



U.S. – México Border Mayors Association

University of Texas at El Paso
Geology Building, Room 310
500 West University Avenue,
El Paso, Texas 79902

Tuesday, August 16, 2011
2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

AGENDA

- I. Welcoming Remarks – U.S. Representative Silvestre Reyes
- II. Introductory Remarks – U.S. Customs & Border Protection Commissioner Alan Bersin
- III. Introductory Remarks – Dept. of Homeland Security Assistant Secretary Betsy Markey
- IV. Working Group - develop the vision, mission and goals of the organization
- V. Presentation on border security and trade by Field Operations Director Ana Hinojosa from El Paso Customs & Border Protection
- VI. Presentation of the Universal Freight Shuttle by Mr. Rafael Aldrete from the Texas Transportation Institute
- VII. Presentation of the “Paso del Norte Comité por Juárez” initiative by Mr. Jorge Ramos and Mr. Roberto Delgado
- VIII. Other business
- IX. Closing Remarks - Mayor John F. Cook

The association is made up of the States of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California and the Mexican States of Chihuahua, Baja California, Sonora, Coahuila and Tamaulipas.

Officials who participated in the meeting are as follows:

Richard Fimbres, Vice Mayor of City of Tucson, AZ
Arturo R. Garino, Mayor of City of Nogales, AZ
Michael Gomez, Mayor of City of Douglas, AZ
Juan Carlos Escamilla, Mayor of City of San Luis, AZ
Alan Krieger, Mayor of City of Yuma, AZ
Teclo Garcia, Representing the Mayor of City of McAllen, TX
Lorenzo Hernandez, Mayor of Presidio, TX
Obed Escontrias, Council Member of Presidio, TX
Madeleine Praino, Mayor of Town of Vinton, TX
Walter L. Miller, Mayor of City of Horizon, TX
Ken Miyagishima, Mayor of City of Las Cruces, NM
Frank Paiz, Tribal Governor of Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo
Héctor "Teto" Agustín Murguía Lardizábal, Mayor of Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, MX
Carlos Bustamante Anchondo, Mayor of City of Tijuana, Baja California, MX
Sarah Gonzalez, Representing the Mayor of City of Rio Bravo, Tamaulipas, MX
Roberto Rodríguez Hernández, Consul General de México en El Paso
Dr. Salvador Hernández, University of Texas at El Paso

Absent members:

Richard F. Cortez, Mayor of City of McAllen, TX
Raul Salinas, Mayor of City of Laredo, TX
John Moreno, Mayor of City of Calexico, TX
Jerry Sanders, Mayor of City of San Diego, CA

At this meeting, the following actions were taken:

Motion made by Mayor Praino, seconded by Vice Mayor Fimbres and unanimously carried to approve the Charter [Charter] and [Action Plan].

Mayor Cook developed on the different Committees that will be part of the Association. He also explained that the Arizona State University, San Diego State University and the University of Texas at El Paso are also members who will be assisting with research.

Motion made by Mayor Praino, seconded by Vice Mayor Fimbres and unanimously carried to appoint Mayor John F. Cook as Chair and Mayor Bustamante as Co-Chair for a one-year term.

Motion made by Mayor Miyagishima, seconded by Vice Mayor Fimbres and unanimously carried to appoint Mayor Sanders as Vice Chair and Mayor Murguía as Vice Co-Chair who will take over after the one-year term for the Chairs expires.

Motion made by Mayor Praino, seconded by Co-Chair Bustamante and unanimously carried to draft a resolution asking that the major focus of the organization be to address the border wait times and improve the flow of trade while insuring that security is not compromised and present it to both governments, United States and México [1st Binational Summit Resolution].

Co-Chair Bustamante offered to host the 2nd Binational Summit in Tijuana México.

US MX Border Mayors Charter

Concept:

To create a US-Mexican Border Mayors Association to help in the formulation of policies that affect the border communities of Mexico and the United States.

Border Mayors are vital to the border security plan of Mexico and the United States. In addition the role Border Mayors have in the movement of goods, people and services should not be underestimated. Therefore for any successful plan to increase the flow of trade between the countries, the Border Mayors must have input into the policies targeting the flow of trade. Border communities are the economic recipients of increased trade flow. The quality of life also improves in border communities as the overall security plan is achieved.

Vision

The vision of the US Mexico Border Mayors Association is to be recognized as a leader and authority for Mexico and the United States border region and to bring attention to the social issues (to include health and education), border security and trade facilitation for the needs of our communities.

To make recommendations to our State Legislatures and Congress that will help the Mexico and the United States border region grow and prosper economically. To help develop mutual assistance agreements to expedite emergency management services across the border.

The US Mexico Border Mayors Association works to:

- Provide a better and secure quality of life for the residents of Mexico and the United States border region by providing economic development opportunities and sustainable incomes in a healthy and secure environment
- To assist and help develop sound policies to secure the Mexican and the United States Border
- Make the flow of goods between Mexico and the United States as efficient as possible by advocating for the necessary funding from the state and federal government
- Be an advocate for federal and state investments and incentives in areas considered vital to the fulfillment of the mission of Border Mayors Association

Committees:

- Security
 - This committee collaborates on key security issues such as information sharing, technology and personnel with the common goal of preparedness, security and the smooth and continued flow of goods, services and people.

- Transportation, Infrastructure & Ports
 - Individuals, institutions and companies involved in the development of transportation infrastructure, multi-modal transportation systems and facilities, and individuals involved in the buying, selling, and supplying of equipment and services to the transportation industry.

- Emergency Management
 - This committee helps with cross-border coordination in preventing and responding to emergencies. This committee will enhance emergency management throughout the United States-Mexico region.

- Agribusiness
 - This committee works with individuals, institutions and companies engaged in the business of supplying and processing agricultural and livestock products and commodities, and individuals involved in buying, selling and supplying of services to the agribusiness industry.

- Art & Culture
 - This committee works with individuals, institutions and companies involved in the development, promotion, and exchange of arts and cultural activities, as well as other disciplines relating to art and culture in the United States-Mexico region, and individuals providing services to the art and culture industry.

- Economic Development
 - This committee works with individuals, institutions and companies engaged in the manufacturing industry including suppliers, fabricators, assembly operations and other production operations, and individuals involved in buying, selling, and supplying services (including utilities) to the manufacturing industry. This committee also serves individuals, institutions and companies engaged in small business enterprises, retail and franchise operations, and individuals involved in buying, selling and supplying services to small business enterprises.

- Education
 - This committee works with individuals, institutions and companies involved in public and private primary, secondary, community college and university education, as well as vocational training and research, and individuals involved in the buying, selling and supplying of services to the education industry.

- Environment
 - This committee works with individuals, institutions and companies involved in the provision of environmental services, sale and distribution of environmental equipment, environmental research, development and construction, and environmental infrastructure, and individuals involved in the buying, selling and supplying of services to the environmental industry.

- Financial, Business & Legal Services
 - This committee works with individuals, institutions and companies who serve as, or provide services related to banking, customs house brokers, certified public accountants, insurance agencies and brokers, finance companies, real estate and property development, corporate attorneys, transportation services, freight forwarders, lawyers and individuals involved in the buying, selling and supplying of services to the financial, business, and legal services industries.

- Health Services
 - This committee works with individuals, institutions and companies including hospitals and other care providers involved in the provision of public and private health care services, medical research and development, sale and distribution of medical equipment, emergency services, other private and public health care activities, sales and development of medical devices and materials, and related infrastructure matters.

- Tourism
 - This committee works with individuals, institutions and companies, convention and visitor's bureaus, related services, transportation providers, airlines, tourism infrastructure, tourism property development, travel agents, and individuals involved in the buying, selling and supplying of services to the tourism industry.

- Water
 - To pursue water management planning in the United States-Mexico region that emphasizes collaboration on programs for the advancement of economic, social and environmental benefits of both countries, and that arise from constructive solutions to shared water supply issues.

Research and Development of Technologies and Policies:

The University of Arizona and the University of Texas El Paso are the co-leaders for the Center of Excellence for Border Security and Immigration (COE BSI). The COE BSI is a potentially powerful tool and asset to the Border Mayors. In the development of policies that affect the border, the COE BSI will bring together some of the best minds on the North American Continent. The COE BSI coupled with the experience of the Border Mayors will comprise a formidable team.

The COE BSI at the request of the US Mexican Border Mayors Association could request a grant to fund the research and development of key technology and policies to improve the flow of commodities and people through the various border communities.

The Universities that are part of the COE BSI are:

Arizona State University

New Mexico State University

New Mexico Tech

San Diego State University

University of Texas-Pan American

University of Minnesota

University of Washington

West Virginia University

University of Southern California

University of Albany

**United States-Mexico Bilateral Action Plan
for Endorsement at
the Inaugural Meeting of
the Bilateral Executive Steering Committee on
Twenty-First Century Border Management**

The May 19, 2010, Declaration by the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Mexican States Concerning Twenty-First Century Border Management identified key areas for engagement.

The United States-Mexico Executive Steering Committee (ESC) on Twenty-First Century Border Management has agreed to focus initially on the following priority projects, some of which are elements of larger initiatives, with the intent that the U.S. and Mexican governments accomplish them in twelve months, or less. When the U.S. and Mexican governments complete any listed initiative, another agreed to bilaterally would replace it, after endorsement by the ESC or its delegates in each country.

Binational Infrastructure Coordination

Improve bi-national coordination in planning, financing, permitting, designing, building, and operating ports of entry, including considering shared priorities for investments in border infrastructure, funding mechanisms for infrastructure projects, and optimal staffing of ports of entry.

- Support the current Laredo-Coahuila/Nuevo León/Tamaulipas regional master planning process with active federal participation in planning meetings and regular communications with plan coordinators in order to fulfill binational priorities embodied in the Declaration on 21st Century Border Management.
- Encourage the launching of border master planning processes in the Arizona-Sonora and Lower Rio Grande Valley/Tamaulipas regions and actively participate in both once they begin
- Support efforts by California and Baja California to update the current California-Baja California Border Master Plan
- Advance the San Ysidro-Tijuana port of entry expansion project by formally identifying agreed crossings points, continuing the current phase of construction in the U.S., and working together closely to plan for the “El Chaparral” expansion phase.
- Continue to support efforts by California and Baja California to conclude the environmental and financial studies for construction of the Otay Mesa II border crossing.

- Resolve discussions with the private project sponsors of the San Diego-Tijuana Airport cross-border facility for air passengers regarding the funding and design of the U.S. facility.
- Begin construction on the Tornillo-Guadalupe Bridge project between El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua.
- Complete construction of and begin operating new northbound commercial vehicle lanes at the World Trade Bridge between Laredo, Texas, and Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas.
- Break ground on the West Rail Bypass project between Brownsville, Texas, and Matamoros, Tamaulipas.

Binational Risk Management

Use shared programs, enhanced information sharing, improved technology, and other risk management strategies to focus law enforcement attention on those who most merit it while speeding the passage of lower risk passengers and cargo.

- Expand use of trusted traveler and trusted shipper programs by increasing enrollment and increasing the incentives for and ease of using them.
- Continue improving risk management and targeting cooperation by expanding existing exchanges of passenger information to detect and detain possible drug and weapons smugglers, and other criminals that travel between the US and Mexico.
- Enhance mechanisms, such as the Global Entry Program, that permit travelers from Mexico and the U.S. to facilitate their entrance to both countries at land POEs by using expedited and dedicated processes to process pre-approved, low-risk international travelers who qualify.
- Establish a common standard for vetting Trusted Traveler participants.
- Agree upon common security standards and validation for Trusted Shipper programs and that Mexico will establish its own trusted shipper program with security standards and a validation process that aligns with the U.S. Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) program.
- Establish a program to harmonize toll payment mechanisms along the border to encourage SENTRI and FAST program participants to use multiple ports of entry.
- Strengthen bilateral cooperation on repatriations to return Mexican nationals in a safe, humane, and orderly manner that discourages human smuggling and promotes social and economic reintegration.

Binational Stakeholder Interaction Mechanisms

- To better address community concerns about both security and efficiency, implement coordinated binational stakeholder interaction mechanisms, and

establish regular public meetings of these mechanisms that engage supply chain stakeholders and other interested parties, including local and state governments.

Business Resumption

- Create protocols to ensure full binational coordination before, during, and after emergency shutdowns.
- Develop a combined study of business resumption options following emergencies.

Binational Pre-Clearance, Pre-Screening, and Pre-Inspection

Test concepts for pre-clearance, pre-screening, and pre-inspection of people, goods, and products, in order to alleviate congestion at land ports of entry and intercept dangerous individuals, hazardous or counterfeit goods, plant and animal pests, adulterated or spoiled food, and contraband before they cause harm.

- Develop a joint cost-benefit analysis of potential pre-clearance models.
- Explore options for different models of pre-clearance at locations of mutual interest.
- Develop recommendations for legislative and regulatory changes necessary to allow pre-clearance and the use of private sector funds for staffing and operating costs.
- Define a binational statement of standards and policy for pre-clearance and pre-inspection programs.
- Initiate pilot pre-clearance, pre-screening, and pre-inspection programs in locations such as the Laredo airport and the Nogales-Mariposa port of entry.

Improve cross-border commerce and ties

Reduce congestion and delays in cross-border traffic entering both Mexico and the United States, building a foundation for an efficient border and expanded economic growth, improving community safety, and reducing unhealthy emissions from idling vehicles.

- Reach bilateral agreement on standards and technology for regular and continuous measurement of wait times at land border ports of entry in order to establish mechanisms to reduce wait times and provide useful information for travelers and shippers.
- Conclude the seven ongoing pilot studies on border wait times at Pharr, Laredo, Colombia, Brownsville “Veterans,” Nogales “Mariposa,” Jerónimo-Santa Teresa, and El Paso “Ysleta-Zaragoza,” in order to develop a base line for improvement.
 - Identify funding for and fully implement operational solutions at two locations.
- Review all Intelligent Transportation Systems used in the border region, including electronic toll systems, and identify areas for improvements.

- In accordance with the commitments of Presidents Obama and President Calderón to establish a High-Level Regulatory Cooperation Council (HLRCC), find key areas of engagement where the US-Mexico Executive Steering Committee can work with the High-Level Regulatory Cooperation Council to take advantage of its expertise and to avoid redundancy.
- Review regulations and other requirements that pertain to cross-border rail operations and work cooperatively to achieve additional efficiencies within the existing legal and regulatory environment.
- Convene a Greening Transportation Border Workshop to share best practices and encourage better resource use.

Binational Law Enforcement Cooperation

Consistent with the principle of co-responsibility, augment law enforcement cooperation including the collection, analysis, and sharing of information – consistent with applicable laws, regulations, and policies – from interdictions, investigations, and prosecutions in order to disrupt “criminal flows” and enhance public safety.

- Release a binational statement endorsing the corridor security concept.
- Develop an investigative strategy that encourages increased intelligence-driven investigations and prosecutions and coordinated interior and border enforcement operations.
- Continue to conduct coordinated patrols between ports of entry.
 - Decide on the participating agencies, locations, and timeline for implementation.
 - Establish communication protocols and mechanisms for coordinated patrols, envisioned to include secure communications, real time information exchanges.

This Plan is focused on concrete actions to be carried out over the next 12 months. It does not exclude other long-term cooperation that continues to be part of the bilateral relations between the United States and Mexico.

BORDER MAYORS ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on January 21st, Southwest Border Mayors from the United States and México met with U.S. Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Alan Bersin; and

WHEREAS, this meeting resulted in the creation of the **U.S. - México Border Mayors Association**; and

WHEREAS, the association is made up of cities from the States of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California and the Mexican States of Chihuahua, Baja California, Sonora, Coahuila and Tamaulipas; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Association is to help in the formulation of policies that affect the border communities of México and the United States; and

WHEREAS, since the signing of the North America Free Trade Agreement, our borders have become more important to the economies of both México and the United States. Over \$325 billion in trade flowed back and forth across our southern borders in 2010. Any successful plan to increase the flow of trade between the countries must have the input of the border mayors into the policies targeting the flow of trade. Mayors on both sides of the border have unique understandings of economic development, industrial recruitment and border security and a realization that policies must be balanced if the border regions are to be competitive in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, while trade with México accounts for a significant part of the U.S. economy, few people not living in border communities understand the dynamics and challenges border communities face. Often times, national policies are formulated without a true understanding of how they will impact not only border communities but the economies of entire nations; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso hosted the historic inaugural meeting of the U.S. – México Border Mayors Association on Tuesday, August 16, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the association unanimously agreed that the major focus of the organization should be to address the border wait times and improve the flow of trade while insuring that security is not compromised;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the U.S. – México Border Mayors Association that our number one priority of reducing border wait times and insuring that security is not compromised will be presented to the leadership of the federal governments of the United States of America and the Republic of México.

PASSED AND APPROVED THE 16TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2011.



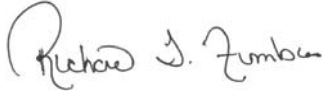
John F. Cook
Mayor of El Paso, TX



Ken Miyagishima
Mayor of Las Cruces, NM



Michael Gomez
Mayor of Douglas, AZ



Richard Fimbres
Vice Mayor of Tucson, AZ



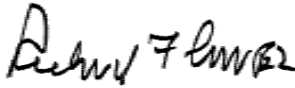
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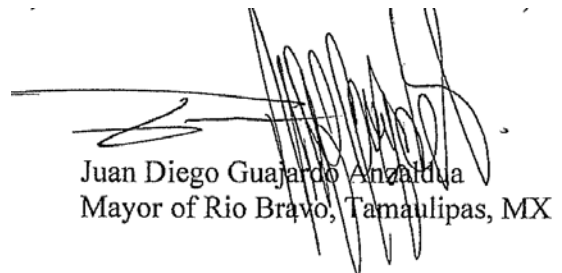
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