long delays at Ports of Entry adversely affect the residents and economies of our communities, especially our retail businesses;

WHEREAS, efficient Border Crossings can also be the safest and most secure;

WHEREAS, Land Ports of Entry infrastructure are under federal jurisdiction, but impose major impacts on local communities;

WHEREAS, coordination and collaboration of multiple agencies of Local, State and Federal governments is required to successfully develop border infrastructure projects which enhance both security and efficiency;

THEREFORE, Be it Resolved, that the Border Mayors Association calls on both the United States and Mexican Federal Governments to continue to work with State and Local governments to improve the efficiency of traffic circulation at all Border Bridges and Crossings, mitigating economic and environmental impacts on the border region resulting from deficiencies or lack of adequate border infrastructure, and the resulting border wait times, and

- 1) Coordinate with State and Local Governments to improve traffic flow and access to all Land Ports of Entry;
- 2) Deploy Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) as upgrades are made at all Land Ports of Entry;
- 3) Adequately staff all crossings,
- 4) Expand the successful pre-inspection pilot programs currently operating at Otay Mesa and the Laredo Airport;
- 5) Continue investment to upgrade and expand existing border crossings and develop new border crossings as indicated by locally driven Cross-Border Transportation Master Plans, leveraging federal funds with local and private financial resources and mechanisms,
- 6) Continue to expand and integrate Trusted Traveler programs SENTRI, GLOBAL ENTRY and FAST with the goal that residents of all three North American nations may utilize a single accepted Trusted Traveler document, and

7) Consider joining efforts of Local governments and private industry to finance and build improvements or new land ports of entry and associated access roads, supporting public-private partnerships.

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