Project Coordination Plan

Environmental Impact Statement

Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027

El Paso County, Texas

Texas Department of Transportation

November 2011
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1.0 Purpose of the Project Coordination Plan

This Project Coordination Plan is provided to meet the requirements of 43 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 2. This Chapter of the TAC was adopted by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to provide comprehensive regulations for environmental analysis in project development, regardless of mode or funding source. The section mirrors the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) regulations found in 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 771. Public involvement requirements and interagency coordination are critical components of the code that help TxDOT gain valuable citizen input on projects and keep the public and other agencies informed about TxDOT activities.

TxDOT, the lead State agency, has prepared this Project Coordination Plan (Plan) to facilitate and document the lead agency’s planned coordination with the public and other agencies and to inform the public and other agencies of how the coordination would be accomplished. The Plan outlines the responsibilities for compliance with the various aspects of the environmental review process, such as the issuance of invitations to participating/cooperating agencies, and how the lead agency will provide opportunities for input from the public and other agencies, in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and policies.

Full public and agency participation and comment on the environmental review process for the proposed project is essential for implementing a collaborative and successful process. In this spirit, this Plan is intended to promote early and continuous involvement from stakeholders, agencies, and the public. The Plan describes the proposed project, the roles of the agencies and the public, the project need and purpose, schedule, level of detail for alternatives analysis, methodologies to be used in the environmental analysis, and the proposed process for coordination and communication.

This Plan is designed to be part of a flexible and adaptable process. The Plan will be available for public review, input, and comment at public meetings, including scoping meetings and hearings held throughout the environmental coordination process, and upon request at the TxDOT El Paso District office.
2.0 Summary of Project Development

The proposed project was originally a joint effort between Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and TxDOT, and was planned to move forward as a federally funded project. However, due to the availability of State funding, TxDOT has made the determination to move forward with the project as a State Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Due to this funding change, the proposed project limits have been revised to remove any connection to a federal facility such as Interstate Highway 10 (I-10). The new project limits would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The EIS is being prepared to determine the potential environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts of the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas, as defined by the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in the currently approved Mission 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). As previously stated, the proposed project is being developed at the state level, and would not use federal funds or connect to a federal facility. This project is being developed in accordance with 43 TAC Chapter 2 rules and regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). TxDOT is the lead state agency for the proposed project.

The El Paso metropolitan region contains the fifth largest city in Texas and, together with its sister city Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, Mexico, represents the largest urban center along the U.S. border. Named for its geographic location in a pass south of the Franklin Mountains and north of the Rio Grande, El Paso is located at the juncture of several historic and modern trade routes including, rail, interstate highway, and international port and airport facilities.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project is the result of several previous studies which have identified a need to provide an alternate relief route to I-10 through El Paso. Various alternatives have been identified to complete Loop 375 around the City of El Paso. Loop 375 currently ends at Santa Fe Street, due to an existing rail yard located to the west of Santa Fe Street. Previous studies assessed alternatives to extend Loop 375 to the west beyond Santa Fe Street along new alignment to connect with US 85, which would provide a connection and an alternate route to I-10. Table 1 summarizes the project development activities to date.

The Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project is an important element of the Mission 2035 MTP, and was adopted by the MPO in August of 2010 and reached conformity in the January of 2011. The El Paso MPO has been charged with coordinating transportation planning for the region. The Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority (CRRMA) was created in March 2007 by the El Paso City Council. In 2008, the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project was approved as a toll project under the local Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP). The project is under the direction of TxDOT and will be coordinated with the CRRMA and the City of El Paso. Refer to the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Study Area Map in Appendix A.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Study Name</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Outcome of Study/Type of Facility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Texas Highway Commission - Minute Order (MO) 49822</td>
<td>MO 49822 agreed to develop an outer secondary loop around El Paso.</td>
<td>The outer loop, Loop 375, was divided into segments and constructed between 1966 and 1994. The southern segment, Santa Fe Street to US 85/I-10, was not constructed due to constraints within the project limits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>El Paso MPO - Long Range Traffic Plan</td>
<td></td>
<td>Loop 375 was proposed as an expressway.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>TxDOT - Value Engineering Report and Workbook - Loop 375 Border Highway Extension: Paisano Drive Interchange (West) to Sixth Street Vicinity</td>
<td>Evaluated alternatives to overcome constraints for the missing southern segment of Loop 375.</td>
<td>Recommended a 4-lane elevated structure over existing Loop 375 from Paisano Drive Interchange (West) to Sixth Street Vicinity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>TxDOT - I-10 West Corridor Major Investment Study (Loop 375 Transmountain Road to US 54)</td>
<td>The study evaluated multi-modal congestion relief solutions for I-10.</td>
<td>Recommended improvements to Paisano Drive, Doniphan Drive, Mesa Street, Loop 375 and various other facilities within the study limits. In conjunction with other modal alternatives, the study identified improving the southern section of Loop 375 to four lanes as one of the most viable alternatives. This alternative was carried forward and evaluated in future studies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>TxDOT - The National I-10 Freight Corridor Study - 2003</td>
<td>This study was a joint effort by eight state Departments of Transportation (DOTs) including California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. The purpose was to analyze current and projected freight movements, assess how current and future freight volumes impact national and local transportation systems and develop strategies for improving freight flow along the I-10 corridor.</td>
<td>Results of the study indicated that I-10 traffic would continue to increase through the year 2025 and that El Paso is one of the areas where level of service is unacceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Texas Transportation Commission/Texas House of Representatives - House Bill (HB) 3588 and MO 109519</td>
<td>In response to the rapidly increasing transportation funding shortfalls across the state and the innovative financing tools available with the passing of Texas HB 3588, the Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) passed Minute Order 109519, which required TxDOT to evaluate all controlled-access mobility projects in any stage of development or construction as potential toll roads. The objective was to maximize the use of innovative financing tools to leverage available funds for constructing other needed mobility projects.</td>
<td>Required all new location and added capacity projects to be evaluated as a potential toll facility. Loop 375 is proposed as a new location, added capacity project; therefore, it is required to be evaluated as a toll facility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Study Name</td>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>Outcome of Study/Type of Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004-2005</td>
<td><strong>TxDOT - Preliminary Route Study and Route Refinement Concept Report - Loop 375 César Chávez Highway (Border Highway West) Extension Route Study</strong></td>
<td>This study was to develop conceptual layout alternatives to complete Loop 375 and provide controlled access connection to I-10. The project limits went beyond those of the 1994 Value Engineering Study extending from just east of the US 85/Doniphan Drive/New Mexico State Route 273 interchange to just west of San Marcial Street on Loop 375.</td>
<td>This study developed conceptual layouts for both elevated and depressed alternatives along Loop 375 from east of the US 85/Doniphan Drive/New Mexico State Route 273 interchange to just west of San Marcial Street on Loop 375.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td><strong>TxDOT - Loop 375 César Chávez Highway (Border Highway West) Extension Interstate Highway 10 and Schuster Avenue Intersection Improvements Feasibility Study</strong> (non-tolled study initiated prior to HB 3588)</td>
<td>This study evaluated improvements to the I-10/Schuster Avenue interchange area to provide immediate traffic congestion relief for, and address the growing need for safety and congestion relief for the population of University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) students, faculty and staff; business and medical facility users; and area residents. This study took into consideration the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension route study recommendations.</td>
<td>The study identified interim improvements that would allow a future connection to the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005-2006</td>
<td><strong>TxDOT - I-10 Southern Relief Route (SRR) Toll Feasibility Study (included three segments)</strong> I-10 Southern Corridor: Loop 375 Cesar Chavez Border Highway and Americas I-10 Southern Corridor: Loop 375 Border Highway West I-10 Southern Corridor: Border Highway East</td>
<td>This conceptual level, toll feasibility study was conducted to determine the feasibility of adding barrier separated express toll lanes to portions of I-10, including the Loop 375 César Chávez Border Highway West Extension project. These initial studies identified conceptual funding.</td>
<td>Through the traffic studies and modeling, it was determined that the Loop 375 Border Highway West segment was the highest priority and most effective route for reducing user delays and vehicle miles traveled (VMT).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td><strong>TxDOT - I-10 SRR Mobility and Funding Study (MFS) (From New Mexico State Line to I-10 / Loop 375 Interchange (Americas))</strong></td>
<td>The MFS considered alternatives from the New Mexico State Line on the west side to the I-10/Loop 375 Americas Interchange on the east side of El Paso. This 40-mile proposed project, if a build alternative is selected, would be divided into three separate construction phases for funding and implementation.</td>
<td>The MFS concluded that segments of the I-10 SRR were toll viable, including the Loop 375 Border Highway West segment. However, the El Paso MPO Transportation Policy Board (TPB) was not ready to incorporate these projects into the long range plan as toll projects.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007-2008</td>
<td><strong>TxDOT - Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project</strong></td>
<td>Subsequent to the previous studies, TxDOT El Paso District elected to proceed with the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.</td>
<td>This project was placed on hold due to negotiations between TxDOT and the newly formed Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority (CRRMA) with regards to which entity would develop the project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Study Name</td>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>Outcome of Study/Type of Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>TxDOT - Border Highway West (I-10 @ US 85 Interchange to Loop 375 @ US 54 Interchange) – Traffic Projections for Toll and Non-Toll Alternatives, Final Technical Memorandum</td>
<td>This study evaluated toll and non-toll traffic projections for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.</td>
<td>The study showed that under non-tolled scenarios, traffic diversion from I-10 to the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would vary with the highway segment and reflect alternative routes and destinations. Loop 375/US 85 volumes would increase anywhere from 9 percent (%) to almost 100% over the no-build scenario by the 2035 design year. Under tolled scenarios, less traffic would use the tolled lanes, because the toll encourages some traffic to continue to use I-10 or to divert to the non-tolled lanes of Loop 375/US 85. Depending upon the tolling scenario, 20 to 40% of Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension toll traffic would shift to non-tolled I-10. Traffic diversion to the non-tolled lanes of Loop 375/US 85 would vary from 10% to almost 40%. The Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project was included as part of the 2008 Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP, July 2008).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>TxDOT - Current Study – Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project</td>
<td>Due to the availability of State funding the current project is now being moved forward as a State EIS. Due to his funding change the project limits have been revised to remove any connection to a federal facility. The Current study was reinitiated under the agreement that TxDOT would develop the state EIS and the CRRMA would continue project development upon receipt of a State Record of Decision (ROD).</td>
<td>The proposed project, as proposed in the MPO plan, would construct a new four-lane controlled access tolled facility that may follow portions of existing Loop 375 or US 85, or other reasonable alternative routes that would best meet the need and purpose.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.0 Project Description and Scope

3.1 Description
The proposed project limits would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The project would extend approximately 8 miles in length. The project would provide a continuation of Loop 375, starting south of downtown and heading northwest. Currently traffic crossing the downtown area must take a circuitous route on local streets. Traffic starting at Park Street must take a four-lane boulevard to US 62, and take US 85 from US 62 to New Mexico Route 273. Refer to the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Study Area Map in Appendix A.

3.2 Environmental Evaluation Objective
The primary objective of the environmental evaluation is to assess the needs of the study area and evaluate possible alternatives, including a No-Build Alternative to address the project’s need and purpose. Potential environmental impacts will be further evaluated for those alternatives that meet the need and purpose of the proposed project in order to recommend and select a Preferred Alternative. The State EIS process will include full participation and
involvement of the public, elected officials, cooperating agencies, participating agencies, and other interested parties.

3.3 Size, Length, and Complexity
The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project limits would extend approximately 8 miles from Park Street to Racetrack Drive. The proposed project is currently defined as a new four-lane partially controlled access tolled facility that may follow portions of existing Loop 375 or US 85. This project description is subject to revision based on agency and public input as well as the completion of the Alternatives Analysis process. There could be other reasonable alternative routes that would best meet the Need and Purpose. Due to funding constraints and legislative guidance, in the Alternative Analysis, tolling would be considered as a funding option for the primary facility; however, under current TxDOT practices, all existing non-tolled lanes would remain non-tolled; only proposed constructed lanes may be tolled. In addition, the current study would evaluate alternative modes (such as Traffic Safety Management (TSM), Travel Demand Management (TDM), High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, etc.) to determine if they meet need and purpose. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85 and would connect Loop 375 to US 85. Refer to the Study Area Map in Appendix A.

The following information provides highlights of the proposed build alternatives:

- Proposed design: 4-lane controlled access tolled facility
- Proposed interchanges: Located at major cross-streets
- Proposed ROW width: Approximately 120 feet
- Proposed project length: Approximately 8 miles

The complexity of the project lies in the constraints within the study area that require evaluation as part of the State EIS process and providing timely coordination with various Federal, State, and local agencies and cultural resources coordination. Additionally, the project is in close proximity to the international border with Mexico to the south and residential, commercial, and industrial properties to the north and east.

3.4 Estimated Construction Cost
The right-of-way (ROW), utility, and construction engineering project costs are estimated to range from $300 to $600 million for the proposed build alternatives. This range was established based on the costs developed for the alternatives analyzed in a 2005 Border Highway West Extension Route Study Report. The cost would be further refined as the project develops. Funding has not yet been identified for the proposed project.

Appendix B contains the Project Coordination Plan Revision History that includes revisions regarding the estimated cost of the proposed project.
4.0 Draft Need and Purpose of the Proposed Project

The objectives that the proposed project is intended to achieve for improving transportation conditions will be clearly stated in establishing the proposed project's need and purpose. The lead State agency, TxDOT, will publicize and provide opportunities for involvement by the public, elected officials, cooperating agencies, participating agencies, and other interested parties regarding development of the need and purpose, and goals and objectives of the proposed project. Once developed and after considering public input, TxDOT will be ultimately responsible for the approval of the need and purpose used in the environmental evaluation.

The Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs: system capacity, system linkage and safety. A major priority of region is to complete Loop 375 around El Paso and to upgrade it to a fully-functional facility which would aid in congestion relief of the region. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85 with a new four-lane controlled access tolled facility that would connect Loop 375 to US 85. All current non-tolled lanes would remain non-tolled.

5.0 Agencies Roles and Responsibilities

This section describes the roles and responsibilities of the various agencies in order to establish a protocol for communication, early identification and resolution of issues, and to resolve issues that could delay completion of the environmental process or could result in denial of any approvals required for the proposed project under applicable laws.

5.1 Lead Agency

TxDOT will be responsible for the overall direction of the environmental review process and ensure that all environmental commitments are completed for the proposed project. The lead agency is also responsible for the content of the environmental documents, and will furnish guidance, independently evaluate and approve documents under their authority, and ensure that proposed project sponsors comply with mitigation commitments. The lead agency will prepare the environmental documents in accordance with 43 TAC. In addition, the lead agency will:

- Identify and involve participating agencies;
- Develop, maintain and update coordination plan;
- Provide opportunities for the public, elected officials, cooperating agencies, participating agencies, and other interested parties in defining the need and purpose and determining the range of alternatives;
- Collaborate with participating agencies in determining methodologies and the level of detail for the analysis of alternatives;
- Provide increased insight in managing the process and resolving issues; and
- Ensure environmental commitments are completed.
5.2 Cooperating Agencies
Cooperating agencies are agencies that have been invited by the lead agency, TxDOT, to serve to assist in the preparation, coordination, and review of the State EIS. Letters were sent to the following agencies inviting them to serve as cooperating agencies:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- National Park Service (NPS)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection (CBP)
- U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) - Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)

If a Federal agency chooses to decline, their response letter (electronic or hard copy) must state that the agency (1) has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project, (2) has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project, or (3) does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project. If the Federal agency’s response does not state the agency’s position in these terms, then the agency should be treated as a participating agency. See Appendix D for the mailing list and the final letters that were mailed to the cooperating agencies. These invitation letters were sent on November 3, 2011.

The roles and responsibilities of cooperating agencies are the same as those listed below for participating agencies with the exception that these agencies, due to their agency having jurisdiction by law or special expertise, have a higher degree of authority, responsibility, and involvement in the preparation and review of the environmental documentation. Any affected cooperating agencies must approve changes to shorten the schedule and evidence of this will be included in the administrative record. The cooperating agencies may develop information or prepare portions of the State DEIS or State FEIS concerning their area of expertise and may adopt the State EIS of the lead agency.

5.3 Participating Agencies
All Federal, State, tribal, regional, and local government agencies that may have an interest in the proposed project have been invited to serve as participating agencies. Appendix C contains the mailing list and the final letters that were mailed to the participating agencies. These invitation letters were sent on November 1, 2011.

The list contains local governmental agencies such as counties, cities, municipal utility, and historical commissions. The list also contains State agencies such as the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Texas Historical Commission (THC), and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD).
The roles and responsibilities of participating agencies include, but are not limited to:

- Participating in the scoping process;
- Participating in the environmental process with regard to development of the need and purpose statement, range of alternatives, methodologies, and level of detail for the analysis of alternatives;
- Identifying and providing early input on issues of concern regarding the proposed project’s potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts; and
- Providing meaningful and timely input on unresolved issues.

Accepting a role as a participating or cooperating agency does not imply that an agency supports the proposed project or has jurisdiction or special expertise with respect to the evaluation of the proposed project. The following agencies that have been identified as potential cooperating and participating agencies and their area of responsibility are noted in Table 2.

### Table 2: Cooperating and Participating Agencies Roles and Responsibilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Cooperating</th>
<th>Participating</th>
<th>Agency Responsibility</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<td>▪ Ensure compliance with NEPA</td>
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<td>▪ Ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA)</td>
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<td>▪ Superfund Site coordination and remediation</td>
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<td>▪ Evaluate permit applications under Section 102(a) of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>▪ Provide information and input regarding floodplains</td>
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<td>▪ Provide information on emergency evacuation routes</td>
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<td>Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>▪ Provide input on farmland.</td>
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<td>National Park Service (NPS)</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>▪ Provide input on potential impacts to national parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, historical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores, recreation areas, and scenic rivers and trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>▪ Provide input on essential fish habitat.</td>
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<td>U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<td>▪ Ensure compliance with Section 9 of the General Bridge Act of 1946</td>
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<td>▪ Evaluate permit applications for structures in or affecting navigable waters of the U.S.</td>
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<td>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<td>▪ Ensure compliance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act</td>
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<td>▪ Ensure compliance with Section 10 of the General Bridge Act of 1946</td>
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<td>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>▪ Provide input on potential threatened and endangered species within the study area</td>
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<td>▪ Provide input on designated critical habitat within the study area</td>
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<td>▪ Provide input on potential landscape scale mitigation opportunities</td>
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<td>▪ Provide input on potential impacts to wildlife refuges within the project area</td>
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<td>▪ Ensure compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act</td>
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<td>▪ Ensure compliance with the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</td>
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<td>Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC)</strong></td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>▪ Ensure compliance with boundary and water treaties between the U.S. and Mexico, as well as for settling differences that may arise from these treaties</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **U.S. Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection (CBP)** | ✔️ | ✔️ | ▪ Provide input on safety issues surrounding Border Security  
▪ Ensure that project is in compliance with all Federal and State laws in regards to Customs and Border Protection |
| **U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) - Bureau of Land Management (DOI-BLM)** | ✔️ | ✔️ | ▪ Provide input on land use, fish and wildlife habitat, wilderness areas, and archaeological, paleontological and historical sites |
| **Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)** | ✔️ | ✔️ | ▪ Enforce rail safety regulations  
▪ Administer railroad assistance programs  
▪ Conduct research and development in support of improved railroad safety and national rail transportation policy |

**State**

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<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Cooperating</th>
<th>Participating</th>
<th>Agency Responsibility</th>
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</table>
| **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)** | ✔️ | | ▪ Ensure compliance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act  
▪ Ensure compliance with State surface water quality standards  
▪ Evaluate Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits  
▪ Assist EPA to determine conformity of air quality plans  
▪ Provide input on hazardous material sites, corrective actions, and closure if necessary |
| **Governor’s Division of Emergency Management** | ✔️ | | ▪ Provide information regarding Texas’ comprehensive all-hazard emergency management program, including hurricane evacuation planning |
| **Texas General Land Office (GLO)** | ✔️ | | ▪ Support the Coastal Coordinating Council in ensuring compliance with the State’s Coastal Zone Management Plan  
▪ Provide information regarding locations of oil and gas lease facilities |
| **Texas Historical Commission (THC)/State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)** | ✔️ | | ▪ Ensure compliance with the Texas Antiquities Code  
▪ Ensure compliance with TxDOT THC/SHPO programmatic agreement  
▪ Coordinate cultural resource consultations |
| **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)** | ✔️ | | ▪ Provide input on potential threatened and endangered species and habitat likely to be impacted in the project area  
▪ Provide input on State Parks and State Wildlife Management Areas potentially impacted by the proposed project  
▪ Ensure the proposed project is in compliance with applicable State fish and game statutes  
▪ Provide input on landscape scale mitigation opportunities |
| **New Mexico DOT** | ✔️ | | ▪ Provide input on and pertinent information to the lead agency for their respective transportation planning. |

**Regional**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Cooperating</th>
<th>Participating</th>
<th>Agency Responsibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority (CRRMA)</strong></td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Provide planning documents such as thoroughfare plans, plats, maps, and studies to assist in project planning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Local**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Cooperating</th>
<th>Participating</th>
<th>Agency Responsibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **El Paso and Doña Ana Counties** | ✔️ | | ▪ Provide planning documents such as thoroughfare plans, plats, maps, and studies to assist in project planning  
▪ Represent the interests of the county |
| **Cities of El Paso and Socorro, Texas and Sunland Park, New Mexico; Village of Vinton; and Townships of Anthony, Horizon City, and Clint** | ✔️ | | ▪ Provide planning documents such as thoroughfare plans, plats, maps, and studies to assist in project planning  
▪ Represent the interests of their communities |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Cooperating</th>
<th>Participating</th>
<th>Agency Responsibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Ysleta del Sur Pueblo                | ✔           |               | • Provide planning documents such as thoroughfare plans, plats, maps, and studies to assist in project planning  
|                                      |             |               | • Represent the interests of their communities                                         |
| El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization | ✔           |               | • Provide planning documents such as thoroughfare plans, plats, maps, and studies to assist in project planning  
|                                      |             |               | • Represent the interests of their communities                                         |
| El Paso Historical Commission        | ✔           |               | • Ensure compliance with the Texas Antiquities Code                                     |
|                                      |             |               | • Ensure compliance with TxDOT TH/SHPO programmatic agreement                           |
| El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 | ✔           |               | • Provide planning documents such as thoroughfare plans, plats, maps, and studies to assist in project planning  
|                                      |             |               | • Coordinate cultural resource consultations                                           |

In addition to the above stated groups there are some stakeholders with whom extensive coordination may be required:

- Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF)
- Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR)
- ASARCO Environmental Trustee
- University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)
- CEMEX

### 5.4 Interagency Coordination Team

TxDOT El Paso District, TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division (ENV), and the consulting engineer team will serve on an interagency coordination team to assist in streamlining and expediting the proposed project. The team will provide guidance throughout the environmental process and will assist in preparation and review of documentation. The team will participate in periodic meetings to review decisions made, provide comments on materials, methodologies, criteria, and provide comment on the administrative record. The following persons will comprise the team and will assist in expediting the proposed project:

**TxDOT El Paso District, Joint Lead Agency**

Gerardo Leos, P.E., Advanced Project Development Engineer  
Jesus Heredia, P.E., TxDOT El Paso Deputy Project Manager  
Mimi Horn, Environmental Coordinator

**TxDOT ENV, Joint Lead Agency**

Mark Marek, P.E., Interim Director  
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager

**HNTB Corporation, Prime Engineering Consultant**

Darrin Willer, P.E., Project Manager  
Debbie Taylor, Environmental Task Lead

The team will present the study area, need and purpose, a schedule demonstrating a step by step process with milestones and required review periods, and will solicit agency input at meetings. The team will collaborate with the participating agencies on the methodologies, evaluation criteria, and level of detail in the analysis of alternatives. The team will meet with all participating agencies prior to public meetings and hearings.
5.5 **Agency Availability of Resources**
It will be the responsibility of each participating agency to inform the lead agencies if their respective agency does not have adequate resources to participate in the process and to meet the required review periods. If a participating agency notifies the lead agency that it lacks adequate resources to conduct timely reviews, the lead agency will coordinate with that agency to resolve the issue by either extending the review times, providing an alternate review process, or providing funds to assist with new staffing resources. The project team will strive to keep participating agencies involved early and regularly so the information is familiar, as this will assist in timely document reviews.

5.6 **Agency Review Time**
The lead agency will ask for participating and cooperating agency input on the schedule, including agency review time periods, and will make every effort to maintain the time periods established for review. Input will be solicited from the participating agencies at scheduled agency meetings. All review periods and circulation periods will follow State guidelines, be reflected in the schedule, and be consistent with 43 TAC requirements. Each agency will implement policies and procedures to ensure completion of the review process in a timely, coordinated and environmentally responsible manner. It would be assumed that the participating agencies are in agreement with the proposed project schedule if their input has been solicited and they have not commented otherwise.

5.7 **Conflict Resolution**
If requested by the proposed project sponsors or the Governor of Texas, TxDOT shall promptly convene a meeting with participating agencies to resolve issues that could delay completion of the environmental review process or could result in denial of any approvals required for the proposed project under applicable laws.

A conflict resolution period of 30 days is established for the proposed project, and if resolution cannot be achieved, and TxDOT determines that all information necessary to resolve the issue has been provided, TxDOT would notify the heads of all the participating agencies, the proposed project sponsor, the Governor, the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, and the Council on Environmental Quality, and shall publish notification in the *Texas Register*. 
6.0 Project Development and Coordination Points Schedule

6.1 Project Development

- **Project Initiation Letter** – TxDOT notified FHWA by letter of the type of work, termini, length and general location of the proposed project, including anticipated Federal approvals for the proposed project for the purpose of informing FHWA that the environmental review process should be initiated (original letter was sent by TxDOT to FHWA in October 2006). The project was placed on hold in 2007 and was re-started in 2010, at this time a revised and updated letter was sent to FHWA (August 2, 2010). In 2011, due to the availability of funding, TxDOT made the determination to move forward with the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project forward as a State EIS. The utilization of these funds allows for an expedited project schedule. In addition, the proposed project limits have been revised to remove any connection to a federal facility. The new project limits would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project is currently defined as a new four-lane partially controlled access tolled facility. Copies of these letters can be found in Appendix G: FHWA Project Initiation Letters.

- **Notice of Intent (NOI)** – The NOI to prepare an EIS was first published in the Texas Register and the Federal Register in September 2007, prior to the first public scoping meeting. The NOI was also published in The El Paso Times at that time. The project is now planned to move forward as a State-funded EIS within a revised study area and therefore, a new State NOI was published in September 2011. In addition to the newly published State NOI a letter rescinding the original NOIs were published in the Texas (September 2011) and Federal Register (October 2011). Please see Appendix H: NOI for copies of the published NOIs.

- **Agency Scoping Meetings Series #1** – TxDOT conducted the first agency scoping meetings at two locations on October 23rd and 30th 2007 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Both meetings were held at the El Paso International Airport Board Room. Letters were mailed to participating and cooperating agencies inviting them to take part in the agency scoping meetings. Team members followed-up with a phone call to each agency and follow-up letters were over-nighted or hand delivered.

  The primary focus included receiving input from the agencies regarding the study area limits, environmental and engineering constraints, draft project coordination plan, draft need and purpose statement, goals and objectives, process and methodologies for alternatives development and evaluation, and proposed project schedule. Comment forms solicited input on the materials presented. A summary of the concerns voiced during these meetings are summarized in Appendix I: Agency and Public Scoping Meeting Series #1 Summary Sheet.

- **Public Scoping Meetings Series #1** – TxDOT conducted the first public scoping meetings at two locations during October 2007. The first meeting was held on October 23, 2007 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Hilos de Plata Senior Center. The second meeting was held on October 30, 2007 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Westside Regional Command Center. This served as the first time the public was officially introduced to the proposed project. The first public scoping meetings were held in an open house format to allow for discussion. Project materials were exhibited at the
meeting for the public, elected officials, cooperating agencies, participating agencies, and other interested parties to review. This included a draft project management plan, public involvement plan, schedule, draft need and purpose statement, goals and objectives, constraints map, process and methodologies, and contact information. Comments were solicited on all of the above items through comment forms. A public meeting summary report was prepared detailing information presented at the first public scoping meetings. The report includes a meeting summary, meeting handouts, meeting exhibits, public involvement summary, sign-in sheets, meeting photographs, comments received, and comment responses. The report was made available for review or for purchase at the TxDOT El Paso District office (Refer to 8.8 Public Comments and Responses for addresses). The majority of comments were regarding truck traffic and its impact on congestion and safety in the area. Additionally citizens were concerned about existing traffic vibrations and traffic noise, as well as the proposed project's potential to increase noise and vibration, along Loop 375. Multiple comments referred to the need to maintain access to neighborhoods and businesses, as well as the need to improve access, and concerns about declining regional mobility. A summary of the concerns voiced during these meetings are summarized in Appendix I: Agency and Public Scoping Meeting Series #1 Summary Sheet.

- **Development and Approval of Need and Purpose** – The needs of the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project are system capacity, system linkage and safety. The purpose of the proposed project is to address these needs. **Table 3** below provides a description of each purpose matched with its associated need.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Need (Problems)</th>
<th>Purpose (Solutions)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>System Capacity</td>
<td>Due to the projected growth in the study area, the proposed project would improve mobility by providing additional infrastructure to accommodate this growth and aiding in congestion relief for the region and incident management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System Linkage</td>
<td>The proposed project would provide a “connecting link” for the continuation of Loop 375 by improving connectivity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>The proposed project would improve crash rates and provide an incident management route for I-10.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The lead agency will publicize and provide opportunities for the involvement of the public, elected officials, cooperating agencies, participating agencies, and other interested parties to help develop the proposed project need and purpose through participating agency meetings, meetings with elected officials, and public scoping meetings. TxDOT would approve the draft and then the final Need and Purpose Statement prior to the second scoping meeting planned for the fall of 2011.

- **Development of Alternatives** – Alternatives would be developed in coordination with the lead agency, cooperating and participating agencies, elected officials, and the public. Coordination with participating agencies would occur through scheduled meetings. The lead agency will identify a range of alternatives through this process, and then will narrow the alternatives to a reasonable range for more detailed study, including a No-Build Alternative. Alternatives will be developed from previous studies, input from agencies, the public, and alternatives developed by the lead agency. The lead agency
would schedule meetings with elected officials and participating agencies to discuss the range of alternatives and potential reasonable alternatives to be studied in more detail prior to the second public scoping meetings. Ultimately, a Preferred Alternative would be identified from the various alternatives, including the No-Build Alternative.

- **Analysis of Alternatives** – Coordination on the analysis of alternatives will occur through meetings with the public, elected officials, cooperating agencies, participating agencies, and other interested parties. A technical methodology will be developed through collaboration with participating agencies that will detail how the analyses will take place. Alternative impact assessments will also be done through a collaborative process with participating agencies. Transportation (engineering and traffic), social, economic and environmental impacts of the wide range of preliminary alternatives and reasonable alternatives will be studied and compared to an equal level of detail. Evaluation criteria will be based on elements in the proposed project need and purpose, and goals and objectives. The public will be able to comment on the alternatives at the second public scoping meetings.

- **Agency Scoping Meeting Series #2** – The second agency scoping meeting will be held in an open forum and discussion session format. There will be a formal presentation, during which the presenters will answer questions from attendees. The primary focus will be to present the wide range of preliminary alternatives, recommended reasonable alternatives, need and purpose statement, approved project coordination plan, and schedule. Methodologies for alternatives development and evaluation criteria will be presented to the agencies and comments will be solicited on presented material. It is anticipated that this public meeting will be scheduled for the 4th quarter 2011.

- **Public Scoping Meetings Series #2** – The second public scoping meetings will be held in an open house format to allow for discussion. The meeting will present and solicit public input on the range of Preliminary Alternatives, recommended Reasonable Alternatives, need and purpose statement, coordination plan, the Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) process, and project schedule. It is anticipated that this public meeting will be scheduled for the 4th quarter 2011.

- **Preparation of a State DEIS** – A printed and electronic document for public and agency review and comment documenting the need and purpose, goals and objectives for the proposed project, alternatives analysis, anticipated impacts from each alternative, and steps to avoid impacts or minimize harm to the environment will be prepared and released for public and agency review and comment. Comments from the public and agencies will be addressed following all meetings and hearings in a public meeting/hearing report that will be made available for viewing or for purchase as discussed earlier.

- **Public and Agency Review of the State DEIS** – The proposed review time for the DEIS is 45 calendar days from date of publication in the *Texas Register*. The agencies and the public will be able to review the DEIS during the review period. Additionally, the DEIS will be made available to the public for purchase by hard copy or CD.

- **Public Hearing Comments on the State DEIS** – Public hearings held at two locations in the study area will be advertised a minimum of 30 days prior to and 10 days prior to the hearing dates. A formal comment period of 45 days will follow the public hearings.
• **Identification of the Preferred Alternative** – As a result of the alternatives analysis and input received from the public hearings, a Preferred Alternative will be identified for further study in the State FEIS.

• **Preparation of a State FEIS** – The State FEIS will identify the preferred alternative and will provide a response to comments made on the State DEIS. At this time, public meetings are planned during the State FEIS stage.

• **Preparation of Preliminary Schematic** – A preliminary schematic layout will be prepared for the preferred alternative to facilitate the production of exhibits needed for permitting, mitigation, and environmental analysis to complete the State FEIS. The preliminary schematic will be reviewed by various agencies to assess impacts in their area of interest. A public meeting will be held to review the final schematic prior to the State Record of Decision.

• **Record of Decision (ROD)** – TxDOT would prepare a State ROD that would document the decision regarding the Preferred Alternative and evaluation process and would commit to mitigation of anticipated impacts.

• **Permits, Licenses, and Approvals** – Based on the State FEIS findings, the appropriate permits, licenses and approvals would be secured prior to design and construction of the facility. TxDOT would work closely with other agencies to secure clearance for the proposed project in a timely manner to meet the proposed construction letting schedule for the project.

6.2 **Project Schedule and Milestones**

Through coordination with participating agencies, TxDOT has established a schedule for completion of the environmental review process for the proposed project. The following factors were considered in establishing the schedule:

- The responsibilities of participating agencies under applicable laws;
- Resources available to the cooperating agencies;
- Overall size and complexity of the proposed project;
- Overall schedule for and cost of the proposed project; and
- Sensitivity of the natural and historic resources that could be affected by the proposed project.

Potential issues that may affect the schedule include, but are not limited to, community concerns, Waters of the U.S including wetlands, potential threatened and endangered species, indirect and cumulative impacts, and cultural resources. The schedule may be lengthened for good cause, but may only be shortened with the concurrence of affected cooperating agencies. The schedule will be provided to all participating agencies and will be made available to the public. The schedule will be posted on the TxDOT El Paso District website:

http://www.txdot.gov/local_information/el_paso_district/

Additionally the schedule will be available at public and agency coordination meetings.
The Project Coordination Schedule is included as Appendix E. Revisions to the coordination plan will be documented in Appendix B. The lead agencies will provide opportunity for input from the public and agencies, in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and policies.

7.0 Agency Coordination and Communication

7.1 Agency Meetings
The lead agency will ensure that information is presented to participating agencies at key points of project development through coordination meetings at a convenient location. An appropriate amount of time will be provided for their review and feedback. The following table identifies key agency coordination points:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency Coordination Points</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Initiation</td>
<td>1st Qtr 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Scoping Meeting</td>
<td>4th Qtr 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative Development and Analysis</td>
<td>3rd Qtr 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Scoping Meeting</td>
<td>4th Qtr 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State DEIS and Recommended Alternative</td>
<td>2nd Qtr 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State FEIS and Results of Public Hearing</td>
<td>1st Qtr 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of Preliminary Schematic</td>
<td>1st Qtr 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permitting and Licensing</td>
<td>2nd Qtr 2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7.2 Administrative Record
The lead agency will ensure that all meetings and coordination are documented thoroughly in an administrative record. This will be a record of what has occurred, decisions made, meeting materials, meeting minutes, and milestones achieved. Electronic and written communications will be documented. This will also serve to assist in agency review as it can easily be referred to by the agencies if personnel change or an agency needs to review project materials for quick reference. The administrative record provides a documented chronological progression of events as it relates to decisions made.

7.3 State DEIS and State FEIS Document Review
The formal review period of the agencies and the public will be 45 calendar days to review the DEIS and FEIS, and 30 calendar days for any other review periods. The State DEIS and State FEIS comment periods begin on the date that TxDOT publishes the notice of availability of the State DEIS and State FEIS in the Texas Register. The agencies and the public will be able to review the DEIS and FEIS during the review periods. Additionally, the State DEIS and State FEIS will be made available to the public for purchase by hard copy or CD at TxDOT El Paso District (Refer to 8.8 Public Comments and Responses for addresses).
8.0 Public Coordination and Communication

The general public consists of all property owners and stakeholders in the study area or persons interested in the proposed project from other areas, special interest groups, and participating agencies. The following section provides details on the public involvement activities to be conducted during project development to engage the public fully in the process. The public will be encouraged to provide input, and this input will be considered in project development and review.

8.1 Roles and Responsibilities
The public will be offered opportunities to participate in the development of the proposed project and provide input on the study. The public will be invited to a series of public meetings and hearings. The lead agency will be responsible for planning, coordinating and conducting a series of public meetings and public hearings throughout the development of the study. Opportunities for public input will occur at future Public Scoping Meetings, circulation of the State DEIS, public hearings, circulation of the State FEIS, and at any public meetings that may be held.

8.2 Public Involvement Goals
The comprehensive public involvement plan for the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension State EIS consists of a variety of activities and components, all centered on providing pro-active public involvement that produces complete information, timely public notice and access to key decisions that support early and continuing involvement in the study process. Objectives to achieve a successful public involvement program will include:

- Fulfill TAC requirements for public involvement;
- Establish and maintain widespread community involvement in the study process by providing the media and public with project updates;
- Provide early and frequent opportunities for the public, including the business community, environmental interest groups and neighborhood organizations, to provide input;
- Reach out to include individuals in the study area with low income, limited English proficiency, and special needs
- Provide opportunities to persons who wish to provide input and take their input into consideration during the study
- Use visually informative slides, boards, newsletters, handouts and computer-generated presentations to help communicate technical concepts and retain public interest;
- Show the public how their input is incorporated during the study process; and
- Continually enhance the public involvement process to make it more interactive with the public.

8.3 Presentations
The lead agency will pro-actively meet and make presentations to elected officials in the study area to discuss the study area constraints, need and purpose, process and methodologies, schedule, and issues and concerns. Presentations will be made by TxDOT El Paso District with support from the lead agency upon request.

Presentations will be made to the MPO and Transportation Policy Board (TPB) at various times during project development. These will occur following each public meeting and public hearing. Since these meetings are open to the public, and advertised in advance with an agenda, it offers the public another opportunity to participate and learn about the proposed project.
8.4 Coordination and Communication Tools
The following communication tools will be developed to assist with providing consistent and thorough information to the public and stakeholders involved with this proposed project. All documents used for public involvement activities would be made available in both English and Spanish. Additional assistance with translations of text or exhibits would be provided upon request.

- **Fact Sheets** – Fact sheets will be prepared to provide general information and respond to anticipated questions from the public.

- **Media Releases** – Media releases will be distributed prior to each public meeting and hearing series, and prior to circulation periods of the State DEIS and State FEIS.

- **Emails** – Emails and formal written notices will be transmitted to elected officials prior to informational meetings informing them of needed information that may be of assistance to the lead agency. The project specific email address is info@borderhighwaywest.com.

- **Newsletters** – If newsletters are developed, they will be available at public meetings and posted electronically on the TxDOT El Paso District website: [http://www.txdot.gov/local_information/el_paso_district/](http://www.txdot.gov/local_information/el_paso_district/).

- **Website** – Updated information will be posted periodically on the TxDOT El Paso District website [http://www.txdot.gov/local_information/el_paso_district/](http://www.txdot.gov/local_information/el_paso_district/) for the general public. The updates will consist of text and graphics. A link will be provided to obtain feedback from anyone interested in commenting on the proposed project.

8.5 Mailing List
The project team will develop and maintain a mailing list of names and addresses to be used for disseminating the study information and public meeting/hearing notices. A preliminary mailing list included individuals that had requested to be notified of all Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension meetings, key stakeholders, and elected officials in the study area. The mailing list includes all participating agencies and special interest groups. Available names and addresses of all property owners included within and abutting each Reasonable Alternative will be added to the mailing list prior to the second public scoping meeting series. The lead agency will maintain and update the list throughout the duration of the proposed project and following each public meeting/hearing based on the attendees list or any other requests received. **Appendix F, Elected Officials Letters and Mailing List**, provides information on contacting elected officials to assist the public in providing input.

8.6 Public Meeting/Hearing Advertisement
The public and agencies will be notified prior to public meetings and hearings through newspaper notices, notices to mailing list participants, and media releases. Notices will be forwarded to individuals and agencies approximately 3 – 4 weeks prior to public forums. Elected officials will be notified by mail prior to the notices appearing in the papers. In addition, all public meetings and public hearings will be advertised 30 days and 10 days prior to the meetings/hearings in the following newspapers:

- The El Paso Times
- El Diario de El Paso (Spanish language periodical)
News releases will also be sent to local media, including Spanish newspapers circulated within the study area.

8.7 Public Meetings and Public Hearings
Three series of public meetings and one series of public hearings will be conducted during the study. Public meetings will be conducted in an open house format, while the public hearings will have a formal hearing format with an exhibit viewing session, formal presentation and public comment period. Comments that are postmarked within 10 days of the meetings and within 45 days of the hearings will be included as part of the formal record. A Public Meeting/Hearing Summary Report will be prepared for each series of meetings or hearings and will include written responses to public comments.

- Public Scoping Meeting Series #1 (two locations) – The meetings were advertised in newspapers (See Section 8.6 above) and notices were mailed to all agencies, elected officials, and the project mailing list. The meetings were held on October 23, 2007 and October 30, 2007.

The primary focus included receiving input from the public regarding the study area limits, environmental and engineering constraints, draft project coordination plan, draft need and purpose statement, goals and objectives, process and methodologies for alternatives development and evaluation, the CSS process, and proposed project schedule. Comment forms solicited input on the materials presented. A summary of the concerns voiced during these meetings are summarized in Appendix I: Agency and Public Scoping Meeting Series #1 Summary Sheet.

- Public Scoping Meeting Series #2 – The meetings were advertised in newspapers (See Section 8.6 above) and notices were mailed to all agencies, elected officials, and the proposed project mailing list.

The primary focus will be to present the wide range of preliminary alternatives, recommended reasonable alternatives, need and purpose statement, approved project coordination plan, the CSS process, and schedule. Methodologies for alternatives development and evaluation criteria will be presented to the public and comments will be solicited on presented material.

- Public Hearings – The hearings will be advertised in newspapers (See Section 8.6 above) and notices will be mailed to all agencies, elected officials, and the proposed project mailing list.

The focus will be to present the State DEIS and detailed information on the reasonable alternatives and present a preferred alternative. The preferred alternative will be presented in a line diagrammatic format. An exhibit viewing session will be held prior to a formal presentation, and following the presentation the public will have an opportunity to offer comments for the formal record on the State DEIS and the entire study.

- Public Meeting on Schematic (Optional) – The meetings if needed, will be advertised in newspapers (See Section 8.6 above) and notices will be mailed to all agencies, elected officials, and the proposed project mailing list.
The primary focus will be to present the completed geometric schematic design for the preferred alternative. Construction scheduling will also be discussed.

8.8 Public Comments and Responses
Within two months following each series of meetings/hearings, the lead agency will prepare a report summarizing public comments and responses to the comments, and the report will be made available to the public. The report will include a meeting summary, handouts, exhibits, publicity summary, sign-in sheets, photographs, comments received, and comment responses.

An electronic file of the Public Meeting/Hearing Summary Report will be posted on the TxDOT El Paso District website and hard copies or CDs will be available for viewing or for purchase at the following location during normal business hours:

    TxDOT El Paso District
    13301 Gateway Blvd. West
    El Paso, TX 79928-5410

Information is available on the proposed project status and upcoming public meeting dates and locations on the TxDOT El Paso District website:

http://www.txdot.gov/local_information/el_paso_district/

Comments will be received and considered throughout the study via the TxDOT Project Consultant at the following address:

Postal Mail
HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount, Suite 100
El Paso, Texas 79925-5665
(915) 887-0875

Email
info@borderhighwaywest.com
Appendix A
Study Area Map
This project does not cross international boundaries.

The scale and location of all mapped data are approximate.

DISCLAIMER: This map was generated by HNTB Corporation using GIS (Geographic Information Systems) software. No claims are made to the accuracy or completeness of the information shown herein nor to its suitability for a particular use.
Appendix B
Revision History
Revision History

Identify changes to the Project Coordination Plan in the table provided below. Changes to the Project Coordination Plan that would shorten the proposed project schedule would require concurrence from the Cooperating Agencies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Agency/Name</th>
<th>Section/Item Change</th>
<th>Would Change Shorten the Schedule Y/N</th>
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Appendix C
Participating Agency Letters and Mailing List
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Salutation</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<th>City, State</th>
<th>Zip</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
<th>Email</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Lorinda</td>
<td>Gardner</td>
<td>Regional Director</td>
<td>Texas Commission on Environmental Quality</td>
<td>401 E. Franklin Ave., Ste 560</td>
<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
<td>79901</td>
<td>915-834-9490</td>
<td>915-834-9490</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lorinda.gardner@tceq.texas.gov">lorinda.gardner@tceq.texas.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>LaDonna</td>
<td>Casteruela</td>
<td>Office of the Chief Clerk - (MC-015) ASARCO</td>
<td>Texas Commission on Environmental Quality</td>
<td>P.O. Box 13087</td>
<td>Austin, Texas</td>
<td>78711</td>
<td>512-239-3311</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>The Honorable Commissioner</td>
<td>Jerry</td>
<td>Patterson</td>
<td>Commissioner</td>
<td>Texas General Land Office</td>
<td>1700 N. Congress Ave., Ste. 935</td>
<td>Austin, Texas</td>
<td>78701</td>
<td>512-461-5001</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Mark</td>
<td>Wolfe</td>
<td>Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer</td>
<td>Texas Historical Commission</td>
<td>P.O. Box 12276</td>
<td>Austin, Texas</td>
<td>78711</td>
<td>512-463-6100</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:mark.wolfe@thc.state.tx.us">mark.wolfe@thc.state.tx.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Deidre</td>
<td>Hisler</td>
<td>Regional Director</td>
<td>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department</td>
<td>200 N. Dark Dr.</td>
<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
<td>79905</td>
<td>915-781-1922</td>
<td>915-781-1922</td>
<td><a href="mailto:deidre@tpwd.state.tx.us">deidre@tpwd.state.tx.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Lois</td>
<td>Balin</td>
<td>Urban Biologist - El Paso County</td>
<td>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department</td>
<td>200 N. Dark Dr.</td>
<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
<td>79905</td>
<td>915-774-9603</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Russell</td>
<td>Hooten</td>
<td>Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program</td>
<td>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department</td>
<td>4200 Smith School Road</td>
<td>Austin, Texas</td>
<td>78744</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Nan</td>
<td>Kidd</td>
<td>Interim Asst. Director for Emergency Management</td>
<td>Governor's Division of Emergency Management</td>
<td>P.O. Box 4087</td>
<td>Austin, Texas</td>
<td>78713</td>
<td>512-424-2443</td>
<td>512-424-2444</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nan.kidd@txdps.state.tx.us">nan.kidd@txdps.state.tx.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Bernard</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>El Paso County Historical Commission</td>
<td>819 W. Sunset Dr.</td>
<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
<td>79922</td>
<td>915-581-7920</td>
<td>915-585-1886</td>
<td><a href="mailto:countyhistory@dpdglobal.net">countyhistory@dpdglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Jesus &quot;Chuy&quot;</td>
<td>Reyes</td>
<td>General Manager</td>
<td>El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1</td>
<td>P.O. Box 749</td>
<td>Clint, Texas</td>
<td>79836</td>
<td>915-872-4000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Raymond</td>
<td>Telles</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority</td>
<td>2 Civic Center Plaza, 9th Floor</td>
<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
<td>79901</td>
<td>915-541-4986</td>
<td>915-541-4576</td>
<td><a href="mailto:telles@camro.org">telles@camro.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Roy</td>
<td>Gilypad</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization</td>
<td>13727 Gateway Blvd. West, Ste. 605</td>
<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
<td>79903</td>
<td>915-591-9733</td>
<td>915-591-7926</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gilypad@eptampa.com">gilypad@eptampa.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Jane K.</td>
<td>Shang</td>
<td>Deputy City Manager - Mobility Services</td>
<td>City of El Paso</td>
<td>2 Civic Center Plaza</td>
<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
<td>79901</td>
<td>915-541-4686</td>
<td>915-541-4576</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shangmobility@apsastexas.gov">shangmobility@apsastexas.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Joyce</td>
<td>Wilson</td>
<td>City Manager</td>
<td>City of El Paso</td>
<td>2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor</td>
<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Alan</td>
<td>Shubert, P.E.</td>
<td>City Engineer</td>
<td>City of El Paso</td>
<td>2 Civic Center Plaza, 4th Floor</td>
<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
<td>79901</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Ernesto</td>
<td>Carrizal</td>
<td>County Road Engineer</td>
<td>County of El Paso</td>
<td>650 E. San Antonio Avenue</td>
<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
<td>79901</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Texas Department of Transportation

13301 GATEWAY BLVD. WEST • EL PASO TX 79928-5410 • (915) 790-4200
November 1, 2011

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Ms. Lorinda Gardner
Regional Director
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
401 E. Franklin Ave., Ste 560
El Paso, Texas 79901

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Ms. Gardner:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Participating Agency and to invite your agency’s representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency’s potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

Project History
In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the Federal Register. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has been restarted in 2010. The Project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the Federal Register on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the Texas Register on September 23, 2011.

Current Project Description
The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as Cesar Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

An Equal Opportunity Employer
**Invitation to Become a Participating Agency**

Due to your agency's jurisdiction over environmental resources, we are inviting you to become a Participating Agency with TxDOT in the development of the State EIS for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the project or has any special expertise with respect to the evaluation of the project. The roles and responsibilities of participating agencies include, but are not limited to:

- Participating in the scoping process;
- Participating in the NEPA process with regard to development of the need and purpose statement, range of alternatives, methodologies, and level of detail for the analysis of alternatives;
- Identifying and providing early input on issues of concern regarding the proposed project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts; and
- Providing meaningful and timely input on unresolved issues.

In general, your agency's involvement should entail those areas under its jurisdiction and no direct writing or analysis will be necessary on your behalf, for the preparation of the EIS document. However, participating agencies may develop information or prepare portions of the EIS concerning their area of expertise and may adopt the EIS of the lead agency. The following activities are planned in order to maximize interagency cooperation:

- Invite your agency to all agency coordination meetings.
- Consult your agency on any relevant technical studies that may be required for the project.
- Organize joint field reviews.
- Provide project information, including study results.
- Encourage your agency to use the above documents to express its views on subjects within your agency's jurisdiction or expertise.
- Include information in the project environmental documents stating how participating agencies would fulfill their NEPA responsibilities and any other requirements regarding jurisdictional approvals, permits, licenses, and/or clearances.

Please respond whether your agency accepts or declines the invitation to become a Participating Agency by **December 1, 2011** to:

Margaret Canty  
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
125 E. 11th Street  
Austin, TX 78701-2483  
(512) 416-2598

**Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2**  
TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

Wednesday, December 7, 2011  
Registration is at 10:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
El Paso International Airport  
Board Room – Second Floor  
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925  
Lunch will be provided.  
Van tour of the project area from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.
The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project and provide opportunities for agencies to provide comments on the need and purpose statement, the evaluation criteria, the range of alternatives, methodology used to develop alternatives, and the project schedule. The meeting will consist of a presentation followed by a question and answer period. TxDOT staff will be available to answer all project-related questions.

To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.

Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2
In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

Providing Comments
Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ralmundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso

Ms. LaDonna Castanuela  
Office of the Chief Clerk: (MC-015) ASARCO  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas  78711

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Ms. Castanuela:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Participating Agency and to invite your agency's representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency's potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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**Current Project Description**

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: *system capacity, system linkage and safety.*

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.
Invitation to Become a Participating Agency

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In general, your agency’s involvement should entail those areas under its jurisdiction and no direct writing or analysis will be necessary on your behalf, for the preparation of the EIS document. However, participating agencies may develop information or prepare portions of the EIS concerning their area of expertise and may adopt the EIS of the lead agency. The following activities are planned in order to maximize interagency cooperation:

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- Provide project information, including study results.
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Margaret Canty  
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
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Austin, TX 78701-2483  
(512) 416-2598

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**Providing Comments**

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HNTB
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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso  

The Honorable Jerry Patterson  
Commissioner  
Texas General Land Office  
1700 N. Congress Ave., Ste. 935  
Austin, Texas 78701  

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2  

Dear The Honorable Patterson:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Participating Agency and to invite your agency's representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency's potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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Margaret Canty
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section
TxDOT
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Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Mr. Mark Wolfe
Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Participating Agency and to invite your agency's representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency's potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

Project History
In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the Federal Register. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has been restarted in 2010. The Project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the Federal Register on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the Texas Register on September 23, 2011.

Current Project Description
The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.
Invitation to Become a Participating Agency
Due to your agency's jurisdiction over environmental resources, we are inviting you to become a Participating Agency with TxDOT in the development of the State EIS for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the project or has any special expertise with respect to the evaluation of the project. The roles and responsibilities of participating agencies include, but are not limited to:

- Participating in the scoping process;
- Participating in the NEPA process with regard to development of the need and purpose statement, range of alternatives, methodologies, and level of detail for the analysis of alternatives;
- Identifying and providing early input on issues of concern regarding the proposed project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts; and
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In general, your agency's involvement should entail those areas under its jurisdiction and no direct writing or analysis will be necessary on your behalf, for the preparation of the EIS document. However, participating agencies may develop information or prepare portions of the EIS concerning their area of expertise and may adopt the EIS of the lead agency. The following activities are planned in order to maximize interagency cooperation:

- Invite your agency to all agency coordination meetings.
- Consult your agency on any relevant technical studies that may be required for the project.
- Organize joint field reviews.
- Provide project information, including study results.
- Encourage your agency to use the above documents to express its views on subjects within your agency's jurisdiction or expertise.
- Include information in the project environmental documents stating how participating agencies would fulfill their NEPA responsibilities and any other requirements regarding jurisdictional approvals, permits, licenses, and/or clearances.

Please respond whether your agency accepts or declines the invitation to become a Participating Agency by December 1, 2011 to:

Margaret Canty
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section
TxDOT
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-2598

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TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

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10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
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Board Room – Second Floor
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925
Lunch will be provided.
Van tour of the project area from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.

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**Providing Comments**
Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB  
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator  
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100  
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.  
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division  
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Ms. Deirdre Hisler
Regional Director
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
200 N. Clark Dr.
El Paso, Texas 79905

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Ms. Hisler:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Participating Agency and to invite your agency’s representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency’s potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
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Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.  
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division  
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Ms. Lois Balin
Urban Biologist - El Paso County
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
200 N. Clark Dr.
El Paso, Texas 79905

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Ms. Balin:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Participating Agency and to invite your agency's representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency's potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Mr. Russell Hooten
Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, Texas 78744

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Hooten:

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TxDOT  
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Deputy District Engineer

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Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Mr. Nim Kidd
Interim Asst. Director for Emergency Management
Governor's Division of Emergency Management
P.O. Box 4087
Austin, Texas 78773

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Kidd:

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Sincerely,

[Signature]
Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso

Mr. Bernard Sergeant  
Chairman  
El Paso County Historical Commission  
819 W. Sunset Dr.  
El Paso, Texas 79922

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Sergeant:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Participating Agency and to invite your agency’s representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency’s potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

**Project History**
In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the *Federal Register*. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has been restarted in 2010. The Project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the *Federal Register* on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the *Texas Register* on September 23, 2011.

**Current Project Description**
The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: *system capacity, system linkage and safety.*

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.
**Invitation to Become a Participating Agency**

Due to your agency's jurisdiction over environmental resources, we are inviting you to become a Participating Agency with TxDOT in the development of the State EIS for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the project or has any special expertise with respect to the evaluation of the project. The roles and responsibilities of participating agencies include, but are not limited to:

- Participating in the scoping process;
- Participating in the NEPA process with regard to development of the need and purpose statement, range of alternatives, methodologies, and level of detail for the analysis of alternatives;
- Identifying and providing early input on issues of concern regarding the proposed project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts; and
- Providing meaningful and timely input on unresolved issues.

In general, your agency's involvement should entail those areas under its jurisdiction and no direct writing or analysis will be necessary on your behalf, for the preparation of the EIS document. However, participating agencies may develop information or prepare portions of the EIS concerning their area of expertise and may adopt the EIS of the lead agency. The following activities are planned in order to maximize interagency cooperation:

- Invite your agency to all agency coordination meetings.
- Consult your agency on any relevant technical studies that may be required for the project.
- Organize joint field reviews.
- Provide project information, including study results.
- Encourage your agency to use the above documents to express its views on subjects within your agency's jurisdiction or expertise.
- Include information in the project environmental documents stating how participating agencies would fulfill their NEPA responsibilities and any other requirements regarding jurisdictional approvals, permits, licenses, and/or clearances.

Please respond whether your agency accepts or declines the invitation to become a Participating Agency by December 1, 2011 to:

Margaret Canty  
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
125 E. 11th Street  
Austin, TX 78701-2483  
(512) 416-2598

**Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2**

TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

Wednesday, December 7, 2011  
Registration is at 10:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
El Paso International Airport  
Board Room – Second Floor  
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925  
Lunch will be provided.

Van tour of the project area from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.
The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project and provide opportunities for agencies to provide comments on the need and purpose statement, the evaluation criteria, the range of alternatives, methodology used to develop alternatives, and the project schedule. The meeting will consist of a presentation followed by a question and answer period. TxDOT staff will be available to answer all project-related questions.

To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.

Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2
In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

Providing Comments
Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Raimundo Dosalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Texas Department of Transportation

13301 GATEWAY BLVD. WEST • EL PASO TX 79928-5410 • (915) 790-4200

November 1, 2011

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Mr. Jesus "Chuy" Reyes
General Manager
El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1
P.O. Box 749
Clint, Texas 79836

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Reyes:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Participating Agency and to invite your agency’s representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency’s potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.
Invitation to Become a Participating Agency

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- Providing meaningful and timely input on unresolved issues.

In general, your agency's involvement should entail those areas under its jurisdiction and no direct writing or analysis will be necessary on your behalf, for the preparation of the EIS document. However, participating agencies may develop information or prepare portions of the EIS concerning their area of expertise and may adopt the EIS of the lead agency. The following activities are planned in order to maximize interagency cooperation:

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- Consult your agency on any relevant technical studies that may be required for the project.
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Margaret Canty
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section
TxDOT
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-2598

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In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

**Providing Comments**

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HNTB  
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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.  
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division  
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Mr. Raymond Telles
Executive Director
Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority
2 Civic Center Plaza, 9th Floor
El Paso, Texas 79901

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Telles:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Participating Agency and to invite your agency's representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency's potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
125 E. 11th Street  
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(512) 416-2598

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Providing Comments
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Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Mr. Roy Gilyard
Executive Director
El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization
10767 Gateway Blvd. West, Ste. 605
El Paso, Texas 79935

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Gilyard:

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An Equal Opportunity Employer
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Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
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Sincerely,

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Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

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Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Ms. Jane K. Shang
Deputy City Manager - Mobility Services
City of El Paso
2 Civic Center Plaza
El Paso, Texas 79901

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Ms. Shang:

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Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.
The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project and provide opportunities for agencies to provide comments on the need and purpose statement, the evaluation criteria, the range of alternatives, methodology used to develop alternatives, and the project schedule. The meeting will consist of a presentation followed by a question and answer period. TxDOT staff will be available to answer all project-related questions.

To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.

**Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2**

In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

**Providing Comments**

Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB  
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator  
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100  
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.  
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division  
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Ms. Joyce Wilson
City Manager
City of El Paso
2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor
El Paso, Texas 79901

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Ms. Wilson:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Participating Agency and to invite your agency's representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency's potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

Project History
In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the Federal Register. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has been restarted in 2010. The Project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the Federal Register on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the Texas Register on September 23, 2011.

Current Project Description
The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

An Equal Opportunity Employer
Invitation to Become a Participating Agency

Due to your agency’s jurisdiction over environmental resources, we are inviting you to become a Participating Agency with TxDOT in the development of the State EIS for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the project or has any special expertise with respect to the evaluation of the project. The roles and responsibilities of participating agencies include, but are not limited to:

- Participating in the scoping process;
- Participating in the NEPA process with regard to development of the need and purpose statement, range of alternatives, methodologies, and level of detail for the analysis of alternatives;
- Identifying and providing early input on issues of concern regarding the proposed project’s potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts; and
- Providing meaningful and timely input on unresolved issues.

In general, your agency’s involvement should entail those areas under its jurisdiction and no direct writing or analysis will be necessary on your behalf, for the preparation of the EIS document. However, participating agencies may develop information or prepare portions of the EIS concerning their area of expertise and may adopt the EIS of the lead agency. The following activities are planned in order to maximize interagency cooperation:

- Invite your agency to all agency coordination meetings.
- Consult your agency on any relevant technical studies that may be required for the project.
- Organize joint field reviews.
- Provide project information, including study results.
- Encourage your agency to use the above documents to express its views on subjects within your agency’s jurisdiction or expertise.
- Include information in the project environmental documents stating how participating agencies would fulfill their NEPA responsibilities and any other requirements regarding jurisdictional approvals, permits, licenses, and/or clearances.

Please respond whether your agency accepts or declines the invitation to become a Participating Agency by December 1, 2011 to:

Margaret Canty
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section
TxDOT
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-2598

Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2

TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

Wednesday, December 7, 2011
Registration is at 10:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
El Paso International Airport
Board Room – Second Floor
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925
Lunch will be provided.
Van tour of the project area from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.
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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Raulmundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

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City Engineer
City of El Paso
2 Civic Center Plaza, 4th Floor
El Paso, Texas 79901

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Shubert:

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The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.
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TxDOT
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Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

CC: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Carrizal:

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Margaret Canty  
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
125 E. 11th Street  
Austin, TX 78701-2483  
(512) 416-2598

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Appendix D
Cooperating Agency Letters and Mailing List
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salutation</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City, State</th>
<th>Zip</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Carlos</td>
<td>Rincon</td>
<td>Director Region 6</td>
<td>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency</td>
<td>4050 Rio Bravo St., Ste. 100</td>
<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
<td>79902</td>
<td>915-533-7273</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rincon.carlos@epa.gov">rincon.carlos@epa.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr.</td>
<td>Benjamin</td>
<td>Tuggle</td>
<td>Director, Southwest Region</td>
<td>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
<td>P.O. Box 1306</td>
<td>Albuquerque, New Mexico</td>
<td>87108</td>
<td>505-248-6202</td>
<td>505-248-6910</td>
<td><a href="mailto:RDTuggle@fws.gov">RDTuggle@fws.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LTC</td>
<td>Jason</td>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>Deputy District Commander, Albuquerque District</td>
<td>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District</td>
<td>4101 Jefferson Plaza N.E.</td>
<td>Albuquerque, New Mexico</td>
<td>87109</td>
<td>505-342-3100</td>
<td>505-342-3199</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jason.williams@usace.army.mil">jason.williams@usace.army.mil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RADM</td>
<td>Roy A.</td>
<td>Nash</td>
<td>Commander, Eighth District</td>
<td>U.S. Coast Guard, Eighth District</td>
<td>800 Pryor St</td>
<td>New Orleans, Louisiana</td>
<td>70130</td>
<td>504-589-6298</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Honorable</td>
<td>Edward</td>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>Commissioner International Boundary and Water Commission</td>
<td></td>
<td>41711 N. Mesa St., Ste. C-100</td>
<td>El Paso, Texas</td>
<td>79902</td>
<td>915-652-4765</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Bill</td>
<td>Childress</td>
<td>District Manager - Las Cruces District Office</td>
<td>U.S. Department of the Interior - Bureau of Land Management</td>
<td>1800 Marquesas Street</td>
<td>Las Cruces, New Mexico</td>
<td>88005</td>
<td>575-525-4303</td>
<td>575-525-4412</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Terry</td>
<td>Lukes</td>
<td>Regional Environmental Officer</td>
<td>Federal Emergency Management Agency</td>
<td>1403 S. Loop 289</td>
<td>Denton, Texas</td>
<td>75020</td>
<td>940-333-7254</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Christiansen</td>
<td>Regional Conservationist - Central Region</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service</td>
<td>14th and Independence Ave., SW, Rm. 6103-S</td>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
<td>20290</td>
<td>202-690-2188</td>
<td>202-690-2257</td>
<td><a href="mailto:thomas.christiansen@wdc.usda.gov">thomas.christiansen@wdc.usda.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr.</td>
<td>Roy</td>
<td>Crabtree</td>
<td>Regional Administrator - Southeast Region</td>
<td>NOAA-National Marine Fisheries Service</td>
<td>653 13th Avenue, South</td>
<td>St. Petersburg</td>
<td>33701</td>
<td>727-824-5531</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Bonnie</td>
<td>Murphy</td>
<td>Regional Administrator - Region 5</td>
<td>Federal Railroad Administration, Region 5</td>
<td>10100 International Plaza, Suite 450</td>
<td>Fort Worth, Texas</td>
<td>76108</td>
<td>817-862-2200</td>
<td>817-862-2204</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>Madsen</td>
<td>Regional Director - Intermountain Region</td>
<td>U.S. Department of the Interior - National Park Service</td>
<td>72785 W. Alameda Pkwy</td>
<td>Denver, Colorado</td>
<td>80225</td>
<td>303-968-2900</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Mr. Carlos Rincon
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
4050 Rio Bravo St., Ste. 100
El Paso, Texas 79902

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency and
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Rincon:

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- Provide project information, including study results.
- Encourage your agency to use the above documents to express its views on subjects within your agency's jurisdiction or expertise.
- Include information in the project environmental documents stating how cooperating agencies would fulfill their NEPA responsibilities and any other requirements regarding jurisdictional approvals, permits, licenses, and/or clearances.
Please respond whether your agency accepts or declines the invitation to become a Cooperating Agency by December 1, 2011 to:

Margaret Canty  
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
125 E. 11th Street  
Austin, TX 78701-2483  
(512) 416-2598

Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2
TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

Wednesday, December 7, 2011  
Registration is at 10:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
El Paso International Airport  
Board Room – Second Floor  
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925  
Lunch will be provided.  
Van tour of the project area from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project and provide opportunities for agencies to provide comments on the need and purpose statement, the evaluation criteria, the range of alternatives, methodology used to develop alternatives, and the project schedule. The meeting will consist of a presentation followed by a question and answer period. TxDOT staff will be available to answer all project-related questions.

To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.

Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2
In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

Providing Comments
Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB  
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator  
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100  
El Paso, TX 79925-5665
Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Marek, P.E., Interim Director
Environmental Affairs Division

Attachment

cc: Ray Dovalina, P.E., El Paso Deputy District Engineer, TxDOT
    Jesus Heredia, El Paso District, TxDOT
    Margaret Canty, Project Delivery Management Section, TxDOT
PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE  
Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
El Paso County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), El Paso District, will conduct the second Public Scoping Meeting for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project on:

Thursday, December 8, 2011  
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)  
El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center  
Wiggins Road, El Paso, TX 79968  
(across from the UTEP Library)

The Public Scoping Meeting will be conducted in an open house, come-and-go format. Those wishing to attend are encouraged to do so at their convenience between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Maps of the project area and other displays will be available for review and comment. TxDOT staff will be available to answer questions. All materials will be presented in English and Spanish; interpreters will be available for Spanish-speaking individuals. Parking will be available free of charge at Lot S-3 (located between I-10 and Sun Bowl Drive and just north of the Schuster Avenue underpass at I-10), and for $1 an hour at the Sun Bowl Parking Garage.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project as well as to inform the public that the project limits have changed since the last public scoping meetings were held in October 2007. In addition, the meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to provide comments on project documents including the identified possible solutions to meet the transportation needs and the process being used to evaluate those solutions.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

The proposed project would add capacity and upgrade the existing facility by providing a new four-lane, partially-controlled access facility that may follow portions of the existing Loop 375 or US 85. The proposed project would close the gap on Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. Due to funding constraints and legislative guidance, tolling would be considered as a funding option for the primary facility; however, all current non-tolled lanes would remain non-tolled.

The proposed project is the result of several previous studies which have identified a need to provide an alternate relief route to I-10 through El Paso. It is also an important element of the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Mission 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, adopted in 2010.

Persons interested in attending the Public Scoping Meeting that have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact the Public Information Officer, Blanca Del Valle, at (915) 790-4200 at least two working days prior to the Public Scoping Meeting. TxDOT will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate other special needs as requested.

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Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Dr. Benjamin Tuggle
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency and
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Dr. Tuggle:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Cooperating Agency and to invite your agency's representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency's potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

**Project History**
In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the *Federal Register*. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has now been restarted in 2010. The project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the *Federal Register* on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the *Texas Register* on September 23, 2011.

**Current Project Description**
The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.
Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the city of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

**Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency**

Due to your agency's jurisdiction over environmental resources, we are inviting you to become a Cooperating Agency with TxDOT in the development of the State EIS for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the project or has any special expertise with respect to the evaluation of the project. The roles and responsibilities of cooperating agencies include, but are not limited to:

- Participating in the scoping process;
- Participating in the NEPA process with regard to development of the need and purpose statement, range of alternatives, methodologies, and level of detail for the analysis of alternatives;
- Identifying and providing early input on issues of concern regarding the proposed project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts; and
- Providing meaningful and timely input on unresolved issues.

In general, your agency's involvement should entail those areas under its jurisdiction and no direct writing or analysis will be necessary on your behalf, for the preparation of the EIS document. However, cooperating agencies may develop information or prepare portions of the EIS concerning their area of expertise and may adopt the EIS of the lead agency. The following activities are planned in order to maximize interagency cooperation:

- Invite your agency to all agency coordination meetings.
- Consult your agency on any relevant technical studies that may be required for the project.
- Organize joint field reviews.
- Provide project information, including study results.
- Encourage your agency to use the above documents to express its views on subjects within your agency's jurisdiction or expertise.
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Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Marek, P.E., Interim Director
Environmental Affairs Division

Attachment

c:  Ray Dovalina, P.E., El Paso Deputy District Engineer, TxDOT
Jesus Heredia, El Paso District, TxDOT
Margaret Canty, Project Delivery Management Section, TxDOT
PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
El Paso County, Texas

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University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)
El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center
Wiggins Road, El Paso, TX 79968
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The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

The proposed project would add capacity and upgrade the existing facility by providing a new four-lane, partially-controlled access facility that may follow portions of the existing Loop 375 or US 85. The proposed project would close the gap on Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. Due to funding constraints and legislative guidance, tolling would be considered as a funding option for the primary facility; however, all current non-tolled lanes would remain non-tolled.

The proposed project is the result of several previous studies which have identified a need to provide an alternate relief route to I-10 through El Paso. It is also an important element of the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Mission 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, adopted in 2010.

Persons interested in attending the Public Scoping Meeting that have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact the Public Information Officer, Blanca Del Valle, at (915) 790-4200 at least two working days prior to the Public Scoping Meeting. TxDOT will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate other special needs as requested.

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Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

LTC Jason Williams
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District
4101 Jefferson Plaza N.E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency and
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Commander Williams:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Cooperating Agency and to invite your agency’s representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency’s potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

Project History
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Current Project Description
The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.
Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the city of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

**Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency**

Due to your agency's jurisdiction over environmental resources, we are inviting you to become a Cooperating Agency with TxDOT in the development of the State EIS for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the project or has any special expertise with respect to the evaluation of the project. The roles and responsibilities of cooperating agencies include, but are not limited to:

- Participating in the scoping process;
- Participating in the NEPA process with regard to development of the need and purpose statement, range of alternatives, methodologies, and level of detail for the analysis of alternatives;
- Identifying and providing early input on issues of concern regarding the proposed project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts; and
- Providing meaningful and timely input on unresolved issues.

In general, your agency's involvement should entail those areas under its jurisdiction and no direct writing or analysis will be necessary on your behalf, for the preparation of the EIS document. However, cooperating agencies may develop information or prepare portions of the EIS concerning their area of expertise and may adopt the EIS of the lead agency. The following activities are planned in order to maximize interagency cooperation:

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Margaret Canty  
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
125 E. 11th Street  
Austin, TX 78701-2483  
(512) 416-2598

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Sincerely,

Mark A. Marek, P.E., Interim Director
Environmental Affairs Division

Attachment

cc: Ray Dovalina, P.E., El Paso Deputy District Engineer, TxDOT
    Jesus Heredia, El Paso District, TxDOT
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Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
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Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RADM Roy A. Nash
U.S. Coast Guard, Eighth District
500 Poydras St.
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency and
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Commander Nash:

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**Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2**

In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

**Providing Comments**

Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB  
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator  
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100  
El Paso, TX 79925-5665
Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand
delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the
official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact
TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Marek, P.E., Interim Director
Environmental Affairs Division

Attachment

cc: Ray Dovalina, P.E., El Paso Deputy District Engineer, TxDOT
    Jesus Heredia, El Paso District, TxDOT
    Margaret Canty, Project Delivery Management Section, TxDOT
PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
El Paso County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), El Paso District, will conduct the second Public Scoping Meeting for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project on:

Thursday, December 8, 2011
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)
El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center
Wiggins Road, El Paso, TX 79968
(across from the UTEP Library)

The Public Scoping Meeting will be conducted in an open house, come-and-go format. Those wishing to attend are encouraged to do so at their convenience between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Maps of the project area and other displays will be available for review and comment. TxDOT staff will be available to answer questions. All materials will be presented in English and Spanish; interpreters will be available for Spanish-speaking individuals. Parking will be available free of charge at Lot S-3 (located between I-10 and Sun Bowl Drive and just north of the Schuster Avenue underpass at I-10), and for $1 an hour at the Sun Bowl Parking Garage.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project as well as to inform the public that the project limits have changed since the last public scoping meetings were held in October 2007. In addition, the meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to provide comments on project documents including the identified possible solutions to meet the transportation needs and the process being used to evaluate those solutions.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

The proposed project would add capacity and upgrade the existing facility by providing a new four-lane, partially-controlled access facility that may follow portions of the existing Loop 375 or US 85. The proposed project would close the gap on Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. Due to funding constraints and legislative guidance, tolling would be considered as a funding option for the primary facility; however, all current non-tolled lanes would remain non-tolled.

The proposed project is the result of several previous studies which have identified a need to provide an alternate relief route to I-10 through El Paso. It is also an important element of the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization's Mission 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, adopted in 2010.

Persons interested in attending the Public Scoping Meeting that have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact the Public Information Officer, Blanca Del Valle, at (915) 790-4200 at least two working days prior to the Public Scoping Meeting. TxDOT will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate other special needs as requested.

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Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

The Honorable Edward Drusina
International Boundary and Water Commission
4171 N. Mesa St., Ste. C-100
El Paso, Texas 79902

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency and
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Commissioner Drusina:

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**Project History**
In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the *Federal Register*. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has now been restarted in 2010. The project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the *Federal Register* on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the *Texas Register* on September 23, 2011.

**Current Project Description**
The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: *system capacity, system linkage and safety*.
Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the city of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

**Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency**

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- Participating in the scoping process;
- Participating in the NEPA process with regard to development of the need and purpose statement, range of alternatives, methodologies, and level of detail for the analysis of alternatives;
- Identifying and providing early input on issues of concern regarding the proposed project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts; and
- Providing meaningful and timely input on unresolved issues.

In general, your agency's involvement should entail those areas under its jurisdiction and no direct writing or analysis will be necessary on your behalf, for the preparation of the EIS document. However, cooperating agencies may develop information or prepare portions of the EIS concerning their area of expertise and may adopt the EIS of the lead agency. The following activities are planned in order to maximize interagency cooperation:

- Invite your agency to all agency coordination meetings.
- Consult your agency on any relevant technical studies that may be required for the project.
- Organize joint field reviews.
- Provide project information, including study results.
- Encourage your agency to use the above documents to express its views on subjects within your agency's jurisdiction or expertise.
- Include information in the project environmental documents stating how cooperating agencies would fulfill their NEPA responsibilities and any other requirements regarding jurisdictional approvals, permits, licenses, and/or clearances.
Please respond whether your agency accepts or declines the invitation to become a Cooperating Agency by December 1, 2011 to:

Margaret Canty  
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
125 E. 11th Street  
Austin, TX 78701-2483  
(512) 416-2598

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10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
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Lunch will be provided.  
Van tour of the project area from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Ms. Ana Hinojosa
Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection
9400 Viscount Blvd.
El Paso, Texas 79925

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
    Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency and
    Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Ms. Hinojosa:

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Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Mr. Bill Childress
U.S. Department of the Interior - Bureau of Land Management
1800 Marquess Street
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency and
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Childress:

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The Public Scoping Meeting will be conducted in an open house, come-and-go format. Those wishing to attend are encouraged to do so at their convenience between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Maps of the project area and other displays will be available for review and comment. TxDOT staff will be available to answer questions. All materials will be presented in English and Spanish; interpreters will be available for Spanish-speaking individuals. Parking will be available free of charge at Lot S-3 (located between I-10 and Sun Bowl Drive and just north of the Schuster Avenue underpass at I-10), and for $1 an hour at the Sun Bowl Parking Garage.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project as well as to inform the public that the project limits have changed since the last public scoping meetings were held in October 2007. In addition, the meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to provide comments on project documents including the identified possible solutions to meet the transportation needs and the process being used to evaluate those solutions.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

The proposed project would add capacity and upgrade the existing facility by providing a new four-lane, partially-controlled access facility that may follow portions of the existing Loop 375 or US 85. The proposed project would close the gap on Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. Due to funding constraints and legislative guidance, tolling would be considered as a funding option for the primary facility; however, all current non-tolled lanes would remain non-tolled.

The proposed project is the result of several previous studies which have identified a need to provide an alternate relief route to I-10 through El Paso. It is also an important element of the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Mission 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, adopted in 2010.

Persons interested in attending the Public Scoping Meeting that have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact the Public Information Officer, Blanca Del Valle, at (915) 790-4200 at least two working days prior to the Public Scoping Meeting. TxDOT will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate other special needs as requested.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at the Public Scoping Meeting or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso

Ms. Terry Lukes  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
FRC 800 N. Loop 288  
Denton, Texas 76209

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -  
Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency and  
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Ms. Lukes:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Cooperating Agency and to invite your agency's representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency's potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

**Project History**
In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the Federal Register. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has now been restarted in 2010. The project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the Federal Register on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the Texas Register on September 23, 2011.

**Current Project Description**
The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.
Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the city of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed

Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.
The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

**Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency**
Due to your agency's jurisdiction over environmental resources, we are inviting you to become a Cooperating Agency with TxDOT in the development of the State EIS for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the project or has any special expertise with respect to the evaluation of the project. The roles and responsibilities of cooperating agencies include, but are not limited to:

- Participating in the scoping process;
- Participating in the NEPA process with regard to development of the need and purpose statement, range of alternatives, methodologies, and level of detail for the analysis of alternatives;
- Identifying and providing early input on issues of concern regarding the proposed project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts; and
- Providing meaningful and timely input on unresolved issues.

In general, your agency's involvement should entail those areas under its jurisdiction and no direct writing or analysis will be necessary on your behalf, for the preparation of the EIS document. However, cooperating agencies may develop information or prepare portions of the EIS concerning their area of expertise and may adopt the EIS of the lead agency. The following activities are planned in order to maximize interagency cooperation:

- Invite your agency to all agency coordination meetings.
- Consult your agency on any relevant technical studies that may be required for the project.
- Organize joint field reviews.
- Provide project information, including study results.
- Encourage your agency to use the above documents to express its views on subjects within your agency's jurisdiction or expertise.
- Include information in the project environmental documents stating how cooperating agencies would fulfill their NEPA responsibilities and any other requirements regarding jurisdictional approvals, permits, licenses, and/or clearances.
Please respond whether your agency accepts or declines the invitation to become a Cooperating Agency by December 1, 2011 to:

Margaret Canty  
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
125 E. 11th Street  
Austin, TX 78701-2483  
(512) 416-2598

Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2
TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

Wednesday, December 7, 2011  
Registration is at 10:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
El Paso International Airport  
Board Room – Second Floor  
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925  
Lunch will be provided. 
Van tour of the project area from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project and provide opportunities for agencies to provide comments on the need and purpose statement, the evaluation criteria, the range of alternatives, methodology used to develop alternatives, and the project schedule. The meeting will consist of a presentation followed by a question and answer period. TxDOT staff will be available to answer all project-related questions.

To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cggarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.

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Providing Comments
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Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator  
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Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Marek, P.E., Interim Director
Environmental Affairs Division

Attachment

cc: Ray Dovalina, P.E., El Paso Deputy District Engineer, TxDOT
Jesus Heredia, El Paso District, TxDOT
Margaret Canty, Project Delivery Management Section, TxDOT
PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
El Paso County, Texas

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Thursday, December 8, 2011
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)
El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center
Wiggins Road, El Paso, TX 79968
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November 3, 2011

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso

Mr. Thomas Christensen  
U.S. Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service  
14th and Independence Ave., SW, Rm. 6103-S  
Washington, DC 20250

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Christensen:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Cooperating Agency and to invite your agency's representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency's potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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Margaret Canty  
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
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(512) 416-2598

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Sincerely,

Mark A. Marek, P.E., Interim Director
Environmental Affairs Division

Attachment

cc: Ray Dovalina, P.E., El Paso Deputy District Engineer, TxDOT
Jesus Heredia, El Paso District, TxDOT
Margaret Canty, Project Delivery Management Section, TxDOT
PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
El Paso County, Texas

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4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)
El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center
Wiggins Road, El Paso, TX 79968
(across from the UTEP Library)

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Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso  

Dr. Roy Crabtree  
NOAA-National Marine Fisheries Service  
263 13th Avenue, South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -  
Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency and  
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2  

Dear Dr. Crabtree:  

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Sincerely,

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Verbal and written comments from the public regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at the Public Scoping Meeting or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.
Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Ms. Bonnie Murphy
Federal Railroad Administration, Region 5
4100 International Plaza, Suite 450
Fort Worth, Texas 76109

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency and
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Ms. Murphy:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Cooperating Agency and to invite your agency’s representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency’s potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

Project History
In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the Federal Register. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has now been restarted in 2010. The project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the Federal Register on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the Texas Register on September 23, 2011.

Current Project Description
The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.
Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the city of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Recetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

**Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency**

Due to your agency's jurisdiction over environmental resources, we are inviting you to become a Cooperating Agency with TxDOT in the development of the State EIS for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the project or has any special expertise with respect to the evaluation of the project. The roles and responsibilities of cooperating agencies include, but are not limited to:

- Participating in the scoping process;
- Participating in the NEPA process with regard to development of the need and purpose statement, range of alternatives, methodologies, and level of detail for the analysis of alternatives;
- Identifying and providing early input on issues of concern regarding the proposed project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts; and
- Providing meaningful and timely input on unresolved issues.

In general, your agency's involvement should entail those areas under its jurisdiction and no direct writing or analysis will be necessary on your behalf, for the preparation of the EIS document. However, cooperating agencies may develop information or prepare portions of the EIS concerning their area of expertise and may adopt the EIS of the lead agency. The following activities are planned in order to maximize interagency cooperation:

- Invite your agency to all agency coordination meetings.
- Consult your agency on any relevant technical studies that may be required for the project.
- Organize joint field reviews.
- Provide project information, including study results.
- Encourage your agency to use the above documents to express its views on subjects within your agency's jurisdiction or expertise.
- Include information in the project environmental documents stating how cooperating agencies would fulfill their NEPA responsibilities and any other requirements regarding jurisdictional approvals, permits, licenses, and/or clearances.
Please respond whether your agency accepts or declines the invitation to become a Cooperating Agency by **December 1, 2011** to:

Margaret Canty  
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
TxDOT  
125 E. 11th Street  
Austin, TX 78701-2483  
(512) 416-2598

**Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2**  
TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

Wednesday, December 7, 2011  
Registration is at 10:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
El Paso International Airport  
Board Room – Second Floor  
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925  
Lunch will be provided.  
Van tour of the project area from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project and provide opportunities for agencies to provide comments on the need and purpose statement, the evaluation criteria, the range of alternatives, methodology used to develop alternatives, and the project schedule. The meeting will consist of a presentation followed by a question and answer period. TxDOT staff will be available to answer all project-related questions.

To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.

**Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2**  
In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

**Providing Comments**  
Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB  
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator  
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100  
El Paso, TX 79925-5665
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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Marek, P.E., Interim Director
Environmental Affairs Division

Attachment

cc: Ray Dovalina, P.E., El Paso Deputy District Engineer, TxDOT
Jesus Heredia, El Paso District, TxDOT
Margaret Canty, Project Delivery Management Section, TxDOT
PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
El Paso County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), El Paso District, will conduct the second Public Scoping Meeting for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project on:

Thursday, December 8, 2011
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)
El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center
Wiggins Road, El Paso, TX 79968
(across from the UTEP Library)

The Public Scoping Meeting will be conducted in an open house, come-and-go format. Those wishing to attend are encouraged to do so at their convenience between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Maps of the project area and other displays will be available for review and comment. TxDOT staff will be available to answer questions. All materials will be presented in English and Spanish; interpreters will be available for Spanish-speaking individuals. Parking will be available free of charge at Lot S-3 (located between I-10 and Sun Bowl Drive and just north of the Schuster Avenue underpass at I-10), and for $1 an hour at the Sun Bowl Parking Garage.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project as well as to inform the public that the project limits have changed since the last public scoping meetings were held in October 2007. In addition, the meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to provide comments on project documents including the identified possible solutions to meet the transportation needs and the process being used to evaluate those solutions.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

The proposed project would add capacity and upgrade the existing facility by providing a new four-lane, partially-controlled access facility that may follow portions of the existing Loop 375 or US 85. The proposed project would close the gap on Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. Due to funding constraints and legislative guidance, tolling would be considered as a funding option for the primary facility; however, all current non-tolled lanes would remain non-tolled.

The proposed project is the result of several previous studies which have identified a need to provide an alternate relief route to I-10 through El Paso. It is also an important element of the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization's Mission 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, adopted in 2010.

Persons interested in attending the Public Scoping Meeting that have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact the Public Information Officer, Blanca Del Valle, at (915) 790-4200 at least two working days prior to the Public Scoping Meeting. TxDOT will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate other special needs as requested.

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Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

Mr. John Wessels
U.S. Department of the Interior - National Park Service
12795 W. Alameda Pkwy.
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency and
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Wessels:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Cooperating Agency and to invite your agency’s representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history, discussion of your agency’s potential involvement in the project, and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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Sincerely,

Mark A. Marek, P.E., Interim Director
Environmental Affairs Division

Attachment

cc: Ray Dovalina, P.E., El Paso Deputy District Engineer, TxDOT
Jesus Heredia, El Paso District, TxDOT
Margaret Canty, Project Delivery Management Section, TxDOT
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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.
Loop 375 Stakeholders

Mr. Carlos Rincon
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
4050 Rio Bravo St., Ste. 100
El Paso, Texas 79902

Dr. Benjamin Tuggle
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108

LTC Jason Williams
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Albuquerque District
4101 Jefferson Plaza N.E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109

RADM Roy A. Nash
U.S. Coast Guard, Eighth District
500 Poydras St.
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

The Honorable Edward Drusina
International Boundary and Water Commission
4171 N. Mesa St., Ste. C-100
El Paso, Texas 79902

Ms. Ana Hinojosa
Department of Homeland Security
Customs and Border Protection
9400 Viscount Blvd.
El Paso, Texas 79925

Mr. Bill Childress
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
1800 Marquess Street
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005

Ms. Terry Lukes
Federal Emergency Management Agency
FRC 800 N. Loop 288
Denton, Texas 76209

Mr. Thomas Christensen
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
14th and Independence Ave., SW, Rm. 6103-S
Washington, DC 20250

Dr. Roy Crabtree
NOAA-National Marine Fisheries Service
263 13th Avenue, South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Ms. Bonnie Murphy
Federal Railroad Administration, Region 5
4100 International Plaza, Suite 450
Fort Worth, Texas 76109

Mr. John Wessels
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
12795 W. Alameda Pkwy.
Denver, Colorado 80225
Appendix E
Project Coordination Schedule
## LOOP 375 BORDER HIGHWAY WEST EXTENSION PROJECT

### Project Coordination Plan Schedule

#### Public Hearing
- DEIS Preparation & Review Process
- Alternatives Development and Analysis
- Need and Purpose Statement
- Environmental Process Initiation

#### Newsletter #2
- Alternatives Development and Analysis
- Need and Purpose Statement
- Environmental Process Initiation

#### Project Coordination Plan
- Need and Purpose Statement
- Environmental Process Initiation

### Technical Resource Studies for 3 Reasonable Alternatives
- Data Collection/Existing Condition Analysis
- Right-of-Entry
- Update Environmental Constraints Mapping
- Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
- newsletter #2
- Alternatives Development and Analysis
- Project Coordination Plan

### Project Funding Change from Federal to State
- BNSF Rail Yard Relocation Study
- Demographics Model Update (By Others)
- Traffic and Toll Feasibility Study
- Alternatives Development and Analysis
- Project Coordination Plan

### Construction Impacts
- Wetland Delineation
- Construction Impacts
- Indirect and Cumulative Impacts
- Visual Impacts
- Historic Resource Studies
- Threatened or Endangered Species
- Wild and Scenic Rivers
- Beneficial Landscaping
- Invasive Species
- Water Body Modifications and Wildlife Habitat
- Waters of the U.S., Including Wetlands
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permits
- Water Quality

### Social and Economic Conditions
- Pedestrian and Bicycles
- Farmland, Soils, and Geology

### Public Comment Period (10 Calendar Days)
- Debrief Meeting at DISTRICT
- Public Hearing Summary Report
- Public Meeting
- Public Comment Period (10 Calendar Days)
- Debrief Meeting at DISTRICT
- 30 Day & 10 Day Publication
- Pre-Meeting #2 at DISTRICT (Review Draft Meeting Materials Package)
- Pre-Meeting #1 at DISTRICT (Review Meeting Plan & Strategy)
- Public Hearing
- Dress Rehearsal at DISTRICT
- 30 Day & 10 Day Publication (Incl. Notice of Availability and Distribute Circulation Copies for 30 Days)
- Notice of Availability and DEIS Circulation
- ENV finds DEIS Satisfactory for Further Processing
- Comment Workshop #3 at DISTRICT
- HNTB Reviews Comments & Prepares for Workshop
- ENV Submit to LEGAL for Review
- DISTRICT Backcheck Review & Submit to ENV
- HNTB Address Comments & Prepare 3rd Submittal DEIS
- Comment Workshop #2 at DISTRICT
- ENV Review
- DISTRICT Backcheck Review & Submit to ENV
- HNTB Address Comments & Prepare 2nd Submittal DEIS
- 2nd Submittal DEIS (ENV REVIEW)
- HNTB Reviews Comments & Prepares for Workshop
- DISTRICT/GEC Review (Concurrent)
- 1st Submittal DEIS (DISTRICT AND ENV GEC REVIEW)

### Monthly Team Coordination Meeting
- FHWA/TxDOT ENV Coordination Meeting (May 2010)
- Kick-off Meeting (March 2010)
- Field Survey
- THC Approval & Issues TAP
- HNTB Address Comments
- THC Review
- ENV Approval & Submit to THC
- HNTB Address Comments
- ENV Review
- DISTRICT Approval & Submit to ENV
- HNTB Address Comments
- DISTRICT Review
- Prepare Texas Antiquities Permit (TAP)

### Workshops
- Workshop #1 - Present Preliminary Alternatives & Set Evaluation Criteria
- Preliminary Alternatives
- Update Coordination Plan
- Update Need and Purpose Statement
- Review Process
- Update Project Notification Letter
- Prepare Detailed Schedule
- Revise Study Area Map
- Monthly Team Coordination Meeting
- FHWA/TxDOT ENV Coordination Meeting (May 2010)
- Kick-off Meeting (March 2010)
- Field Survey
- THC Approval & Issues TAP
- HNTB Address Comments
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- ENV Review
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- HNTB Address Comments
- DISTRICT Review
- Prepare Texas Antiquities Permit (TAP)
## Project Coordination Plan Schedule

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**Notes:**
- Initial Notices of Intent were published in 2007
- Project placed on hold in 2009
- Project restarted in 2010

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Appendix F
Elected Officials Letters and Mailing List
November 1, 2011

Mr. Daryl Cole
El Paso Department of Transportation
7968 San Pablo Drive,
El Paso, TX 79907

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mr. Cole:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

**Project History**

In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the Federal Register. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has been restarted in 2010. The project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the Federal Register on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the Texas Register on September 23, 2011.
Current Project Description

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2

TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

Wednesday, December 7, 2011
Registration is at 10:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
El Paso International Airport
Board Room – Second Floor
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925
Lunch will be provided.
Van tour of the project area from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project and provide opportunities for agencies to provide comments on the need and purpose statement, the evaluation criteria, the range of alternatives, methodology used to develop alternatives, and the project schedule. The meeting will consist of a presentation followed by a question and answer period. TxDOT staff will be available to answer all project-related questions.

To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.

Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2
In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

Providing Comments

Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

Dr. Lorenzo Garcia
Superintendent
El Paso Independent School District
6531 Boeing
El Paso, TX 79925

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Superintendent Garcia:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2

TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

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10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
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Board Room – Second Floor
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7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Raimundo Dosalvina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Veronica Escobar
Judge of El Paso County
500 E. San Antonio Avenue, Suite #301
El Paso, TX 79901

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Judge Escobar:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

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El Paso, TX 79925-5665

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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.  
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
The Honorable Ramon Gonzalez  
Mayor, City of Anthony, New Mexico  
P.O. Box 2663,  
Anthony, NM 88021

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -  
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mayor Gonzalez:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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El Paso, TX 79925-5665

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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.  
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable John Cook
Mayor, City of El Paso
Two Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor
El Paso, TX 79901

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

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HNTB  
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator  
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100  
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.  
Deputy District Engineer

CC: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Gloria Rodriguez
Mayor, City of Socorro
124 South Horizon Boulevard,
El Paso, TX 79927

Highway:  Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits:    From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ:      2552-04-027
County:   El Paso

RE:  Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
     Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mayor Rodriguez:

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HNTB  
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator  
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100  
El Paso, TX 79925-5685

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.  
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Martin Resendiz
Mayor, City of Sunland Park
1000 McNutt Road
Sunland Park, NM 88063

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mayor Resendiz:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

Project History

In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the Federal Register. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has been restarted in 2010. The project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the Federal Register on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the Texas Register on September 23, 2011.
**Current Project Description**

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: **system capacity, system linkage and safety**.

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphon Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

**Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2**

TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

- **Wednesday, December 7, 2011**
- Registration is at 10:00 a.m.
- 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- El Paso International Airport
- Board Room – Second Floor
- 6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925
- Lunch will be provided.

- Van tour of the project area from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project and provide opportunities for agencies to provide comments on the need and purpose statement, the evaluation criteria, the range of alternatives, methodology used to develop alternatives, and the project schedule. The meeting will consist of a presentation followed by a question and answer period. TxDOT staff will be available to answer all project-related questions.

To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@htnb.com or call (915) 887-0875.  
**Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2**
In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

**Providing Comments**

Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Art Franco
Mayor, Town of Anthony
P.O. Box 1269,
Anthony, TX 79821

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mayor Franco:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

Project History

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Current Project Description

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2

TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

Wednesday, December 7, 2011
Registration is at 10:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
El Paso International Airport
Board Room – Second Floor
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925
Lunch will be provided.
Van tour of the project area from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.

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To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.

Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2
In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

**Providing Comments**

Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB  
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator  
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100  
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.  
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Dale T. Reinhardt
Mayor, Town of Clint
200 North San Elizario Road,
Clint, TX 79836

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mayor Reinhardt:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the
preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375
Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency
Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8,
2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information
regarding the upcoming meetings.

Project History

In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in
the Federal Register. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping
Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009
due to lack of funding and has been restarted in 2010. The project is now being
developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway
Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the Federal Register on October 3,
Current Project Description

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2

TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

Wednesday, December 7, 2011
Registration is at 10:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
El Paso International Airport
Board Room – Second Floor
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925
Lunch will be provided.
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To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.

Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2
In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

**Providing Comments**

Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB  
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator  
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100  
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.  
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Walter L. Miller
Mayor, Town of Horizon City
14999 Darrington Road
Horizon City, TX 79927

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mayor Miller:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

**Project History**

In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the *Federal Register*. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has been restarted in 2010. The project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the *Federal Register* on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the *Texas Register* on September 23, 2011.
Current Project Description

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2

TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

   Wednesday, December 7, 2011
   Registration is at 10:00 a.m.
   10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
   El Paso International Airport
   Board Room – Second Floor
   6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925
   Lunch will be provided.
   Van tour of the project area from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.

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Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2
In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

**Providing Comments**

Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

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Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5565

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Okey Lucas
Mayor, Town of Van Horn
P.O. Box 517
Socorro, TX 79855

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mayor Lucas:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

Project History

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Current Project Description

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The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

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TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

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Registration is at 10:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
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To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.

Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2
In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

Providing Comments

Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Madeleine Praino  
Mayor, Village of Vinton  
436 Vinton Road  
Vinton, TX  79821

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Mayor Praino:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

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TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

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Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2
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**Providing Comments**

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HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

Ms. Gabriella Conteras Apodaca
New Mexico Department of Transportation
South Region Design Regional Manager
750 North Solanc
Las Cruces, NM 88001

Highway:       Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits:        From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ:           2552-04-027
County:        El Paso

RE:            Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Ms. Conteras Apodaca:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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**Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2**

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  - 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
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- **6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925**
- **Lunch will be provided.**
  - Van tour of the project area from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Mary Helen Garcia
Representative
New Mexico House of Representative
State Capitol, Room 413D
Santa Fe, NM 87503

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Representative Garcia:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

**Project History**

In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the *Federal Register*. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has been restarted in 2010. The project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the *Federal Register* on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the *Texas Register* on September 23, 2011.
Current Project Description

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2

TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

Wednesday, December 7, 2011
Registration is at 10:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
El Paso International Airport
Board Room – Second Floor
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925
Lunch will be provided.
Van tour of the project area from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project and provide opportunities for agencies to provide comments on the need and purpose statement, the evaluation criteria, the range of alternatives, methodology used to develop alternatives, and the project schedule. The meeting will consist of a presentation followed by a question and answer period. TxDOT staff will be available to answer all project-related questions.

To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.
Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2

In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

Providing Comments

Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

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Sincerely,

[Signature]
Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Mary Helen Garcia  
Representative  
New Mexico State Representative  
5271 South Highway 28  
Las Cruces, NM 88005

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Representative Garcia:

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- Board Room – Second Floor
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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Cynthia Nava
Senator
New Mexico State Senate
3002 Broadmore Drive
Las Cruces, NM 88001

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Senator Nava:

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The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

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TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

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10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
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7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

Ms. Julia Brown, P.E.
Interim District Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation District 24
13301 Gateway Blvd., West,
El Paso, TX 79928

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Ms. Brown:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Joe C. Pickett  
Texas House of Representative  
Representative, District No. 79  
1790 Lee Trevino #307, Suite 307  
El Paso, TX 79936

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Representative Pickett:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

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The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

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Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Naomi Gonzalez
Texas House of Representatives
Representative, District No. 76
P.O. Box 2910-Capital Station
Austin, TX  78768

Highway:  Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits:    From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ:       2552-04-027
County:    El Paso

RE:        Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
           Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Representative Gonzalez:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

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Sincerely,

[Signature]
Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Dee Margo
Texas House of Representatives
Representative, District No. 78
201 E. Main, Suite 800
El Paso, TX 79901

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Representative Margo:

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Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Marisa Marquez  
Texas House of Representatives  
Representative, District No. 77  
1444 Montana,, Suite 100  
El Paso, TX  79902

Highway:  Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits:  From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ:  2552-04-027  
County:  El Paso

RE:  Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -  
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Representative Marquez:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

**Project History**

In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the *Federal Register*. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has been restarted in 2010. The project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the *Federal Register* on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the *Texas Register* on September 23, 2011.
Current Project Description

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2

TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

Wednesday, December 7, 2011
Registration is at 10:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
El Paso International Airport
Board Room – Second Floor
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925
Lunch will be provided.
Van tour of the project area from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project and provide opportunities for agencies to provide comments on the need and purpose statement, the evaluation criteria, the range of alternatives, methodology used to develop alternatives, and the project schedule. The meeting will consist of a presentation followed by a question and answer period. TxDOT staff will be available to answer all project-related questions.

To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.
**Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2**

In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

**Providing Comments**

Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Inocente Quintanilla  
Texas House of Representatives  
Representative, District No. 75  
120 North Horizon, Suite A-112  
El Paso, TX 79927

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Representative Quintanilla:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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**Current Project Description**

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: **system capacity, system linkage and safety**.

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

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TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

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- 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
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- Board Room – Second Floor
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Providing Comments

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Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
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El Paso, TX 79925-5665

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Sincerely,

[Signature]
Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Jose Rodriguez
Texas Senate
Senator, District No. 29
911 Dallas Street
El Paso, TX 79902

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Senator Rodriguez:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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Current Project Description

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.

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The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2

TdDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

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Registration is at 10:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
El Paso International Airport
Board Room – Second Floor
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925
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Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2

In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

Providing Comments

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HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
The Honorable Francisco "Quico" Canseco
United States House of Representatives
Congressman, District No. 23
6363 DeZavala Road, Suite 1105
San Antonio, TX 78249

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Congressman Canseco:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

**Project History**

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The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

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In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

Providing Comments

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HNTB
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7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable Silvestre Reyes  
United States House of Representatives  
Congressman, District 16  
310 N. Mesa, Suite # 400  
El Paso, TX 79901

Highway:  Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits:  From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ:  2552-04-027  
County:  El Paso

RE:  Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -  
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Congressman Reyes:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

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To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.
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In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

**Providing Comments**

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HNTB  
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator  
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100  
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.  
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchinson  
United States Senate  
Senator  
500 Chestnut Street, Suite 1570  
Abilene, TX 79602

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Senator Bailey Hutchinson:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

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Providing Comments

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

The Honorable John Cornyn  
United States Senate  
Senator  
Wells Fargo Center  
500 Broadway, Suite 1230  
Lubbock, TX 79401

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Senator Cornyn:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

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Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT's Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
November 1, 2011

Governor Frank Paiz
Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo
119 S. Old Pueblo,
El Paso, TX 79907

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project
Limits: From Park Street to Racetrack Drive
CSJ: 2552-04-027
County: El Paso

RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project -
Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Dear Governor Paiz:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas.

This letter is intended to formally invite you or your representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting #2 (December 7, 2011) and Public Scoping Meeting #2 (December 8, 2011). The following provides a brief summary of the project history and information regarding the upcoming meetings.

**Project History**

In September 2007, the Notice of intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the *Federal Register*. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has been restarted in 2010. The project is now being developed at the State level and would not use Federal funds. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) rescinded the 2007 NOI in the *Federal Register* on October 3, 2011. TxDOT published a new State NOI in the *Texas Register* on September 23, 2011.
Current Project Description

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would address the following needs within the study area: system capacity, system linkage and safety.

Currently, Loop 375 only partially encircles the City of El Paso, Texas. The Border Highway section (now known as César Chávez Highway) currently ends near downtown El Paso at Santa Fe Street. Numerous previous studies in the El Paso area have identified various capacity concerns and potential solutions. These studies have resulted in a number of proposed projects in the El Paso area, including the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

The proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project would begin at Park Street near downtown El Paso and extend to Racetrack Drive near its intersection with Doniphan Road. The proposed project would close the gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85. The proposed project would provide a continuous route with a project length of approximately 8 miles.

Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2

TxDOT will be conducting Agency Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are as follows:

Wednesday, December 7, 2011
Registration is at 10:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
El Paso International Airport
Board Room – Second Floor
6701 Convair Road, El Paso, TX 79925
Lunch will be provided.
Van tour of the project area from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Please take the elevator next to the shoe shine station in the main lobby outside of airport security. A project representative will be stationed at the elevator to direct you to the meeting room. Please park in short term parking; parking will be validated.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the proposed project and provide opportunities for agencies to provide comments on the need and purpose statement, the evaluation criteria, the range of alternatives, methodology used to develop alternatives, and the project schedule. The meeting will consist of a presentation followed by a question and answer period. TxDOT staff will be available to answer all project-related questions.

To RSVP for Agency Scoping Meeting #2, please email Cindy Garcia at cgarcia@hntb.com or call (915) 887-0875.

Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #2
In addition, TxDOT will be conducting Public Scoping Meeting #2 regarding the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. Meeting details are located on the attached notice.

**Providing Comments**

Verbal and written comments regarding this project are encouraged. Comments may be presented either at Public Scoping Meeting #2 or in writing within 10 days after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the following address:

HNTB
Attn: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project Coordinator
7500 Viscount Boulevard, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79925-5665

Comments may also be e-mailed to info@borderhighwaywest.com. Comments must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, December 19, 2011 to be included as part of the official public record.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact TxDOT’s Assistant Project Manager, Mr. Jesus Heredia, P.E. at (915) 790-4297.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Raimundo Dovalina, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer

cc: Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT
Appendix G
FHWA Project Initiation Letters
August 2, 2010

STP ( )
Project Notification
El Paso County, Texas
CSJ: 2552-04-027

Border Highway West Extension
Loop 375 César Chávez Highway
From SH 20 (Mesa Street) to US 54

Ms. Janice Brown
Attn: Brett Jackson
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration
300 East 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Ms. Brown:

In accordance with the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), 23 USC 101, Sec. 6002, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) hereby notifies the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) of its intent to continue the environmental review process and prepare and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 César Chávez Highway (Border Highway West Extension Project) in El Paso, Texas.

The review process was originally initiated by letter dated October 18, 2006, and the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the Federal Register in September 2007. TxDOT held the first series of public scoping meetings in October 2007 for the proposed project in which project information including the preliminary need and purpose, project goals and objectives, universe and preliminary alternatives, study area, constraints map, and related exhibits were available to the public.

The proposed project is now being reinitiated under agreement that TxDOT would develop the EIS and CRRMA would continue project development upon receipt of a Record of Decision (ROD).

The proposed project is part of an alternate route to provide congestion relief for Interstate Highway 10 (I-10), an east-west facility north of the proposed project. The proposed project would extend approximately 16.0 miles and would provide a continuous route from I-10 east of State Highway (SH) 20 (Mesa Street) to Sunland Park Drive and continue on Loop 375 to end at United States Highway (US) 54. The proposed project would close the approximate 3-mile gap in Loop 375 that exists from Santa Fe Street downtown to US 85 near Yandell Street with a new four-lane controlled access toll facility that would connect Loop 375 to US 85 and I-10. In addition, the I-10, US 85, and Loop 375 existing lanes would remain non-tolled lanes.
Proposed projects also include:

- I-10 CD Project – improvements to the I-10 facility, specifically the addition of non-tolled collector-distributors on the I-10 main lanes between SH 20 and US 85. The I-10 CD Project will also include:
  - Sunland Park Drive – ramping/access improvements
  - Executive Center Drive – adding additional auxiliary lanes (merging lanes)
- Schuster Avenue – extend Schuster Avenue to the south across I-10 (including new ramps to I-10) to connect with US 85.

In accordance with SAFETEA-LU, a Draft Project Coordination Plan has been updated to further collaborate and coordinate with the public and agencies to assist in project development. The following permits may be required to implement the proposed project:

- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404
- Section 401 Water Quality Certification
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)

These permit requirements would be reviewed as further design information becomes available.

We look forward to continue partnering with you on this very important regional project. If you have any further questions or require additional information, please contact Margaret Canty of my office, at (512) 416-2598.

Sincerely,

Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs

MMC:m
bcc: El Paso District
Reference: ENV 850
STP ( )
Project Notification
El Paso County
CSJ: 2552-04-027

Border Highway - West

Mr. Achille Alonzi
Acting Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Alonzi:

In accordance with the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), 23 USC 101, Sec. 6002, TxDOT hereby notifies FHWA of our intent to initiate the environmental review process for the above referenced project.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for the proposed Border Highway West. The project area is located in El Paso along the US border with Mexico and includes the corridor along existing I-10 from Mesa Street to Sunland Park Drive, along existing US 85 (Paisano Drive) from Sunland Park Drive to Yandell Drive, along new alignment from Yandell Drive to existing Loop 375 (Cesar Chavez) at Santa Fe Street, and along existing Loop 375 (Cesar Chavez) from Santa Fe Street to Fonseca Drive in El Paso County, a distance of approximately 13 miles.

The project also may include connections between Loop 375 and I-10 in the vicinity of the Bridge of the Americas, which include the corridor along I-10 from Piedras Street to Chelsea Street and along US 54 from Montana Avenue to Loop 375 (see attached location map). The proposed facility would utilize managed lanes to add capacity to the study area, and provide an alternative route to I-10. In addition, improvements are proposed along I-10 from one mile west of Schuster Avenue to 0.25 miles east of Porfirio Diaz Street and along Schuster Avenue from US 85 to Mesa Street. The federal approval anticipated would be a Record of Decision. The project is to be included in the El Paso MPO Metropolitan Transportation Plan (2030 Gateway Plan) at a preliminary estimated cost of $466,000,000.

In accordance with SAFETEA-LU, a Coordination Plan to demonstrate our intent to collaborate and coordinate with the public and agencies to assist in project development will be prepared for your review. The following permits may be required to implement the proposed project:

- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404
- Section 401 Water Quality Certification
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)
October 18, 2006

These permit requirements would be reviewed as further design information becomes available.

We look forward to working with you on this very important regional project. If you have any further questions or require additional information, please contact Jasmine Gardner, of my office, at (512) 416-2890.

Sincerely,

Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs

Enclosure
JRG:jrg JRG
bcc: DFN ERG
El Paso district
Reference: 850 file
Appendix H
Notice of Intent (NOI)
El Paso County, Texas  
Rescind Notice of Intent  
Loop 375 Border Highway West  

Mr. Raymond Mosley  
Executive Director, Office of the Federal Register  
800 North Capital Street, NW  
7th Floor, Suite 700  
Washington, DC  20408  

Dear Mr. Mosley:  

Enclosed are three duplicate originals and one CD of a Request to Rescind the Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the above-mentioned project. We request publishing this notice in the Federal Register.  

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Brett Jackson, P.E., of my staff at  
512-536-5946.  

Sincerely,  

[Signature]  
Gregory S. Punske, P.E.  
District Engineer  
Texas Division Office of Federal Highway Administration  

Enclosure  

Cc:  
Ms. Margaret Canty, TxDOT, ENV  
Mr. Charles H. Berry, Jr., P.E., TxDOT El Paso District Engineer
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement:
El Paso County, TX

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Rescind Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS.

SUMMARY: FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that the NOI to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for proposed improvements to Loop 375 Border Highway West, in El Paso County, Texas, is being rescinded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer,
Federal Highway Administration,
Texas Division,
300 East 8th Street, Room 826,
Austin, Texas 78701,
Telephone (512) 536–5960.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In September 2007, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and FHWA announced their intent to prepare an EIS pursuant
to 40 CFR 1508.22 and 43 TAC Sec. 2.5(e)(2) for the proposed Loop 375 César Chávez Highway (Border Highway West Extension) in El Paso, Texas, to include the Texas, New Mexico, and Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua México border region. The proposed Border Highway West Extension project limits extended approximately 13.8 miles to provide a continuous route from Interstate 10 (I-10) east of State Highway (SH) 20 (Mesa Street) to Sunland Park Drive and continued on Loop 375 to end at United States Highway (US) 54. The proposed project was part of an alternate route to provide congestion relief for I-10, an east-west facility north of the project. The Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project was originally included in the Gateway 2030 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP); and, is currently included in the current Mission 2035 MTP, a transportation program adopted by the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in August of 2010 and approved for air conformity on January 28, 2011.

The EIS was in the preliminary stages of development. Two scoping meetings were held for cooperating and participating agencies on October 23, 2007 and October 30, 2007 at the El Paso International Airport Board Room, 6701 Convair Road, El Paso, Texas. In addition, two public scoping meetings were held on these same dates at Hilos de Plata Senior Center and the Westside Regional Command Center, El Paso, Texas.

FHWA and TxDOT have decided to rescind the Notice of Intent because the Texas Department of Transportation will be using State funding for the delivery of the project. A project containing no Federal funds or Federal actions is not required to complete
NEPA project approvals. Further, the project will be broken into several phases or projects, all to be funded with State funds and all to have logical termini and independent utility. Consequently, the previously proposed project will undergo several environmental evaluations under a State environmental process. Comments or questions concerning the rescission of this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above.

Issued on:

[Signature]

Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer, Austin, Texas
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 7624]

Waiver of Restriction on Assistance to the Central Government of Gabon

Pursuant to Section 7086(c)(2) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010 (Division F, Pub. L. 111–117), as carried forward by the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 (Div. B, Pub. L. 112–10) (“the Act”), and Department of State Delegation of Authority Number 245–1, I hereby determine that it is important to the national interest of the United States to waive the requirements of Section 7086(c)(1) of the Act with respect to Gabon and I hereby waive such restriction.

This determination shall be reported to the Congress, and published in the Federal Register.

Dated: July 28, 2011.

Thomas Nides,
Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources.

[FR Doc. 2011–25452 Filed 9–30–11; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4710–26–P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 7627]

Waiver of Restriction on Assistance to the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia

Pursuant to Section 7086(c)(2) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010 (Div. F, Pub. L. 111–117) as carried forward by the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 (Div. B, Pub. L. 112–10) (“the Act”), and Department of State Delegation of Authority Number 245–1, I hereby determine that it is important to the national interest of the United States to waive the requirements of Section 7086(c)(1) of the Act with respect to Somalia and I hereby waive such restriction.

This determination shall be reported to the Congress, and published in the Federal Register.

Dated: July 28, 2011.

Thomas Nides,
Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources.

[FR Doc. 2011–25445 Filed 9–30–11; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4710–26–P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 7630]

Waiver of Restriction on Assistance to the Central Government of Côte d’Ivoire

Pursuant to Section 7086(c)(2) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010 (Div. F, Pub. L. 111–117) (SFOAA), Section 7086(c)(2) of the SFOAA as carried forward by the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act 2011(Div. B, Pub. L. 112–10), and Department of State Delegation of Authority Number 245–1, I hereby determine that it is important to the national interest of the United States to waive the requirements of Section 7086(c)(1) of the Act with respect to Côte d’Ivoire and I hereby waive such restriction.

This determination shall be reported to the Congress, and published in the Federal Register.

Dated: June 24, 2011.

Thomas Nides,
Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources.

[FR Doc. 2011–25449 Filed 9–30–11; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4710–26–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Theodore Francis Green Airport, Warwick, RI

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: The FAA is issuing this notice to advise the public that a Record of Decision (ROD) resulting from an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been prepared for Theodore Francis Green Airport, in Warwick, Rhode Island.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Doucette, Environmental Program Manager, Federal Aviation Administration New England, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA. Telephone (781) 238–7613.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FAA is making available a ROD regarding installation of runway safety areas, other safety improvements, a runway extension, and other efficiency improvements at Theodore Francis Green Airport, in Warwick, Rhode Island. The ROD documents the final Agency decisions regarding the proposed projects as described and analyzed in the EIS. The ROD is available for review during normal business hours at the following locations: FAA New England Region, Airports Division, 16 New England Executive Park, Burlington, Massachusetts (781) 238–7613, Theodore Francis Green Airport, 2000 Post Rd, Warwick, Rhode Island, and at public libraries in Warwick and Cranston, Rhode Island.

Issued on: September 23, 2011.

Bryon H. Rakoff,
Acting Manager, Airports Division.

[FR Doc. 2011–25414 Filed 9–30–11; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: El Paso County, TX

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Rescind Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS.

SUMMARY: FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that the NOI to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for proposed
improvements to Loop 375 Border Highway West, in El Paso County, Texas, is being rescinded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Gregory S. Puniske, P.E., District Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, Texas Division, 300 East 8th Street, Room 826, Austin, Texas 78701, Telephone (512) 536–5960.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In September 2007, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and FHWA announced their intent to prepare an EIS pursuant to 40 CFR 1508.22 and 43 TAC Sec. 2.5(e)(2) for the proposed Loop 375 César Chávez Highway (Border Highway West Extension) in El Paso, Texas, to include the Texas, New Mexico, and Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua México border region. The proposed Border Highway West Extension project limits extended approximately 13.8 miles to provide a continuous route from Interstate 10 (I–10) east of State Highway (SH) 20 (Mesa Street) to Sunland Park Drive and continued on Loop 375 to end at United States Highway (US) 54. The proposed project was part of an alternate route to provide congestion relief for I–10, an east-west facility north of the project. The Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project was originally included in the Gateway 2030 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP); and is currently included in the current Mission 2035 MTP, a transportation program adopted by the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in August of 2010 and approved for air conformity on January 28, 2011. The EIS was in the preliminary stages of development. Two scoping meetings were held for cooperating and participating agencies on October 23, 2007 and October 30, 2007 at the El Paso International Airport Board Room, 6701 Convair Road, El Paso, Texas. In addition, two public scoping meetings were held on these same dates at Hilos de Plata Senior Center and the Westside Regional Command Center, El Paso, Texas.

FHWA and TxDOT have decided to rescind the Notice of Intent because the Texas Department of Transportation will be using State funding for the delivery of the project. A project containing no Federal funds or Federal actions is not required to complete NEPA project approvals. Further, the project will be broken into several phases or projects, all to be funded with State funds and all to have logical termini and independent utility. Consequently, the previously proposed project will undergo several environmental evaluations under a State environmental process. Comments or questions concerning the rescission of this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above.

Gregory S. Puniske, District Engineer, Austin, Texas. [FR Doc. 2011–25364 Filed 9–30–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2011–0225]

Agency Information Collection Activities; New Information Collection Request: Commercial Driver Individual Differences Study

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, FMCSA announces its plan to submit the Information Collection Request (ICR) described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for its review and approval and invites public comment. The FMCSA requests approval of a new ICR that is associated with a study that will be conducted by a research contractor to investigate the differences among the characteristics of individual commercial drivers. This information collection will aid FMCSA in developing future safety initiatives by examining a wide array of driver and situational factors to determine if they are associated with increased or decreased crash and incident involvement.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before December 2, 2011.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket Number FMCSA–2011–0225 using any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

• Fax: 1–202–493–2251.

• Mail: Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 20590–0001.

• Hand Delivery or Courier: West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: All submissions must include the Agency name and docket number. For detailed instructions on submitting comments and additional information on the exemption process, see the Public Participation heading below. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. Please see the Privacy Act heading below.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to http://www.regulations.gov, and follow the online instructions for accessing the dockets, or go to the street address listed above.

Privacy Act: Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT’s complete Privacy Act Statement for the Federal Docket Management System published in the Federal Register on January 17, 2008 (73 FR 3316), or you may visit http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E08–794.pdf.

Public Participation: The Federal eRulemaking Portal is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. You can obtain electronic submission and retrieval help and guidelines under the “help” section of the Federal eRulemaking Portal Web site. If you want us to notify you that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard, or print the acknowledge page that appears after submitting comments online. Comments received after the comment closing date will be included in the docket and will be considered to the extent practicable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Theresa Hallquist, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Office of Analysis, Research and Technology, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590–0001. Telephone (202) 366–1064 or e-mail Theresa.hallquist@dot.gov., Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this study is to identify, verify, quantify, and prioritize commercial driver risk factors. Primarily, these are personal factors...
Texas Department of Transportation

Cancellation of Notice of Intent - Loop 375 Border Highway West, El Paso, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (department), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is issuing this notice to advise the public that the Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare a federal-level environmental impact statement (EIS) for Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension project is being rescinded. In September 2007, the department and FHWA announced their intent to prepare an EIS pursuant to 43 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §2.12(d) for the proposed Loop 375 César Chávez Highway (Border Highway West Extension) in El Paso, Texas, to include the Texas, New Mexico, and Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua Mexico border region. The proposed Border Highway West Extension project limits extended approximately 13.8 miles to provide a continuous route from Interstate 10 (I-10) east of State Highway (SH) 20 (Mesa Street) to Sunland Park Drive and continued on Loop 375 to end at United States Highway (US) 54. The proposed project was part of an alternate route to provide congestion relief for I-10, an east-west facility north of the project. The Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project was originally included in the Gateway 2030 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP); and, is currently included in the current Mission 2035 MTP, a transportation program adopted by the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in August of 2010 and approved for air conformity on January 28, 2011.

The EIS was in the preliminary stages of development. Two scoping meetings were held for cooperating and participating agencies on October 23, 2007 and October 30, 2007 at the El Paso International Airport Board Room, 6701 Convair Road, El Paso, Texas. In addition, two public scoping meetings were held on these same dates at Hilos de Plata Senior Center and the Westside Regional Command Center, El Paso, Texas.

The department has decided to issue this cancellation of the federal-level NOI because of a change to utilize state funding. The department intends to publish a new NOI in the future. The project under the new NOI will be processed as a state-funded project and will follow 43 TAC Chapter 2. Appropriate project scoping, meetings, and environmental documents will be completed in the future as the project proceeds with the new scope and limits.

Agency Contact: Ray Dovalina, P.E., Deputy District Engineer, El Paso District, Texas Department of Transportation, 13301 Gateway Boulevard West, El Paso, Texas 79928-5410; Telephone: (915) 790-4200.

TRD-201103769
Joanne Wright
Deputy General Counsel
Texas Department of Transportation
Filed: September 13, 2011

Notice of Intent - Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project, El Paso County, Texas

Pursuant to 43 Texas Administrative Code §2.5(e)(2), the Texas Department of Transportation is issuing this notice to advise the public that a state-level Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for the proposed transportation project, Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. The proposed project limits would be Park Street near downtown El Paso, to Racetrack Drive at its intersection with Doniphan Road, running approximately eight miles. The project would provide a continuation of Loop 375, starting...
south of downtown and heading northwest. Currently traffic crossing the downtown area must take a circuitous route on local streets. Traffic starting at Park Street must take a four lane boulevard to US 62, and take US 85 from US 62 to New Mexico Route 273. The proposed project is currently included in the Mission 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan as a new six-lane partially controlled access facility that may follow portions of existing Loop 375 or US 85. Due to the changes in project funding, the project will proceed as a state-level EIS. This project description is subject to revision based on agency and public input as well as the completion of the Alternatives Analysis process. The project would add capacity and upgrade the existing facility to a controlled access facility by adding two to four through-lanes (one to two lanes in each direction).

The EIS will evaluate potential impacts from construction and operation of the project, including, but not limited to, the following: impacts or potential displacements to residents and businesses; detours; air and noise impacts from construction equipment and operation of the project; water quality impacts from the construction area and from roadway storm water runoff; impacts to waters of the United States; impacts to historic and archeological resources; impacts to floodplains; impacts to socio-economic resources (including environmental justice and limited English proficiency populations); indirect impacts; cumulative impacts; land use; vegetation; wildlife; and aesthetic and visual resources. Unique and potential significant impacts could include aesthetic and visual resources, noise, water quality, and cultural resources.

The department will consider several alternatives intended to satisfy the identified need and purpose. The alternatives will include the no-build alternative, Transportation System Management/Transportation Demand Management, mass transit, and roadway build alternatives. The roadway build alternatives may include limited access and non-limited access (arterial) designs, and toll and non-toll lanes. There are international crossings located within the project limits and the department will study the need to elevate or depress portions of the proposed facility.

The project may require the following approvals by the federal government: Section 401/404 (Clean Water Act) and Section 7 (Endangered Species Act).

A project coordination plan will be provided to facilitate and document the lead agencies’ structured interaction with the public and other agencies and to inform the public and other agencies of how the coordination will be accomplished. The project coordination plan will promote early and continuous involvement from stakeholders, agencies, and the public as well as describe the proposed project, the roles of the agencies and the public, the project need and purpose, schedule, level of detail for alternatives analysis, methodologies to be used in the environmental analysis, and the proposed process for coordination and communication.

The project coordination plan is designed to be part of a flexible and adaptable process. The plan will be available for public review, inputs, and comments at public meetings, including scoping meetings and hearings held throughout the environmental process, and upon request at the department’s El Paso District Office.

A scoping meeting is an opportunity for participating agencies, cooperating agencies, and the public to be involved in defining the need and purpose for the proposed project, to assist in determining the range of alternatives for consideration in the draft EIS, and to comment on methodologies to evaluate alternatives. The department will publish notices that scoping meetings will be held. The department currently intends to hold scoping meetings in the fall of 2011. The notices will be published in newspapers of general circulation in the project area at least 30 days prior to the meetings, and again approximately 10 days prior to the meetings.

Public notices will be given stating the date, time, and location of the meeting or hearing and will be published in English as well as Spanish. Provision will be made for those with special communication needs, including translation if requested. The department will also send correspondence to federal, state, and local agencies, and to organizations and individuals who have previously expressed or are known to have an interest in the project, which will describe the proposed project and solicit comments. The department invites comments and suggestions from all interested parties to ensure that the full range of issues related to the proposed project are identified and addressed. Comments or questions should be directed to the department at the address set forth below.

A proposed schedule for completion of the environmental review process is not available.

Agency Contact: Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be sent to Ray Dovalina, P.E., Deputy District Engineer, El Paso District, Texas Department of Transportation, 13301 Gateway Boulevard West, El Paso, Texas 79928-5410; telephone (915) 790-4200.

TRD-201103770
Joanne Wright
Deputy General Counsel
Texas Department of Transportation
Filed: September 13, 2011

Texas Water Development Board

Applications for September 2011

Pursuant to Texas Water Code §6.195, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) provides notice of the following applications:

Project ID #73604, a request from the City of Caddo Mills, P.O. Box 490, Caddo Mills, Texas 75135, received December 28, 2010, for a loan in the amount of $4,430,000 from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund to finance wastewater system improvements, utilizing the pre-design funding option.

Project ID #62507, a request from the Town of Anthony, P.O. Box 1269, Anthony, Texas 79821, received December 29, 2010, for financial assistance in the amount of $2,540,000 consisting of: (a) a loan in the amount of $762,000; and (b) $1,778,000 loan forgiveness, from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund-Disadvantaged Community program to finance water system improvements utilizing the pre-design commitment option.

Project ID #10411, a request from the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board, P.O. Box 511, El Paso, Texas 79961-0001, received February 10, 2011, for a grant in the amount of $82,000 from the Economically Distressed Areas Program for the planning, acquisition and design costs to provide first time water service in the Canutillo area - La Mesa, Vinton, and Seventh Streets, utilizing the pre-design funding option.

Project ID #10428, a request from the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board, P.O. Box 511, El Paso, Texas 79961-0001, received March 2011, for a grant in the amount of $90,000 from the Economically Distressed Areas Program for the planning costs to provide first time water service in the Canutillo area - Georgia and Norma Streets, utilizing the pre-design funding option.
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: El Paso County, TX

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The Federal Highway Administration is issuing this notice to advise the public that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for the proposed Loop 375 César Chávez Highway (Border Highway West Extension) in El Paso, Texas, to include the Texas, New Mexico, and Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua México border region. The proposed project is part of an alternate route to provide congestion relief for Interstate 10 (I–10), an east-west facility north of the proposed project. The project is a key element in the Gateway 2030 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) prepared by the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

The proposed Border Highway West Extension would extend approximately 13.8 miles and would provide a continuous route from I–10 east of State Highway (SH) 20 (Mesa Street) to Sunland Park Drive continuing on Loop 375 to end at United States Highway (US) 54.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, including a list of the exhibit objects, contact Julie Simpson, Attorney-Advisor, Office of the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State (telephone: (202) 453–8050). The address is U.S. Department of State, SA–44, 301 4th Street, SW., Room 700, Washington, DC 20547–0001.


C. Miller Crouch,
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. E7–17697 Filed 9–6–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–05–P

ORDERED TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER.
proposed action and the EIS should be directed to FHWA at the address provided.

A proposed schedule for completion of the environmental review process is not available at this time; however, will become accessible for public review at a futures date.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance program Number 20.205 Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Donald Davis,
District Engineer, FHWA texas Division.

[FR Doc. 07–4375 Filed 9–6–07; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[USCG–2006–26844]

Woodside Natural Gas Inc. OceanWay Secure Energy Liquefied Natural Gas Deepwater Port License Application

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of application.

SUMMARY: The Maritime Administration and the U.S. Coast Guard announce that they have received an application for the licensing of a natural gas deepwater port, and that the application appears to contain the required information to proceed. This notice summarizes the applicant’s plans and the procedures that will be followed in considering the application.

DATES: The Deepwater Port Act of 1974, as amended, requires any public hearing on this application to be held not later than 240 days after this notice, and requires a decision on the application to be made not later than 90 days after the final public hearing.

ADDRESS: The public docket for this application, USCG–2006–26844, is maintained by: the Department of Transportation, Docket Management Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590.

Docket contents are available for public inspection and copying at this address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Facility’s telephone number is 202–366–9329 and the fax number is 202–493–2251. The Web site for electronic submissions or for electronic access to docket contents is http://dms.dot.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roddy Bachman, U.S. Coast Guard,

phone: 202–372–1752, e-mail: Roddy.C.Bachman@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone: 202–493–0402.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Receipt of Application

On August 17, 2006, the Coast Guard and the Maritime Administration received an application from Woodside Natural Gas Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Woodside Petroleum LTD., for all Federal authorizations required for a license to own, construct, and operate a deepwater port authorized under the Deepwater Port Act of 1974, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1501 et seq. (the Act). The City of Los Angeles (City) will be a cooperating agency in processing this application because Woodside Natural Gas, Inc. has filed an application for a lease/franchise of offshore submerged City lands, an onshore pipeline franchise for the subsea pipelines through City waters, and a pipeline through the City. Revisions to the application were received on December 27, 2006; on July 9, 2007; and again on August 20, 2007.

As of the date of this notice, the Maritime Administration and the Coast Guard have determined that the application appears to contain all information required by the Act to proceed with the application process. The application is now available for viewing on the docket (see ADDRESSES).

Background

According to the Deepwater Port Act, a deepwater port is a fixed or floating manmade structure other than a vessel, or a group of structures, located beyond State seaward boundaries and used or intended for use as a port or terminal for the transportation, storage, and further handling of oil or natural gas for transportation to any State.

Deepwater ports require a license issued by the Maritime Administrator (by delegated authority from the Secretary of Transportation, published on June 18, 2003 (68 FR 36496)). Statutory and regulatory requirements for licensing appear in 33 U.S.C. 1501 et seq. and in 33 CFR Part 148. Under delegations from the Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of Homeland Security, applications are processed by the Coast Guard and the Maritime Administration. Each application is considered on its merits.

The Act provides deadlines for processing applications. After determination of a project’s eligibility, an application contains the required information, public hearings on the application must be held within 240 days, and the Maritime Administrator must render a decision on the application within 330 days. Additional Federal Register notices will be published throughout the application review process to provide notice of public hearings and other procedural milestones. The Maritime Administrator’s decision, and other key documents, will be filed in the public docket.

At least one public hearing will take place in each adjacent coastal State. For purposes of the Act, California is the adjacent coastal State for this application. Other States can apply for adjacent coastal State status in accordance with 33 U.S.C. 1508(a)(2).

Summary of the Application/Proposed Action/Project

Woodside Natural Gas proposes to construct, own, and operate a deepwater port with associated ship-to-ship transfer (STS) location(s) and single point mooring (SPM) buoys for the receiving of regasification liquefied natural gas carriers (RLNGCs), offshore and onshore natural gas pipelines, and a receiving and custody transfer facility (RCTS) to deliver natural gas with an annualized rate of 0.4 billion cubic feet per day (bcf/d) and a peak of 1.1 bcf/d into the Southern California market on initial development and an annualized rate of 1.0 bcf/d and a peak of up to 1.6 bcf/d at full project development.

The deepwater port would be located in the Federal waters of the Santa Monica Basin, 21 miles from the nearest point on the mainland of Southern California and 18 miles from the western end of Santa Catalina Island, approximately 27 miles southwest of Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), in a water depth of approximately 3,000 feet. It would consist of two single point mooring (SPM) buoys that serve as cargo discharge system connections for RLNGCs, a mooring/anchoring array, four flexible risers that connect the SPMs to four seafloor riser end manifolds, two pipeline end manifolds (PLEMs) and two parallel 24-inch pipelines beginning on the seafloor at the PLEMs beneath the SPM buoys and continuing to shore. The SPMs would be located approximately 5 nautical miles (5.75 miles) outside established shipping lanes (SPM NE: Latitude: 33°41’52” N, Longitude: 118°48’33” W and SPM SW: Latitude: 33°39’58” N, Longitude: 118°49’15” W).

Woodside has proposed three ship-to-ship transfer locations ranging from approximately 35 to 140 nautical miles (40 to 104 miles) from shore and 55 to 111 nautical miles (63 to 128 miles).
The purpose of this RFP is to train Critical Access Hospital healthcare professionals to manage crisis health situations with limited resources; to develop a timely, organized, rational response to the care of the trauma patient through a team approach and increase the efficiency of resource utilization and improve the level of care provided to the injured patient in the rural environment.

USE OF FUNDS: The funds will be used to train CAH healthcare professional to manage crisis health situations with limited resources; to develop a timely, organized, rational response to the care of the trauma patient through a team approach and increase the efficiency of resource utilization and improve the level of care provided to the injured patient in the rural environment.

AMOUNT OF AWARDS: This program is supported by funds from the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Flex) Program, Grant No. H54RH00055 awarded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP). ORCA may commit up to $70,000 for this program for FY 2008.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: Only public and non-profit organizations with demonstrable experience and history in working with Critical Access Hospitals in developing trauma teams are eligible to respond to this RFP. ORCA invites qualified Applicants to submit proposals for a cost-effective trauma team training program. The selected Applicant will work with ORCA staff as necessary to ensure achievement of program goals.

EVALUATION AND SELECTION: ORCA: Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria: Applicant's Experience (Capability and Support); Description of Need; Project Description; Cost and Fee Proposal.

DEADLINE: Applications are available September 11, 2007. Completed applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on October 12, 2007. Late proposals will not be opened or considered under any circumstances. Announcement of the selected applicants will be made by October 19, 2007.

CONTRACT PERIOD: The budget period for applications funded under this RFP will be November 1, 2007 - August 31, 2008.

CONTACT PERSON: To obtain the application, please contact Cindy Miller:

Office of Rural Community Affairs, P.O. Box 12877, Austin, Texas 78711; telephone: (512) 936-6702; e-mail: orca@orca.state.tx.us; web site: www.orca.state.tx.us.

TRD-200704192

Charles S. Stone

Executive Director

Office of Rural Community Affairs

Filed: September 11, 2007

Texas Department of Transportation

Notice of Intent - Loop 375 César Chávez Highway (Border Highway West Extension), El Paso County, Texas

Pursuant to 43 TAC §2.5(e)(2), the Texas Department of Transportation (department), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, is issuing this notice to advise the public that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for a proposed transportation project. The project is proposed Loop 375, the César Chávez Highway (Border Highway West Extension) in El Paso, Texas. The project is part of an alternate route to provide congestion relief for Interstate 10 (I-10), an east-west facility north of the proposed project. The project would extend
approximately 13.8 miles and would provide a continuous route from I-10 east of State Highway (SH) 20 (Mesa Street) to Sunland Park Drive continuing on Loop 375 to end at United States Highway (US) 54. The existing facility is as follows:

1. Six-lane expressway from I-10 to Sunland Park Drive.
2. Four-lane facility along US 85 from New Mexico Route 273 to US 62 (Paisano Drive).
3. Four-lane boulevard from Paisano Drive to Santa Fe Street.
4. Four to six-lane boulevard transitioning to a six-lane barrier separated controlled access facility from Santa Fe Street to US 54.

The project would add capacity and upgrade the existing facility to a controlled access facility through the addition of two to four through-lanes (one to two lanes in each direction).

The EIS will evaluate potential impacts from construction and operation of the project, including, but not limited to, the following: impacts or potential displacements to residents and businesses; detours; air and noise impacts from construction equipment and operation of the project; water quality impacts from the construction area and from roadway storm water runoff; impacts to waters of the United States; impacts to historic and archeological resources; impacts to floodplains; impacts to socio-economic resources (including environmental justice and limited English proficiency populations); indirect impacts; cumulative impacts; land use; vegetation; wildlife; and aesthetic and visual resources. Unique and potential significant impacts could include aesthetic and visual resources, noise, water quality, and cultural resources.

The department will consider several alternatives intended to satisfy the identified need and purpose. The alternatives will include the no-build alternative, Transportation System Management/Transportation Demand Management, mass transit, and roadway build alternatives. The roadway build alternatives may range from a two-lane road to a six-lane road, may include limited access and non-limited access (arterial) designs, and toll and non-toll lanes. There are international crossings located within the project limits, and the department will study the need to elevate or depress portions of the proposed facility.

The project may require the following approvals by the federal government: Section 106 (National Historic Preservation Act), Sections 401 and 404 (Clean Water Act), and Section 7 (Endangered Species Act). The actual approvals required may change after the department completes field surveys and if an alignment for the build alternative is selected.

A Project Coordination Plan will be provided in accordance with 23 U.S.C. §139 to facilitate and document the lead agencies' structured interaction with the public and other agencies and to inform the public and other agencies of how the coordination will be accomplished. The Project Coordination Plan will promote early and continuous involvement from stakeholders, agencies, and the public as well as describe the proposed project, the roles of the agencies and the public, the project need and purpose, schedule, level of detail for alternatives analysis, methodologies to be used in the environmental analysis, and the proposed process for coordination and communication.

The Project Coordination Plan is designed to be part of a flexible and adaptable process. The Plan will be available for public review, inputs, and comments at public meetings, including scoping meetings and hearings held throughout the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) evaluation process and, upon request, at the department's El Paso District Office.

A scoping meeting is an opportunity for participating agencies, cooperating agencies, and the public to be involved in defining the need and purpose for the proposed project, to assist in determining the range of alternatives for consideration in the draft EIS, and to comment on methodologies to evaluate alternatives. The department will publish notice that scoping meetings will be held. The department currently intends to hold two scoping meetings in October 2007. The notice will be published in newspapers of general circulation in the project area at least 30 days prior to the meetings.
The department will complete the procedures for public participation and coordination with other agencies as described in one or both NEPA and state law. In addition to any scoping meetings, the department will hold a series of meetings to solicit public comment during the environmental review process. They will be held during appropriate phases of the project development process. Public notices will be given stating the date, time, and location of the meeting or hearing and will be published in English as well as Spanish. Provision will be made for those with special communication needs, including translation if requested. The department will also send correspondence to federal, state, and local agencies, and to organizations and individuals who have previously expressed or are known to have an interest in the project, which will describe the proposed project and solicit comments. The department invites comments and suggestions from all interested parties to ensure that the full range of issues related to the proposed project are identified and addressed. Comments or questions should be directed to the department at the address set forth below.

A proposed schedule for completion of the environmental review process is not available.

Agency Contact: Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be sent to Mark Longenbaugh, P.E., Director of Transportation Planning and Development, Texas Department of Transportation, 13301 Gateway Boulevard West, El Paso, Texas 79928-5410, (915) 790-4272.

TRD-200704203

Bob Jackson

General Counsel

Texas Department of Transportation

Filed: September 12, 2007
Appendix I
Agency and Public Scoping Meeting Series #1 Summary Sheet
Meeting Overview and Comment Summary

Date and Time:          October 23 and October 30, 2007 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Location:              October 23, Hilos de Plata Senior Center
                        October 30, Westside Regional Command Center
Format:                Open house, no formal presentation to the public.
Attendance:            October 23, 37 private citizens and one elected/public official
                        October 30, 35 private citizens and one member of the media

(1) A majority of the comments received at these public meetings were in regard to truck traffic and its impact on congestion and safety in the area. Many citizens recommend forcing truck and other through traffic to use Loop 375 and avoid I-10 as well as better enforcement of existing “truck lanes.”

(2) Citizens were also concerned about existing traffic vibrations and traffic noise as well as the proposed project's potential to increase both along Loop 375 Cesar Chavez.

(3) Multiple comments were focused on maintaining access to neighborhoods and businesses.

(4) Several comments and suggestions were also made in regard to congestion on I-10 and potential ideas on how to relieve this congestion. These ideas included:

  - Constructing access from I-10 E to Loop 375 E at the Bridge of Americas
  - Creating an independent route from US 85 to Loop 375 Transmountain instead of merging at Sunland Park
  - Construct two turn lanes for access from Mesa to I-10
  - Widening the bridge at Mesa
  - Increased signage
  - Extend Doniphan such that it connects to Paisano (Loop 375)
  - Improve access to McNutt Road
  - Change I-10 to Loop 375 so thru traffic goes on Loop 375 back to I-10 at Bridge of Americas

(5) Additional concerns included:

  - Concerns about funding
  - Incorporation of bus rapid transit into project
  - Concerns about impacts to the Chihuahuita Community
  - Railroad safety and impacts to railroad bridges
  - Concerns about increased traffic in school zones
  - Concerns about right-of-way/relocations
  - Flooding concerns
  - Aesthetic concerns about design
Border Highway West Agency Scoping Meetings, Round No. 1
Meeting Overview and Comment Summary

| Date and Time: | October 23 and October 30, 2007 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. |
| Location: | Both meetings were held at the El Paso International Airport Board Room |
| Format: | Presentation with Q&A followed by a bus tour of the proposed project |
| Attendance: | October 23, 8 agency representatives and representatives for two elected officials; October 30, 3 agency representatives and 1 elected official |

Environmental Concerns:
The environmental concern brought forward during both agency scoping meetings was questioning how the aesthetics of the project would impact the surrounding area. Several officials stated that the visual aesthetics are extremely important to the communities that surround the proposed project and that the highway should be visually pleasing for those that will live next to it. Two other environmental constraints that were briefly discussed by agency officials included El Paso’s status of Non-Attainment for air quality standards and the impact analysis that would be required for the project as well as the Camino Real (a National Historic Trail that is within the project area). The community of Chihuahuita is a historical community within the project limits and discussion of how to minimize or avoid impacts to this historic area were discussed. The Chihuahuita Neighborhood Association has also been very active in the project planning and will continue to be invited to the public meetings for the project.

Coordination Concerns:
The representative from the El Paso Police Department (EPPD) wanted to verify that coordination with Border Patrol has been occurring and stated that their involvement was crucial due to the location of the project. Projects that are occurring in New Mexico were brought up since these could have major impacts on congestion in El Paso and Juarez and it was suggested these be taken into consideration when planning for BHW.

Alternatives Discussion:
Various alternatives were the main topic of discussion at both agency scoping meetings. Overlapping suggestions included the option of adding various transit options which could include adding bike and/or bus lanes, park and rides at various locations, regular traffic lanes, and express traffic lanes. The option of rail rapid transit was also brought up as a way to connect New Mexico and El Paso. A design aspect to connect I-10 to the hospitals, the university, and access to downtown from both sides of the city was brought up since now there is a lack of connection to these places. All individuals in attendance at the meeting agreed these items would be extremely desirable.

Additional design suggestions included having connections to 6th Street and Paisano which could provide a route to downtown while connecting to Cotton Street would provide the north to south connection from BHW to I-10. A political official stated that transit would not solve the problem and that a highway would be the only feasible solution. He also stated that he would not want to see a tunnel option due to the possible feeling of separation that might occur from that option and he believed a bridge spanning the areas, specifically Chihuahuita, would be the only option. The representative from the EPPD questioned the feasibility of a bridge spanning Chihuahuita and stated that there would be a need for border and levee access from Paisano all the way into downtown due to emergencies and police accessibility.