

**Appendix D**  
**Coordination Letters**

**Group Letters Mailed in 2007**



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

**Texas Division**  
**300 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Rm 826**  
**Austin, Texas 78701**

October 10, 2007

In Reply Refer To:  
HB-TX

[Name]  
[Title]  
[Agency Affiliation]  
[Address]

**Re: Invitation to become a Participating Agency for the proposed Loop 375 César Chávez Highway (Border Highway West Extension) Project.**

Dear [Name]:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the transportation alternatives of the proposed Loop 375 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 (*please see attached project location map*).

The existing facility is as follows:

- Six-lane expressway from I-10 to Sunland Park.
- Four-lane facility along United States Highway (US) 85 from New Mexico Route 273 to United States Highway (US) 62 (Paisano Drive).
- Four-lane boulevard from Paisano Drive to Santa Fe Street.
- 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.

TxDOT 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.

Due to your agency's jurisdiction over such matters, we are inviting you to become a cooperating and participating and participating agency with the FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS for the proposed Border Highway West Extension. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

Your agency's involvement should entail those areas under its jurisdiction and no direct writing or analysis will be necessary for the preparation of the EIS document. 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 that cooperating and participating and participating agencies need to fulfill their National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) responsibilities and any other requirements regarding jurisdictional approvals, permits, licenses, and/or clearances.

We look forward to your response to this request and your role as a cooperating and participating and participating agency on this project. Please respond to Ms. Zenia Hernandez by **November 9, 2007** on the attached form by checking whether your agency accepts or declines the invitation to become a cooperating and participating agency. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Zenia Hernandez, Area Engineer  
Federal Highway Administration  
300 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste. 826  
Austin, Texas 78701-3233  
(512) 536-5962

A list of recipients of this letter is attached for your reference. Please note that Agency Pre-Scoping Meetings and Public Scoping Meetings will be held on October 23, 2007 and October 30, 2007. Please confirm your attendance to the meeting date of your choice at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

Donald Davis, P.E.  
District Engineer, District B (South)  
FHWA, Texas Division

Enclosures      Acceptance Form  
                      Recipients List  
                      Project Notice of Intent (NOI)  
                      Project Location Map

cc:      Ms. Dianna F. Noble, P.E., Director, Environmental Affairs Division, TxDOT  
          Mr. Charles H. Berry, P.E., District Engineer, TxDOT El Paso District

**Loop 375 César Chávez Highway (Border Highway West Extension) Project  
El Paso County, Texas**

**Cooperating Agencies Recipients List**

Mr. Carlos Rincon Director U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 4050 Rio Bravo St., Ste. 100 El Paso, Texas 79902	Mr. Geoff Haskett Acting Regional Director U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service P.O. Box 1306 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108	LTC Bruce Estock District Commander U.S. Army Corps of Engineers- Albuquerque District 4101 Jefferson Plaza, NE Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109
Mr. Joel Whitehead Commander U.S. Coast Guard, Eighth District 500 Poydras Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70130	The Honorable Carlos Marin Commissioner International Boundary and Water Commission 4171 N. Mesa St., Ste. C-100 El Paso, Texas 79902	Mr. Luis Garcia Director Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection 9400 Viscount Blvd. El Paso, Texas 79925
Ms. Linda Rundell Director U.S. Department of the Interior - Bureau of Land Management 801 S. Fillmore Street, Suite 500 Amarillo, Texas 79101	Ms. Jane Hardisty Regional Assistant Chief - Central (Acting) U.S. Department of Agriculture 14th and Independence Ave, SW, Room 6101-A Washington, DC 20250	Mr. Mike Snyder Regional Director National Park Service 12795 Alameda Pkwy. Denver, Colorado 80225



13301 GATEWAY BLVD. WEST · EL PASO, TEXAS 79928-5410 · (915) 790-4200

October 1, 2007

Highway: Loop 375 César Chávez Highway  
Limits: From SH 20 (Mesa Street) to US 54  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso

Name  
Title  
Organization  
Address  
City, State Zip

**Re: Invitation to become a Participating Agency for the proposed Loop 375 César Chávez Highway (Border Highway West Extension) Project.**

Dear Name:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the transportation alternatives of the proposed Loop 375 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 (***please see attached project location map***).

The existing facility is as follows:

- Six-lane expressway from I-10 to Sunland Park.
- Four-lane facility along United States Highway (US) 85 from New Mexico Route 273 to United States Highway (US) 62 (Paisano Drive).
- Four-lane boulevard from Paisano Drive to Santa Fe Street.
- 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.

TxDOT 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.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that may have an interest in the project due to your affiliation with local interests and regulations. With this letter, we extend an invitation to become a participating agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS for the proposed Border Highway West Extension. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), participating agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in alternatives analysis.
- Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
- Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

We look forward to your response to this request and your role as a participating agency on this project. Please respond to Mr. Martin Holguin at TxDOT by **November 08, 2007** on the attached colored form by checking whether your agency accepts or declines the invitation to become a participating agency. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact Mr. Gerardo Leos at (915) 790-4262 or Mr. Martin Holguin at (915) 790-4275. A list of recipients of this letter is attached for your reference.

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Berry, Jr., P.E.  
District Engineer

Enclosures    Acceptance/Denial Form  
                  Recipients List  
                  Project Location Map  
                  Project Notice of Intent (NOI)

***NOTE: Agency Pre-Scoping Meetings and Public Scoping Meetings will be held on October 23, 2007 and October 30, 2007. Please confirm your attendance to the meeting date of your choice at your earliest convenience. Please look for the invitation postcard in the mail for further details.***

**Loop 375 César Chávez Highway (Border Highway West Extension) Project  
El Paso County, Texas**

**Participating Agencies Recipients List**

<p>The Honorable John Cook Mayor, City of El Paso City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Ann Morgan Lilly City Representative, District 1 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Susie Byrd City Representative, District 2 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>The Honorable Jose A. Lozano City Representative, District 3 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Melina Castro City Representative, District 4 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Rachel Quintana City Representative, District 5 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>The Honorable Eddie Holguin, Jr. City Representative, District 6 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Steve Ortega City Representative, District 7 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Beto O'Rourke City Representative, District 8 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>Ms. Joyce Wilson El Paso City Manager City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Ms. Patricia Adatao El Paso Deputy City Manager City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Mr. Rick Talamo Capital Project Manager City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 4th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>Ms. Terry Quezada Capital Improvement Plan Administrator City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 4th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Chief Richard Wiles Chief of Police City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Ms. Kathryn Dodson Director Economic Development Department 2 Civic Center Plaza, 1st Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>Mr. Luis Uriel Flores Planning Supervisor El Paso Fire Department, City of El Paso 8600 Montana Ave. El Paso, Texas 79928</p>	<p>Chief Roberto Rivera Fire Chief El Paso Fire Department, City of El Paso 8600 Montana Ave. El Paso, Texas 79925</p>	<p>Mr. Alan Shubert Director Engineering Department, City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 4th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>Mr. Javier Reyes, P.E. Program Management Division Chief Engineering Department, City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 4th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Mr. Ted Marquez, P.E. Assistant City Engineer Engineering Department, City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 4th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Ms. Ellen A. Smyth Director Environmental Services Department 7969 San Paulo Dr. El Paso, Texas 79907</p>
<p>Mr. Tim Omick Director Mass Transit Department, City of El Paso 700-A San Francisco St. El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Mr. Donald Berger Emergency Management Coordinator Office of Emergency Management 8600 Montana Ave. El Paso, Texas 79925</p>	<p>Mr. Berry Russell Interim Director Parks and Recreation, City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 6th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>Mr. Daryl Cole Director Streets Department, City of El Paso 7969 San Paulo Dr. El Paso, Texas 79907</p>	<p>Dr. Robert Galvan, Director El Paso City-County Health &amp; Environmental District 5115 El Paso Dr. El Paso, Texas 79905</p>	<p>The Honorable Anthony Cobos El Paso County Judge County of El Paso 500 E. San Antonio Ave., Ste. 301 El Paso, Texas 79901</p>

Page 5  
Participating Agency

The Honorable Luis Sariñana El Paso County Commissioner Precinct No. 1, County of El Paso 500 E. San Antonio Ave., Ste. 301 El Paso, Texas 79901	The Honorable Veronica Escobar El Paso County Commissioner Precinct No. 2, County of El Paso 500 E. San Antonio Ave., Ste. 301 El Paso, Texas 79901	The Honorable Miguel Teran El Paso County Commissioner Precinct No. 3, County of El Paso 500 E. San Antonio Ave., Ste. 301 El Paso, Texas 79901
The Honorable Daniel Haggerty El Paso County Commissioner Precinct No. 4, County of El Paso 500 E. San Antonio Ave., Ste. 301 El Paso, Texas 79901	Mr. Bob Geyer Rural Transit Manager County of El Paso 800 E. Overland Ave., Ste. 208 El Paso, Texas 79901	Sheriff Leo Samaniego El Paso County Sheriff County of El Paso 800 E. Overland St., 3rd Floor El Paso, Texas 79901
Mr. Ray Chavez Assistant Director Parks and Recreation, County of El Paso 6900 Delta Dr. El Paso, Texas 79905	Mr. Robert Rivera, P.E. County Engineer & Public Works Director, Road and Bridge Department 5800 N. Main St. El Paso, Texas 76179	Mr. Bernard Sargent Chairman El Paso County Historical Commission 819 W. Sunset Dr. El Paso, Texas 79922
Mr. Jesus "Chuy" Reyes General Manager EPCWID 294 Candelaria St. El Paso, Texas 79907	Mr. Vince Dodds Interim President CEO El Paso Housing Authority 5300 E. Paisano Dr. El Paso, Texas 79905	Mr. Patrick Abeln Director of Aviation El Paso International Airport 6701 Convair Rd. El Paso, Texas 79925
Mr. Ricardo Dominguez Assistant Director El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization 10767 Gateway Blvd. West, Ste. 605 El Paso, Texas 79935	Mr. Roy Gilyard Director El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization 10767 Gateway Blvd. West, Ste. 605 El Paso, Texas 79935	Mr. Tim Huya Manager of Public Projects BNSF Railroad 5800 N. Main St. Fort Worth, Texas 76179
The Honorable Inocente "Chente" Quintanilla Texas State Representative, District 75 120 N. Horizon Blvd., Ste. A-112 El Paso, Texas 79927	The Honorable Norma Chavez Texas State Representative, District 76 Texas House of Representatives 6070 Gateway Blvd. East., Ste. 300 El Paso, Texas 79925	The Honorable Paul Moreno Texas State Representative, District 77 Texas House of Representatives 2314 Montana Ave. El Paso, Texas 79903
The Honorable Pat Haggerty Texas State Representative, District 78 Texas House of Representatives 4855 N. Mesa St., Ste. 102A El Paso, Texas 79912	The Honorable Joe Pickett Texas State Representative, District 79 Texas House of Representatives 1790 Lee Trevino Dr., Ste. 307 El Paso, Texas 79936	The Honorable Carlos I. Uresti Texas State Senator, District 19 Texas State Senate 2530 SW Military Dr., Ste. 103 San Antonio, Texas 78224
The Honorable Eliot Shapleigh Texas State Senator, District 29 Texas State Senate 800 Wyoming Ave., Ste. A El Paso, Texas 79902	Mr. Archie Clouse Regional Director Texas Commission on Environmental Quality 401 E. Franklin Ave., Ste 560 El Paso, Texas 79901	The Honorable Jerry Patterson Commissioner Texas General Land Office 1700 N. Congress Ave., Ste. 935 Austin, Texas 78701
Mr. Larry Oaks Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer Texas Historical Commission P.O. Box 12276 Austin, Texas 78711	Ms. Lois Balin Urban Biologist Texas Parks and Wildlife 200 N. Clark Dr. El Paso, Texas 79905	The Honorable Silvestre Reyes Texas U.S. Representative, Congressional District 16 United States House of Representatives 310 N. Mesa St., Ste. 400 El Paso, Texas 79902
The Honorable Ciro Rodriguez Texas U.S. Representative, Congressional District 23 United States House of Representatives 1950 SW Military Dr. San Antonio, Texas 78221	The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison United States Senator, Texas United States Senate 284 Russell Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510	The Honorable John Cornyn United States Senator, Texas United States Senate 517 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20310

Page 6  
Participating Agency

Major General Robert P. Lennox Major General United States Army, Fort Bliss Bldg. 2 Sherdian Rd. Fort Bliss, Texas 79916	Ms. Jean Offutt Public Affairs Officer United States Army, Fort Bliss Bldg.15 Slater Rd. Fort Bliss, Texas 79916	Mr. David Shafii, P.E. Director of Public Works United States Army, Fort Bliss Bldg. 777 Pleasanton Rd. Fort Bliss, Texas 79916
Mr. Bob Cañas Department of Public Works United States Army, Fort Bliss Bldg. 777 Pleasanton Rd. Fort Bliss, Texas 79916	Mr. Fred Baca Air Field Operations Officer United States Army, Biggs Army Air Field 11210 CSM Slewitzke Fort Bliss, Texas 79916	Mr. Donald Fairley Regional Environmental Officer Federal Emergency Management Agency FRC 800 N. Loop, 288 Denton, Texas 76209
Ms. Lynn Hayes Community Planner Federal Transit Authority 819 Taylor St., Rm. 8A26 Fort Worth, Texas 76102	The Honorable Arturo Senclair Tribal Governor Ysleta del Sur Pueblo 119 S. Pueblo Rd. El Paso, Texas 79907	The Honorable Dale Reinhardt Mayor Town of Clint 200 N. San Elizario Rd. Clint, Texas 79836
The Honorable Frank Montes Mayor Pro-Term Town of Clint 200 N. San Elizario Rd. Clint, Texas 79836	The Honorable Willie Alarcon Alderman Town of Clint 200 N. San Elizario Rd. Clint, Texas 79836	The Honorable Ricardo Sepulveda Alderman Town of Clint 200 N. San Elizario Rd. Clint, Texas 79836
The Honorable Enrique "Henry" Franco Alderman Town of Clint 200 N. San Elizario Rd. Clint, Texas 79836	The Honorable Linda Candelaria Alderswoman Town of Clint 200 N. San Elizario Rd. Clint, Texas 79836	The Honorable Walter Miller Mayor Town of Horizon City 14999 Darrington Rd. Horizon City, Texas 79928
The Honorable Rafael Padilla, Jr. Council Member Town of Horizon City 14999 Darrington Rd. Horizon City, Texas 79928	The Honorable Don Smasal Council Member Town of Horizon City 14999 Darrington Rd. Horizon City, Texas 79928	The Honorable Luis Najera Council Member Town of Horizon City 14999 Darrington Rd. Horizon City, Texas 79928
The Honorable Renee Shufeldt Council Member Town of Horizon City 14999 Darrington Rd. Horizon City, Texas 79928	The Honorable Charlie Ortega Council Member Town of Horizon City 14999 Darrington Rd. Horizon City, Texas 79928	The Honorable Carole Zimmerman Council Member Town of Horizon City 14999 Darrington Rd. Horizon City, Texas 79928
The Honorable Bill Armas Council Member Town of Horizon City 14999 Darrington Rd. Horizon City, Texas 79928	The Honorable Trini Lopez Mayor City of Socorro 124 S. Horizon Blvd. Socorro, Texas 79927	The Honorable Sergio Cox Council Person At Large City of Socorro 124 S. Horizon Blvd. Socorro, Texas 79927
The Honorable Josie Trillo Council Person, District 1 City of Socorro 124 S. Horizon Blvd. Socorro, Texas 79927	The Honorable Mary E. Perez Council Person, District 2 City of Socorro 124 S. Horizon Blvd. Socorro, Texas 79927	The Honorable Victor Perez Council Person, District 3 City of Socorro 124 S. Horizon Blvd. Socorro, Texas 79927
The Honorable Al Gutierrez Council Person, District 4 City of Socorro 124 S. Horizon Blvd. Socorro, Texas 79927	The Honorable Madeleine Praino Mayor Village of Vinton 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton, Texas 79821	The Honorable Yolanda Lucero Aldersperson Village of Vinton 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton, Texas 79821
The Honorable Carla P. Garcia Mayor Pro-Term Village of Vinton 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton, Texas 79821	The Honorable Juvencia Rios-Ontiveros Aldersperson Village of Vinton 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton, Texas 79821	The Honorable Yassu Grier Aldersperson Village of Vinton 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton, Texas 79821
The Honorable Victor A. Carrejo Aldersperson Village of Vinton 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton, Texas 79821	The Honorable Art Franco Mayor Town of Anthony P.O. Box 1269 Anthony, Texas 88021	The Honorable Luis C. Vela Alderman Town of Anthony P.O. Box 1269 Anthony, Texas 88021

Page 7  
Participating Agency

<p>The Honorable Rosie Holguin Alderman Town of Anthony P.O. Box 1269 Anthony, Texas 88021</p>	<p>The Honorable Chanan Singh Alderman Town of Anthony P.O. Box 1269 Anthony, Texas 88021</p>	<p>The Honorable Demetrio C. Cuellar Alderman Town of Anthony P.O. Box 1269 Anthony, Texas 88021</p>
<p>The Honorable Orlando M. Garcia Alderman Town of Anthony P.O. Box 1269 Anthony, Texas 88021</p>	<p>The Honorable Jesus Ruben Segura Mayor City of Sunland Park 1000 McNutt Rd., Ste. A Sunland Park, New Mexico 88063</p>	<p>The Honorable Cynthia Nava State Senator, District 31 New Mexico State Senate 3002 Broadmoor Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001</p>
<p>The Honorable Oscar Vasquez-Butler County Commissioner Chair, District 1 Doña Ana County 845 N. Motel Blvd. Las Cruces, New Mexico 88007</p>	<p>The Honorable Dolores Saldaña-Caviness County Commissioner, District 2 Doña Ana County 846 N. Motel Blvd. Las Cruces, New Mexico 88007</p>	<p>The Honorable Karen Perez County Commissioner, District 3 Doña Ana County 847 N. Motel Blvd. Las Cruces, New Mexico 88007</p>
<p>The Honorable D. Kent Evans County Commissioner Vice Chair, District 4 Doña Ana County 848 N. Motel Blvd. Las Cruces, New Mexico 88007</p>	<p>The Honorable William J. McCamley County Commissioner, District 5 Doña Ana County 849 N. Motel Blvd. Las Cruces, New Mexico 88007</p>	<p>Mr. Paul Little, P.E. District One Engineer New Mexico Department of Transportation 2912 E. Pine St. Deming, New Mexico 88030</p>
<p>Mr. John Broaddus, CPA Chairman Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority (CRRMA) 2 Civic Center Plaza, 9th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>		

**Group Letters Mailed in 2011**



# Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

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. 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:

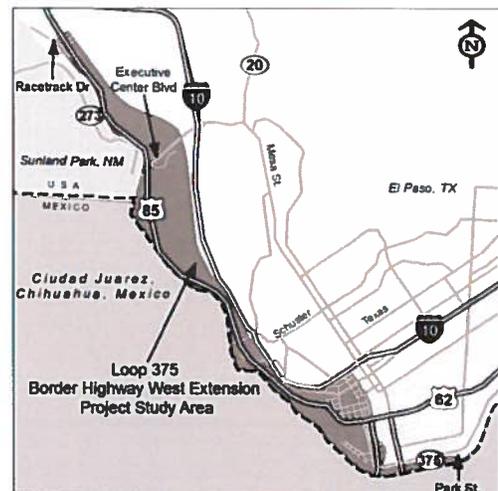
The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District is re-initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. This letter is intended to formally invite your agency to become a Cooperating 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.**



THE TEXAS PLAN

REDUCE CONGESTION • ENHANCE SAFETY • EXPAND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY • IMPROVE AIR QUALITY  
PRESERVE THE VALUE OF TRANSPORTATION ASSETS

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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 **[cgarcia@hntb.com](mailto: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](mailto: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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark A. Marek".

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.

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](mailto: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.

## 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



# 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

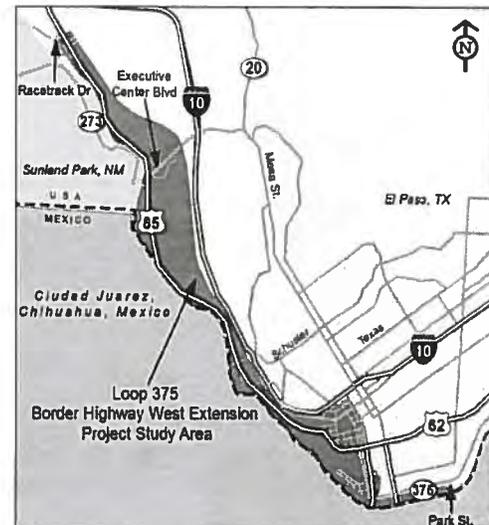
In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the *Federal Register*. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has been restarted 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 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](mailto: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](mailto: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: Mark Marek, P.E., interim Director Environmental Affairs Division  
Margaret Canty, West Region Project Delivery Management Section, Project Manager, TxDOT

<p>Ms. Lorinda Gardner Regional Director Texas Commission on Environmental Quality 401 E. Franklin Ave., Ste 560 El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Ms. LaDonna Castanuela Office of the Chief Clerk: (MC-015) ASARCO Texas Commission on Environmental Quality P.O. Box 13087 Austin, Texas 78711</p>	<p>The Honorable Jerry Patterson Commissioner Texas General Land Office 1700 N. Congress Ave., Ste. 935 Austin, Texas 78701</p>
<p>Ms. Lois Balin Urban Biologist - El Paso County Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 200 N. Clark Dr. El Paso, Texas 79905</p>	<p>Mr. Mark Wolfe Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer Texas Historical Commission P.O. Box 12276 Austin, Texas 78711</p>	<p>Ms. Deirdre Hisler Regional Director Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 200 N. Clark Dr. El Paso, Texas 79905</p>
<p>Ms. Jane K. Shang Deputy City Manager - Mobility Services City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Mr. Russell Hooten Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 4200 Smith School Road Austin, Texas 78744</p>	<p>Mr. Alan Shubert, P.E. City Engineer City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 4th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>Mr. Nim Kidd Interim Asst. Director for Emergency Management Governor's Division of Emergency Management P.O. Box 4087 Austin, Texas 78773</p>	<p>Ms. Joyce Wilson City Manager City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Ernesto Carrizal County Road Engineer County of El Paso 500 E. San Antonio Avenue El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>Mr. Jesus "Chuy" Reyes General Manager El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 P.O. Box 749 Clint, Texas 79836</p>	<p>Mr. Bernard Sergeant Chairman El Paso County Historical Commission 819 W. Sunset Rd. El Paso, Texas 79922</p>	<p>Mr. Roy Gilyard Executive Director El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization 10767 Gateway Blvd. West, Ste. 605 El Paso, Texas 79935</p>
<p>Mr. Raymond Telles Executive Director Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority 2 Civic Center Plaza, 9th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>		



# Texas Department of Transportation

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

November 1, 2011

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**

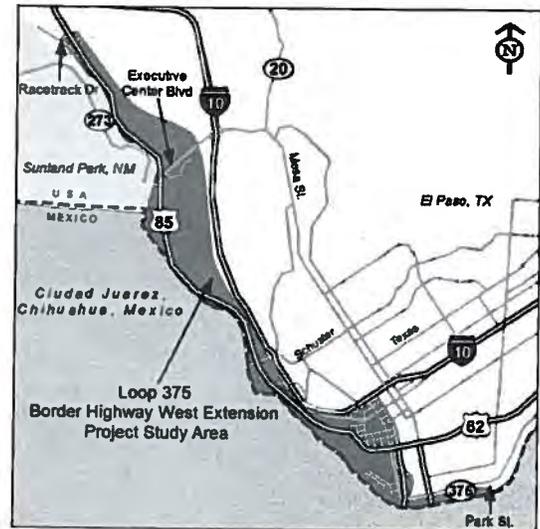
In September 2007, the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the proposed project was published in the *Federal Register*. A month later, in October 2007, TxDOT held Agency Scoping Meeting #1 and Public Scoping Meeting #1. The project was then placed on hold in 2009 due to lack of funding and has been restarted 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.

November 1, 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](mailto:cgarcia@hntb.com) or call (915) 887-0875.

November 1, 2011

**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](mailto: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

<p>The Honorable Silvestre Reyes United States House of Representatives 310 N. Mesa St., Ste. 400 El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Frank Paiz Tribal Governor, Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Ysleta del Sur Pueblo 119 S. Old Pueblo El Paso, Texas 79907</p>	<p>The Honorable John Cornyn United States Senate Wells Fargo Center, 500 Broadway, Suite 1230 Lubbock, Texas 79401</p>
<p>The Honorable Francisco Canseco United States House of Representatives 6363 DeZavala Rd. Suite 105 San Antonio, Texas 78249</p>	<p>The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison United States Senate 500 Chestnut Street, Suite 1570 Abilene, Texas 79602</p>	

**Group Letters Mailed in 2012**



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

May 18, 2012

Mr. Carlos Rincon  
Director, Region 6  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
4050 Rio Bravo St., Ste. 100  
El Paso, Texas 79902

Highway: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project  
Limits: From US 54 to Racetrack Drive  
CSJ: 2552-04-027  
County: El Paso

**RE: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project –  
Invitation to Public Scoping Meeting #3**

Dear Mr. Rincon:

On behalf of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), El Paso District, I am writing to formally invite you or your representative to attend the third Public Scoping Meeting for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project. The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 20, 2012 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. It will be held at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center on Wiggins Road, across from the UTEP Library. More details about the meeting can be found in the enclosed copy of the public notice. The map of the proposed project is also enclosed.

The purpose of the meeting is to update the public about progress on the proposed project as well as to inform the public that the project limits have changed since the last public scoping meeting was held in December 2011. Further access refinements in the downtown area and the New Mexico 273 area will also be discussed. The meeting will also provide an opportunity for the public to provide comments on project documents including the updated Project Coordination Plan and Need and Purpose Statement.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please contact Mr. Eduardo Calvo, TxDOT's Project Manager, at (915) 790-4200.

Sincerely,



J. Eddie Valtier, P.E.  
Director

Transportation Planning and Development

Enclosures

<p>Mr. Carlos Rincon  Director, Region 6  U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  4050 Rio Bravo St., Ste. 100  El Paso, Texas 79902</p>	<p>Dr. Benjamin Tuggle  Director, Southwest Region  U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  P.O. Box 1306  Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108</p>	<p>Mr. Richard Gatewood  Regulatory Manager for Southern New Mexico  and West Texas  U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District  505 S. Main St., Suite 142  Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001</p>
<p>LTC Jason Williams  District Commander, Albuquerque District  U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District  4101 Jefferson Plaza N.E.  Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109</p>	<p>RADM Roy A. Nash  Commander, Eighth District  U.S. Coast Guard, Eighth District  500 Poydras St.  New Orleans, Louisiana 70130</p>	<p>The Honorable Edward Drusina  Commissioner  International Boundary and Water Commission  4171 N. Mesa St., Ste. C-100  El Paso, Texas 79902</p>
<p>Mr. Daniel Borunda  National Resource Specialist  International Boundary and Water Commission  4171 N. Mesa St., Ste. C-100  El Paso, Texas 79902</p>	<p>Ms. Ana Hinojosa  Director  U.S. Department of Homeland Security  Customs and Border Protection  9400 Viscount Blvd.  El Paso, Texas 79925</p>	<p>Ms. Patricia Aveitia  Acting Director of Field Operations  U.S. Department of Homeland Security  Customs and Border Protection  9400 Viscount Blvd.  El Paso, Texas 79925</p>
<p>Mr. Fernando Gomez  Supervisory Border Patrol Agent  U.S. Department of Homeland Security  Customs and Border Protection  8901 Montana Avenue  El Paso, Texas 79925</p>	<p>Mr. Abel L. Melendez  Special Operations Supervisor  U.S. Department of Homeland Security  Customs and Border Protection  8901 Montana Avenue  El Paso, Texas 79925</p>	<p>Mr. Bill Childress  District Manager - Las Cruces District Office  U.S. Department of the Interior –  Bureau of Land Management  1800 Marquess Street  Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005</p>
<p>Ms. Terry Lukes  Regional Environmental Officer  Federal Emergency Management Agency  FRC 800 N. Loop 288  Denton, Texas 76209</p>	<p>Mr. Thomas Christensen  Regional Conservationist - Central Region  U.S. Department of Agriculture –  Natural Resources Conservation Service  14th and Independence Ave., SW, Rm. 6103-S  Washington DC, 20250</p>	<p>Mr. Salvador Salinas  State Conservationist  U.S. Department of Agriculture –  Natural Resources Conservation Service  101 South Main Street  Temple, Texas 76501</p>
<p>Mr. Russell Castro  State Wildlife Biologist  U.S. Department of Agriculture –  Natural Resources Conservation Service  101 South Main Street  Temple, Texas 76501</p>	<p>Ms. Bonnie Murphy  Regional Administrator - Region 5  Federal Railroad Administration, Region 5  4100 International Plaza, Suite 450  Fort Worth, Texas 76109</p>	<p>Mr. John Wessels  Regional Director - Intermountain Region  U.S. Department of the Interior –  National Park Service  12795 W. Alameda Pkwy.  Denver, Colorado 80225</p>
<p>Ms. Lorinda Gardner  Regional Director  Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  401 E. Franklin Ave., Ste 560  El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Ms. LaDonna Castanuela  Office of the Chief Clerk: (MC-015) ASARCO  Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  P.O. Box 13087  Austin, Texas 78711</p>	<p>The Honorable Jerry Patterson  Commissioner  Texas General Land Office  1700 N. Congress Ave., Ste. 935  Austin, Texas 78701</p>
<p>Mr. Burton Minton  Portfolio Manager - Asset Management Division  Texas General Land Office  1700 N. Congress Ave., Ste. 842  Austin, Texas 78701</p>	<p>Mr. Mark Wolfe  Executive Director and State  Historic Preservation Officer  Texas Historical Commission  P.O. Box 12276  Austin, Texas 78711</p>	<p>Ms. Deirdre Hisler  Regional Director  Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  200 N. Clark Dr.  El Paso, Texas 79905</p>
<p>Ms. Lois Balin  Urban Biologist - El Paso County  Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  200 N. Clark Dr.  El Paso, Texas 79905</p>	<p>Mr. Clayton Wolf  Director of Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program  Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  4200 Smith School Road  Austin, Texas 78744</p>	<p>Ms. Kathy Boydston  Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  4200 Smith School Road  Austin, Texas 78744</p>

<p>Mr. Nim Kidd Interim Asst. Director for Emergency Management Governor's Division of Emergency Management P.O. Box 4087 Austin, Texas 78773</p>	<p>Mr. Bernard Sergeant Chairman El Paso County Historical Commission 819 W. Sunset Rd. El Paso, Texas 79922</p>	<p>Mr. Gary Williams Brochures &amp; Markers Committee El Paso County Historical Commission 819 W. Sunset Dr. El Paso, Texas 79922</p>
<p>Mr. Jesus "Chuy" Reyes General Manager El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 P.O. Box 749 Clint, Texas 79836</p>	<p>Mr. Raymond Telles Executive Director Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority 2 Civic Center Plaza, 9th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Mr. Roy Gilyard Executive Director El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization 10767 Gateway Blvd. West, Ste. 605 El Paso, Texas 79935</p>
<p>Ms. Jane K. Shang Deputy City Manager - Mobility Services City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Ms. Joyce Wilson City Manager City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Mr. Alan Shubert, P.E. City Engineer City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 4th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>Mr. Humberto Arenas County Road Engineer County of El Paso 800 E. Overland, Room #407 El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Mr. Steve Burns Chavez Landscape Architect National Park Service - National Trails System Intermountain Region P.O. Box 728 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504</p>	<p>The Honorable Silvestre Reyes United States House of Representatives 310 N. Mesa St., Ste. 400 El Paso, Texas 79902</p>
<p>The Honorable Francisco Canseco United States House of Representatives 6363 DeZavala Rd. Suite 105 San Antonio, Texas 78249</p>	<p>The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison United States Senate 500 Chestnut Street, Suite 1570 Abilene, Texas 79602</p>	<p>The Honorable John Cornyn United States Senate Wells Fargo Center, 1500 Broadway, Suite 1230 Lubbock, Texas 79401</p>
<p>The Honorable Inocente Quintanilla Texas House of Representatives 120 N. Horizon Blvd., Ste. A112 El Paso, Texas 79927</p>	<p>The Honorable Naomi Gonzalez Texas House of Representatives RM. E2. 416, Capitol Extension, P.O. Box 2910 Austin, Texas 78768</p>	<p>The Honorable Marisa Marquez Texas House of Representatives 1444 Montana Ave., Ste. 100 El Paso, Texas 79902</p>
<p>The Honorable Dee Margo Texas House of Representatives 6006 N. Mesa St., Ste. 503 El Paso, Texas 79912</p>	<p>The Honorable Joe Pickett Texas House of Representatives 1790 Lee Trevino Dr., Ste. 307 El Paso, Texas 79936</p>	<p>The Honorable Jose Rodriguez Texas State Senate 100 N. Ochoa, Suite A El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>The Honorable John Cook Mayor, City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Ann Morgan Lilly Mayor Pro-Tem, City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Susie Byrd City Representative, District 2 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>The Honorable Emma Acosta City Representative, District 3 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Carl L. Robinson City Representative, District 4 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Michiel Noe City Representative, District 5 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>

<p>The Honorable Eddie Holguin, Jr. City Representative, District 6 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Steve Ortega City Representative, District 7 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Cortney Niland City Representative, District 8 City of El Paso 2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>The Honorable Veronica Escobar County Judge of El Paso 500 E. San Antonio, Suite 301 El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Anna Perez Commissioner, Precinct No. 1 County of El Paso 500 E. San Antonio, Suite 301 El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Sergio Lewis Commissioner, Precinct No. 2 County of El Paso 500 E. San Antonio, Suite 301 El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>The Honorable Tania M. Chozet Commissioner, Precinct No. 3 County of El Paso 500 E. San Antonio, Suite 301 El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Daniel Haggerty Commissioner, Precinct No. 4 County of El Paso 500 E. San Antonio, Suite 301 El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>The Honorable Dale T. Reinhardt Mayor, Town of Clint 200 N. San Elizario Rd. Clint, Texas 79836</p>
<p>The Honorable Walter Miller Mayor, Town of Horizon City 14999 Darrington Rd. Horizon City, Texas 79928</p>	<p>The Honorable Trini Lopez Mayor, City of Socorro 124 S. Horizon Blvd. Socorro, Texas 79927</p>	<p>The Honorable Madeleine Praino Mayor, Village of Vinton 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton, Texas 79821</p>
<p>The Honorable Art Franco Mayor, Town of Anthony 401 Wildcat Dr Anthony, Texas 79821</p>	<p>The Honorable Okey Lucas Mayor, Town of Van Horn P.O. Box 517 Socorro, Texas 79855</p>	<p>The Honorable Arnulfo Castaneda Mayor, City of Anthony P.O. Box 2663 Anthony, New Mexico 88021</p>
<p>The Honorable Isabel Santos Mayor Pro-Tem, City of Sunland Park 1000 McNutt Rd., Ste. A Sunland Park, New Mexico 88063</p>	<p>The Honorable Christian Lira City Representative, District 1 City of Sunland Park 1000 McNutt Rd. Sunland Park, New Mexico 88063</p>	<p>The Honorable Carmen Rodriguez City Representative, District 2 City of Sunland Park 1000 McNutt Rd. Sunland Park, New Mexico 88063</p>
<p>The Honorable Annette Diaz City Representative, District 3 City of Sunland Park 1000 McNutt Rd. Sunland Park, New Mexico 88063</p>	<p>The Honorable Sergio Carrillo City Representative, District 4 City of Sunland Park 1000 McNutt Rd. Sunland Park, New Mexico 88063</p>	<p>The Honorable Jessica Avila City Representative, District 6 City of Sunland Park 1000 McNutt Rd. Sunland Park, New Mexico 88063</p>
<p>The Honorable Dolores Saldaña-Caviness Commissioner, District No. 2 Dona Ana County 845 N. Motel Blvd. Las Cruces, New Mexico 88007</p>	<p>The Honorable Billy G. Garrett Commissioner, District No. 1 Dona Ana County 845 N. Motel Blvd. Las Cruces, New Mexico 88007</p>	<p>The Honorable Cynthia Nava New Mexico State Senate 3002 Broadmore Dr. Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001</p>
<p>The Honorable Mary Helen Garcia New Mexico House of Representatives 5271 South Highway 28 Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005</p>	<p>The Honorable Frank Paiz Tribal Governor, Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Ysleta del Sur Pueblo P.O. Box 17579 El Paso, Texas 79907</p>	<p>Dr. Terri Jordan, Ed.D. Interim Superintendent El Paso Independent School District 6531 Boeing Dr. El Paso, Texas 79925</p>

<p>Dr. Damon Murphy Superintendent Canutillo Independent School District 7965 Artcraft Road El Paso, Texas 79932</p>	<p>Mr. Daryl Cole Director, Department of Transportation City of El Paso 7968 San Paulo Drive El Paso, Texas 79907</p>	<p>Mr. Jay Banasiak Director, Mass Transit Department City of El Paso 700 San Francisco El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>Mr. Ernesto Carrizal Director of Public Works County of El Paso 800 E. Overland, Room #407 El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Ms. Rosario Holguin Board Member Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority Two Civic Center Plaza, 9th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Mr. Scott McLaughlin Chair Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority Two Civic Center Plaza, 9th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>Mr. Ralph Adame Vice Chair Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority Two Civic Center Plaza, 9th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Mr. David Marcus Treasurer Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority Two Civic Center Plaza, 9th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Ms. Susan Melendez Secretary Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority Two Civic Center Plaza, 9th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>
<p>Dr. Tony Payan Alternate Secretary Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority Two Civic Center Plaza, 9th Floor El Paso, Texas 79901</p>	<p>Mr. Jim Volk Board Member Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority 690 Sunland Park Drive El Paso, Texas 79912</p>	<p>Mr. Frank Guzman District Engineer NMDOT-District 1 2912 E. Pine Street Deming, New Mexico 88031</p>
<p>Ms. Gabriella Conteras Apodaca New Mexico Department of Transportation South Region Design Regional Manager 750 North Solano Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001</p>	<p>Mr. Ivan Jaime Director, Border and Community Affairs: San Antonio and Border Regions Union Pacific Railroad P. O. Box 240730 San Antonio, Texas 78224</p>	<p>Mr. Douglas Woods Sr. Mgr. Industry &amp; Public Projects – Engineering - Design/Construction Union Pacific Railroad 24125 Old Aldine Westfield Road Spring, Texas 77373</p>
<p>Mr. Steven Martchenke Mgr. Special Projects IPP Union Pacific Railroad 101 S. Watson Rd. Arlington, Texas 76010</p>	<p>Mr. Bob Gomez General Director Transportation - Southwest Division BNSF Railroad 106 N. First St. Belen, New Mexico 87002</p>	<p>Mr. Tim Huya Manager of Public Projects BNSF Railroad 5800 N. Main St. Saginaw, Texas 76179</p>
<p>Mr. William Mattiace Executive Director New Mexico Border Authority 221 Pete Domenici Highway Santa Teresa, New Mexico 88008</p>	<p>Mr. Robert Bielek, P.E. District Engineer Texas Department of Transportation 13301 Gateway Blvd., West El Paso, Texas 79928</p>	

**LETTERS RECEIVED**

**El Paso County Historical Commission**



El Paso County Historical Commission  
819 Sunset Rd.  
El Paso, TX 79922-2146

*Handwritten notes:*  
D.J. - L. Hines  
11-17-08  
ENC  
C-11/18/08 CFC

November 11, 2008

Ms. Diana Noble  
Director  
Environmental Affairs Division  
Texas Department of Transportation  
125 East 11th Street  
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

**TXDOT-ENV**

NOV 19 2008

**CRM**

Dear Ms. Noble,

The purpose of this correspondence is to request consulting party status for the El Paso County Historical Commission for the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension, planned for El Paso County, Texas.

As you know the County Historical Commissions, including the El Paso County Historical Commission, have statutory responsibility to initiate and conduct programs suggested by the county commissioner's court and the Texas Historical Commission; and to work in a "dynamic and positive partnership with the Texas Historical Commission to preserve Texas' heritage for the use, education, enjoyment and economic benefit of present and future generations".

The El Paso County Historical Commission maintains an active role in preserving, promoting and protecting El Paso's historical legacy. Since 1997 we have engaged in the community's efforts to preserve and promote the historic site of the Oñate Crossing, Hart's Mill (La Hacienda Café), and Old Fort Bliss at 1720 West Paisano Drive.

Planning efforts to date have included incorporating this historic site into the 1998 designation of the Rio Grande as an American Heritage River and the subsequent planning for the Rio Grande RiverPark Trail System in El Paso County. As a part of this effort an application was submitted by the City of El Paso in 1999 through the TEA-21 Program. The application (not funded), addressed the development of a recreational trail link on the levee between Chihuahuita and Oñate Crossing/Hart's Mill/Old Fort Bliss.

In October 2000, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (Royal Road of the Interior), was designated by Congress as a National Historic Trail and we began working in collaboration with the National Park Service, National Trails Office-Santa Fe, and the Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico State Office, who jointly administer the National Historic Trail, regarding site certification, the development of way finding signage and a Cultural Landscape Report/Historic Structures Report (HSR/CLR) of significant sites, including Oñate Crossing/Hart's Mill/Old Fort Bliss. We anticipate that the completion of an HSR/CLR along with desired archeological investigations for this site will form the basis for development of an interpretive experience for visitors to this area that will capture the historical importance of Oñate crossing and establish the site, along with others being developed, as an important historic site and destination for future visitors along El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail in El Paso.

The rich, 400-year plus history of this area creates a unique opportunity for tourism. It was here that in May, 1598, Juan de Oñate crossed the Rio Grande and entered what is now the United States. Oñate's crossing is the origin point and namesake of "El Paso del Rio del Norte" that became the Spanish colonial mission and settlement of El Paso del Norte, founded in 1668, in what is today Juarez Mexico. It was to this settlement that the refugees of the Pueblo revolt of 1680 retreated to from New Mexico to form the nucleus of the future cities of Juarez Mexico and after the Mexican American war, El Paso Texas. A monument commemorating the site as the crossing point of the river by Juan de Oñate is now located on the grounds of the present-day La Hacienda Restaurant (closed). The route of the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, which connected Mexico City to Santa Fe, passes through this site, as does the east-west stagecoaches of the San Antonio-San Diego 'Jackass' Line and the Butterfield Overland Mail.

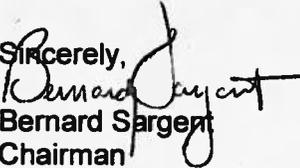
The La Hacienda Café is the former residence of Simeon Hart, who established his flour mill, el Molino at this site on the newly formed border after the Mexican American war in the early 1850s, and was one of the original four American settlements established in El Paso following the War. Also located on this 135-acre site was the fifth location of Fort Bliss. Established in 1879 it was occupied until 1893 when Fort Bliss moved to its current location. Today, the remnants of the post include two officer quarters, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and now used as apartments. It is also thought that the original guardhouse remains in what was once the Smelter Bar located on West Paisano Drive. More research is needed to verify this.

Oñate Crossing represents a unique historical site imbued with significance by the events of centuries of history involving the countries of Spain, Mexico, and the US, and that shaped today's Mexico and the United States.

Because few sites represent in one location such a sweep of major historical events, including; the Spanish colonial settlement of New Mexico by Juan de Oñate; the establishment of El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro used for four centuries; the pueblo revolt of 1680 that made possible the future cities of Juarez and El Paso; the Mexican American War that created a new international boundary; the Americanization of the border and founding of El Paso Texas with a military presence; and finally with Harts Mill, Anglo settlers and merchants following the US military to make their fortunes and living in the newly acquired US territory along El Camino Real, Oñate crossing is unquestionably one of the most important, albeit obscure and neglected, historical sites in El Paso.

Specifically, we are concerned with the transportation plan and its potential impact on this perhaps nationally significant historic site in El Paso. We formally request that the El Paso County Historic Commission be accorded consulting party status under Section 106 regulations [36 CFR 800. 3 (f)].

Please do not hesitate to contact Gary Williams, (915) 543-3976, or myself at (915) 581-7920 should you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,  
  
Bernard Sargent  
Chairman

CC: Troy Ainsworth,  
Gary Williams  
Steve Burns  
Bruce Jensen



El Paso County Historical Commission  
819 Sunset Rd.  
El Paso, TX 79922-2146

November 7, 2011

Ms. Margaret Canty  
Director  
Environmental Affairs Division  
Texas Department of Transportation  
125 East 11th Street  
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

Subject: Participating Agency

Dear Ms. Canty,

The purpose of this correspondence is to confirm our interest in becoming a "Participating Agency" as it pertains to the "Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project".

As you know the County Historical Commissions, including the El Paso County Historical Commission, have statutory responsibility to initiate and conduct programs suggested by the county commissioner's court and the Texas Historical Commission; and to work in a "dynamic and positive partnership with the Texas Historical Commission to preserve Texas' heritage for the use, education, enjoyment and economic benefit of present and future generations".

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destination for future visitors along El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail in El Paso.

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Oñate Crossing represents a unique historical site imbued with significance by the events of centuries of history involving the countries of Spain, Mexico, and the US, and that shaped today's Mexico and the United States.

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nationally significant historic site in El Paso. We formally accept your invitation to become a "Participating Agency".

Please do not hesitate to contact Gary Williams, (915) 543-3976, or myself at (915) 581-7920 should you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Bernard Sargent  
Chairman  
El Paso County Historical Commission

**Federal Highway Administration**



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

**Texas Division**

September 26, 2011

300 E 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, Texas 78705  
Phone: 512-536-5900  
Fax: 512-536-5990  
[www.fhwa.dot.gov/txdiv](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/txdiv)

In Reply Refer To:  
HB-TX

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  
7<sup>th</sup> 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,

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

**[4910-22]**

**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 in to 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:



**Gregory S. Punske, P.E.**  
District Engineer, Austin, Texas

## **International Boundary and Water Commission**

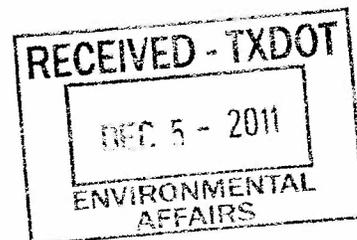


INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION  
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

December 1, 2011

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER  
UNITED STATES SECTION

Ms. Margaret Canty  
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
Texas Department of Transportation  
Dewitt C. Greer State Highway Building  
125 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, Texas 78701-2483



Dear Ms. Canty:

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC), is in receipt of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) letter dated November 3, 2011, regarding the intent to re-initiate the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso, Texas. In addition, TxDOT has extended an invitation to the USIBWC to be a Cooperating Agency and participate in the EIS process.

With regard to the above, the USIBWC accepts the invitation to participate as a Cooperating Agency for this project. The USIBWC manages federal property that is in close proximity to the proposed project and would welcome the opportunity to support interagency collaboration. The point of contact for the USIBWC will be:

Mr. Daniel Borunda  
Natural Resource Specialist  
USIBWC  
4171 N. Mesa, C-100  
El Paso Texas 79902  
Ph. (915) 832-4767  
email: daniel.borunda@ibwc.gov

Mr. Borunda will coordinate all activities for the USIBWC and involve other staff as needed. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (915) 832-4749.

Sincerely,

John L. Merino, P.E.  
Principal Engineer

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – National Marine Fisheries  
Service**

**From:** [Noah Silverman](#)  
**To:** [NHorn@dot.state.tx.us](mailto:NHorn@dot.state.tx.us)  
**Cc:** [David Keys](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Re: Fwd: [Fwd: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency]  
**Date:** Monday, December 05, 2011 8:51:01 AM

---

Hi Mimi;

Due to the location of your project and competing workload/budgetary constraints, NMFS will not be participating as Cooperating Agency. We appreciate your coordination and the opportunity to participate. Please feel free to contact us if you have any concerns that your project might affect trust resources under NMFS' jurisdiction.

Thank you,  
Noah Silverman

----- Original Message -----

**Subject:** Re: Fwd: [Fwd: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency]

**Date:** Mon, 05 Dec 2011 09:44:02 -0500

**From:** David Dale <[David.Dale@noaa.gov](mailto:David.Dale@noaa.gov)>

**To:** Noah Silverman <[Noah.Silverman@noaa.gov](mailto:Noah.Silverman@noaa.gov)>

**CC:** David Keys <[David.Keys@noaa.gov](mailto:David.Keys@noaa.gov)>, Rusty Swafford <[Rusty.Swafford@noaa.gov](mailto:Rusty.Swafford@noaa.gov)>

Noah,

The location of the project and affected resources, in El Paso County, Texas, are well upstream from those that would be cause for NMFS engage in this project.

HCD has no comments and we would not be a participant in any aspect of this project.

David

David Dale, Fishery Biologist  
Habitat Conservation Division

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Southeast Regional Office  
263 13th Avenue South  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505

W: 727-551-5736  
F: 727-824-5300

On 12/2/2011 1:29 PM, Noah Silverman wrote:

Hi David,

Please see email history below and the attached letter. I spoke with TX DOT about the project and there is the potential to impact

habitat/tributaries of the Rio Grande. I think this project might be outside our scope but wanted to make sure you had a chance to look at it regarding EFH.

If you choose not to pursue it would you mind sending Mimi and email letting her know?

Best regards,  
Noah

----- Original Message -----

**Subject:**[Fwd: Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project - Invitation to Become a Cooperating Agency]

**Date:**Thu, 01 Dec 2011 13:46:24 -0500

**From:**David Keys <[David.Keys@noaa.gov](mailto:David.Keys@noaa.gov)>

**Organization:**NOAA Marine Fisheries Service

**To:**Noah Silverman <[Noah.Silverman@noaa.gov](mailto:Noah.Silverman@noaa.gov)>

Let's discuss this, then answer her.

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**

**From:** [Margaret Canty](#)  
**To:** [Mimi Horn](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Participating Agency for the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project

---

Mimi, please send this on to the appropriate people o the BHW project.

>>> "Lorinda Gardner" <Lorinda.Gardner@tceq.texas.gov> 11/29/2011 2:32 PM >>>  
Ms. Canty

In response to your letter dated November 1, 2011, referencing the above project, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality El Paso Region Office would like to be a participating agency.

I look forward to Scoping Meeting on December 7, 2011.

Thanks  
Lorinda

Lorinda D Gardner  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
El Paso/Midland Regional Director  
lorinda.gardner@tceq.texas.gov  
915.834.4951

**Texas General Land Office**

**From:** [Melissa Neeley](#)  
**To:** [Burton Minton](#); [Margaret Canty](#)  
**Cc:** [Mimi Horn](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Loop 375 extension project

---

burton - i'm glad that glo wants to participate!

Melissa A. Neeley  
Director of Project Delivery Management  
Environmental Affairs Division  
(512) 416-3014  
Business Cell (512) 623-9381  
[melissa.neeley@txdot.gov](mailto:melissa.neeley@txdot.gov) ( <mailto:mneeley@dot.state.tx.us> )

>>> Margaret Canty 11/14/2011 9:57 AM >>>  
Hi, Burton, Good talking to you.

GLO is on our list officially as a participating agency, and, via this email, I am asking ELP District staff to make sure you are the contact person at GLO for all correspondence regarding this project.

Thanks,  
Margaret Canty  
ENV-PDM West Region  
512 416 2598  
(fax) 416 2643  
[Margaret.Canty@txdot.gov](mailto:Margaret.Canty@txdot.gov)

>>> "Burton Minton" <Burton.Minton@GLO.STATE.TX.US> 11/14/2011 9:27 AM >>>  
Margaret, thanks for the invitation to become a participating agency in the upcoming scoping meeting in December in preparation for the expansion of Loop 375 in El Paso County, Texas.

I, Burton Minton, will be Commissioner Patterson's representative for the Texas General Land Office for the upcoming and any subsequent meetings concerning the expansion project.

Please let me know if there is anything else I need to do, and I look forward to meeting with the other agency members. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 512-463-5252.

Burton Minton  
Portfolio Manager  
Asset Management Division  
Texas General Land Office

**Texas Historical Commission**

12/08/2011

**From:** [Margaret Canty](#)  
**To:** [Mimi Horn](#)  
**Subject:** Texas Historical Commission

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Mimi, I just talked to Adrienne at THC. They want to stay on the BHW mailing list so they gave me a verbal request to be a participating agency. Please let HNTB and everyone know not to remove them from the list. Thanks, MC

**Texas Parks and Wildlife Department**



Life's better outside.\*

November 21, 2011

Commissioners

T. Dan Friedkin  
Chairman  
Houston

Ralph H. Duggins  
Fort Worth

Antonio Falcon, M.D.  
Rio Grande City

Karen J. Hixon  
San Antonio

Dan Allen Hughes, Jr.  
Beeville

Bill Jones  
Austin

Margaret Martin  
Boerne

S. Reed Morian  
Houston

Dick Scott  
Wimberley

Lee M. Bass  
Chairman-Emeritus  
Fort Worth

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Carter P. Smith  
Executive Director

Ms. Margaret Canty  
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
Texas Department of Transportation  
125 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, TX 78701-2483

RE: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency with Texas Department of Transportation in the Development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project, El Paso County

Dear Ms. Canty:

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is pleased to accept your invitation to become a participating agency for the proposed subject EIS and looks forward to participating in the development of the EIS. I will be the point of contact on this project. Please direct any project related information to my attention. I regret that I will not be able to attend the Agency Scoping Meeting on December 7, 2011 in El Paso and would like to request that the information provided at the meeting be sent to me. Dr. Cesar Mendez, Superintendent, Franklin Mountains State Park, and Ms. Lois Balin, TPWD El Paso Urban Biologist, are planning to attend the Public Scoping Meeting on December 8, 2011.

Sincerely,

Karen H. Clary, Ph.D.  
Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program  
Wildlife Division

Email: [karen.clary@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:karen.clary@tpwd.state.tx.us)  
Tel. (512) 389-8054

KHC:gg.6540

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
Las Cruces Regulatory Field Office  
505 S. Main St. Suite 142  
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001  
(575)-556-9939

December 19, 2011

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

Regulatory Division  
New Mexico/Texas Branch

SUBJECT: Action No. SPA-2011-00578-LCO; Loop 375 Border Highway West  
Extension Project, Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting #2/Public Scoping Meeting #2

Ms. Margaret Canty  
Texas Department of Transportation  
Project Manager, West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
125 E. 11th Street  
Austin, TX 78701-2483

Dear Ms. Canty:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is in receipt of your letter dated November 3, 2011 concerning a proposal by the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) El Paso District to construct the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project, beginning at Park Street and extending to Racetrack Drive, located in the City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas. The activity involves constructing approximately 8 miles of four lane highway. We have assigned Action No. SPA-2011-00578-LCO to this activity. To avoid delay, please include this number in all future correspondence concerning this project.

We have reviewed this project in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. Under Section 404, the Corps regulates the discharge of dredged and fill material into waters of the United States (U.S.), including wetlands. Our responsibility under Section 10 is to regulate any work in, or affecting, navigable waters of the U.S. Any such discharge or work requires Department of the Army authorization in the form of a permit. For more information on the Corps Regulatory Program, please see our Internet homepage at <http://www.spa.usace.army.mil/reg/default.asp>.

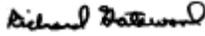
We are unable to determine from the information you provided whether Department of the Army authorization will be required. However, based on our initial evaluation, we have determined that waters of the United States subject to Section 404 regulation, specifically ephemeral tributaries to the Rio Grande, occur within the proposed project area. Activities such as permanent road crossings are examples of construction activities that may require Department of the Army authorization where they occur in waters of the U.S. Based on the presence of waters of the U.S. within the proposed project area, the Corps accepts TXDOT's invitation to join as a cooperating agency for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement, with an appropriate level of Corps response commensurate to the proposed impacts and 404 permitting requirements.

If a Department of the Army permit is required, the project may be authorized by an individual permit or one or more general permits such as Nationwide Permit 14, Linear Transportation Projects, with a summary available on our website at <http://www.spa.usace.army.mil/reg/nationwides-new/nationwide%20permits.asp>. For work to be authorized by general permit it must comply with the terms and conditions of the permit.

We encourage you to avoid and minimize adverse impacts to streams, wetlands, and other waters of the U.S. in planning this project. Upon receipt of additional information, we may continue our evaluation of your request. Please note that it is unlawful to start work without a Department of the Army permit when one is required.

For future correspondence concerning this action, please contact Richard Gatewood at (575)-556-9939 or by e-mail at [richard.h.gatewood@usace.army.mil](mailto:richard.h.gatewood@usace.army.mil) or at the address on the letter head. At your convenience, please complete a Customer Service Survey on-line available at <http://per2.nwp.usace.army.mil/survey.html>.

Sincerely,

  
for Allan Steinle  
Chief, Regulatory Division

**U.S. Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service**



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
101 South Main Street  
Temple, Texas 76501-7602  
Phone: 254-742-9800 Fax: 254-742-9819

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November 18, 2011

Ms. Margaret Canty  
Project Manager  
West Region Project Delivery Management Section  
Texas Department of Transportation  
125 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

Dear Ms. Canty:

This letter is in response to Mr. Mark Marek's November 3, 2011, invitation to Mr. Thomas Christensen, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Washington, DC, to become a cooperating agency with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in the development of the State Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project.

We accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency with TxDOT on the proposed project described above.

Russell Castro, State Wildlife Biologist, will attend the Agency Scoping Meeting #2, December 7, and the Public Scoping Meeting #2, December 8, in El Paso, Texas. Russell may be reached at 254-742-9982 or [russell.castro@tx.usda.gov](mailto:russell.castro@tx.usda.gov).

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this project.

Sincerely,

For   
SALVADOR SALINAS  
State Conservationist

cc:

Thomas L. Christensen, Regional Conservationist – Central, NRCS, Washington, DC  
Susan Baggett, State Resource Conservationist, NRCS, Temple, TX  
Russell Castro, Wildlife Biologist, NRCS, Temple, TX  
Jesus Heredia, El Paso District, TxDOT, El Paso, TX