The Need
TxDOT recognized the need for transportation improvements in the Border Highway East area in the late 1990s. In 2013, TxDOT completed a report examining various mobility improvements, including extending Loop 375 (Cesar E. Chavez Border Highway). The report, titled the Border Highway East Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study, identified some challenges including:

- Lack of connectivity to Interstate 10 and Loop 375 (Americas Avenue)
- Increasing traffic demands on east-west streets
- At-grade train crossings that cause delay and impede traffic movement
- Anticipated future demand on the existing transportation network associated with increasing trade and freight rail movements

Background
The El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization adopted the PEL as part of its 2015 long-range plan. The PEL presented various scenarios for extending the border highway; however, no definitive alignment was identified for advancement. The PEL also gave suggestions for widening the area’s existing roads.

The Approach
As TxDOT resumes the Border Highway East Study, the agency will build upon its previous studies in the area with a focus on stakeholder collaboration. In the spirit of cooperation, TxDOT sets out on a path to understand the community, its values, and cultures, and find commonalities and solutions in pursuit of a unified vision for the Border Highway East.

Your Participation
Stakeholder input could help shape the future of the study area for generations. TxDOT will leverage the voice of stakeholders to curate highway scenarios that could resolve mobility challenges in the area. As these scenarios develop, the hope is to arrive at a Border Highway East solution that reflects a community-vetted approach to mobility development.

Scope and Size
The Border Highway East could be a 20-mile-long extension of the Cesar E. Chavez Border Highway to Tornillo. It would traverse areas densely populated, rich with farmlands, and home to historically, culturally, and environmentally valuable sites.

Life of a Project
New roadways of this magnitude take years to plan and construct. Before construction can start, several steps must occur, as illustrated below. Completion of a full 20-mile-long Border Highway East is not anticipated for another 40-50 years.
FACT SHEET

Contact
Gus Sanchez, TxDOT Project Manager
Email: BorderHighwayEast@txdot.gov
Voicemail: (844) 243-3325

More Info
Visit txdot.gov and use keyword “Border Highway East Study” or scan the QR code.