TEXAS BORDER SUMMIT

One Texas, One Border

Thursday, April 21, 2016 | Austin, Texas
THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2016 - TXDOT – GREER BUILDING - 125 E. 11TH ST. - AUSTIN, TEXAS

8:00–8:30AM  REGISTRATION

8:30–9:30AM  OVERVIEW OF TEXAS-MEXICO BORDER INITIATIVES

Welcome and Introductions

Overview of Border Commerce Coordinator
  - Secretary of State Carlos H. Cascos

TxDOT Perspective on Texas – Mexico Border Issues
  - Tryon D. Lewis, Chairman, Texas Transportation Commission

9:30–10:15AM  PANEL ONE: TEXAS FREIGHT MOBILITY PLAN – BORDER ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Moderator: Eduardo Campirano, Port Director and CEO, Port of Brownsville
  - Caroline Mays, Director, Freight and International Trade Section, TxDOT
  - Pedro “Pete” Alvarez, Laredo District Engineer, TxDOT
  - Toribio Garza, Pharr District Engineer, TxDOT
  - Robert Bielek, El Paso District Engineer, TxDOT

10:15–11:00AM  PANEL TWO: TEXAS-MEXICO BORDER INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

Moderator: Jesse Hereford, Director of Public Affairs, North American Development Bank
  - David Marquez, Executive Director of Economic Development, Bexar County
  - Ivan Jaime, Director of Public Affairs, Union Pacific Railroad Company
  - Mathew McElroy, Director of International Bridges, City of El Paso

11:00–11:15AM  NETWORKING BREAK
11:15–12:00PM  PANEL THREE: TEXAS BORDER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

**Moderator:** Olivia Varela, Executive Director, Laredo Development Foundation
- Bryan Daniel, Executive Director, Governor’s Office of Economic Development and Tourism
- Anthony Giuliani, Vice President of International Economic Development, Borderplex Alliance
- K. Alan Russell, President and CEO, Tecma Group of Companies

12:00–12:45PM  PANEL FOUR: AN INTEGRATED TEXAS BORDER? WHAT WILL IT TAKE?

**Moderator:** Gerry Schwebel, Executive Vice President, International Bank of Commerce
- Hon. Pete Saenz, Mayor City of Laredo
- Hon. Robert Garza, Mayor City of Del Rio
- Hon. Ramsey English Cantu, Mayor City of Eagle Pass

12:45–1:30PM  WORKING LUNCH

**Keynote Speaker:** Christopher Wilson, Deputy Director, Mexico Institute at Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

Remarks on Texas – Mexico Border Issues
- J. Bruce Bugg, Jr., Texas Transportation Commission

Wrap up of border summit – Secretary of State, Carlos H. Cascos

1:30–3:30PM  BORDER TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

**Secretary of State, Carlos H. Cascos, Chair**
- Call to order
- Welcome and introductions
- Approval of minutes from July 16, 2014 meeting (Action item)
- Discuss committee membership, charge and framework, meetings and expectations
- Discuss draft outline of proposed Texas – Mexico Border Strategic Transportation Initiatives

3:30PM  ADJOURN

Next Meeting – June 30, 2016, Dallas, Texas
**Moderator: Eduardo A. Campirano**

**Port Director and CEO, Port of Brownsville**

Eduardo A. Campirano was named port director and CEO in May 2007, and is responsible for the operations of the only U.S. deep water seaport located directly on the U.S./Mexico border. Under Mr. Campirano’s leadership, the Port of Brownsville has improved its financial position by increasing its cash reserves while reducing property taxes, undertaken major road and infrastructure improvements, and has attracted port-related investments through public and private sector partnerships. Mr. Campirano serves on the board of directors of the Rio South Texas Economic Council, and is a past member of the Brownsville Economic Development Council. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in government from Pan American University-Brownsville, now The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

**Caroline Mays**

**Director, Freight and International Trade Section, TxDOT**

Ms. Mays is the Director of Freight and International Trade Section for the Texas Department of Transportation where she is charged with developing and managing TxDOT’s multimodal Freight Planning Program and border initiatives. She oversees the Texas Freight Advisory Committee, the Border Trade Advisory Committee and the agency’s first multimodal Statewide Freight Mobility Plan. Ms. Mays is a member of the American Planning Association and the American Institute of Certified Planners. She chairs the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Agriculture Transportation Committee and is a member of the Intermodal Freight Committee. She received her Bachelor’s from the University of Waterloo, Canada and a Master of Science degree in Planning from the University of Toronto, Canada.

**Pedro “Pete” Alvarez**

**Laredo District Engineer, TxDOT**

Mr. Pete Alvarez is the District Engineer for the Laredo District. He began his career with the department full time in 1995 as an engineering assistant at the Pharr District. From June 2007 to August 2013, Alvarez served as the Director of maintenance. In 2008 and 2010, he was responsible for the district command center operations for Hurricanes Dolly and Alex. In 2013 he became the deputy district engineer for the Pharr District. Mr. Alvarez earned a Bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from the University of Texas at Austin in 1994 and received his professional engineer’s license in 1999.
Toribio Garza Jr., P.E.
Pharr District Engineer, TxDOT
Toribio Garza Jr. is the Texas Department of Transportation District Engineer for the Pharr District. He studied at Sam Houston State University and then the University of Texas-Austin where he graduated with an engineering degree in 1986. He has served as project engineer on major projects in the region. From 2013 to present as the District Engineer of the Pharr District, Garza has managed many transportation projects and issues at the Texas-Mexico border that greatly impact our state.

Robert Bielek, DPA, P.E.
El Paso District Engineer, TxDOT
Robert (Bob) Bielek has served as El Paso District Engineer for the Texas Department of Transportation since 2012. He has 46 years of experience in the planning, design and construction of transportation facilities, including highways, airports and mass transit. As City Engineer for the Houston Airport System, Bob managed over 25 projects with a constructed value of approximately $600 million. Bob holds BS and MS degrees in Civil Engineering and a doctorate in Public Administration. He also holds a certificate from the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying. Bob is also a licensed pilot.

Moderator: Jesse Hereford
Director of Public Affairs, North American Development Bank (NADB)
Mr. Jesse Hereford is Director of Public Affairs for North American Development Bank. Previously, he served as the Director of Government Relations and Business Development for S&B Infrastructure. Prior to joining S&B, Jesse worked on two separate occasions for U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas in both her state and Washington, D.C. offices. In his last post for the Senator, Jesse was the director of state outreach and the San Antonio regional director. Jesse holds a Master of International Business Administration from the University of San Diego and a Master of Public Administration and a Bachelor of Arts from American University.
David E. Marquez  
**Executive Director of Economic Development, Bexar County**

David Marquez serves as the Executive Director of Economic Development for Bexar County. He directs the County’s efforts to develop and improve the local economy. Since 2000, Mr. Marquez has also been the County’s manager for the negotiation, construction and on-going operations of the AT&T Center, home to the NBA Champion San Antonio Spurs, and to the annual San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo. Since 1999 he has served as a professor for the University of Incarnate Word teaching business courses in management, strategic planning and analysis.

Ivan Jaime  
**Director of Public Affairs, Union Pacific Railroad Company**

Ivan Jaime was named Director – Public Affairs in 2015. In this role, Jaime implements Union Pacific’s strategy and policy for state government affairs, community relations, public-private partnerships, and philanthropic programs in Texas and New Mexico. Ivan also served as the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee Chairman, as Vice President of the San Antonio chapter of the Union Pacific Latino Employee Network (LEN), and as Fund Development Chairman of the Texas Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). He is a member of the El Paso Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Mr. Jaime holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration from the University of Texas at Austin.

Mathew McElroy  
**Director of International Bridges, City of El Paso**

Mathew McElroy, AICP, CNU-A, is the Director of International Bridges for the City of El Paso where he oversees the City’s three Ports of Entry. He works extensively with US Customs and Border Patrol, Mexican Customs, and a myriad of other state and federal agencies in the US and Mexico. He was formerly Director of the City Development Department for the City of El Paso, where he oversaw the Planning, Development Services and Economic Development divisions. Prior to joining the City of El Paso, he served as the Associate Director of the Institute for Policy and Economic Development (IPED) at the University of Texas at El Paso. Mr. McElroy holds a BA in English and American Literature and Master’s degrees in Public Administration (2000) and Economics (2008) from the University of Texas at El Paso.
Moderator: Olivia Varela
Executive Director, Laredo Development Foundation

Olivia Varela has served the Laredo Development Foundation as Executive Director since April 2013. She began with the City of San Antonio’s Department of Economic and Employment Development and has over 14 years of experience in the trade industry. Ms. Varela managed the administration of a private-sector international packaging manufacturer for a number of years before moving into sales and marketing servicing the Maquila industry in the southern-Texas/northern Mexico region. Olivia received her BA in psychology from the University of Texas at Austin, and attended the Public Administration Master’s Program at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Bryan Daniel
Executive Director, Governor’s Office of Economic Development and Tourism

Mr. Bryan Daniel was appointed to lead the Governor’s Office of Economic Development and Tourism (EDT) in January 2015. One of his primary functions is to promote the State of Texas as a leading global business climate and premier travel destination. As Executive Director, Daniel provides leadership to the Commission for Women, Office of Aerospace, Aviation, and Defense, Texas Military Preparedness Commission, Texas Small Business Advocacy, Texas Workforce Investment Council, Texas Music Office, and the Texas Film Commission.

Daniel joined Governor Abbott’s administration after serving as the Senior Administrator for Trade and Business Development at the Texas Department of Agriculture. He previously served as the Texas State Director of Rural Development in President George W. Bush’s administration. He holds both a master’s degree and bachelor’s degree from Texas Tech.

Anthony Giuliani
Vice President of International Economic Development, Borderplex Alliance

Mr. Anthony Giuliani is currently serving as vice president of international economic development at Borderplex Alliance where he is responsible for all international initiatives which includes founding a World Affairs Council, creating sister cities, developing an honorary consul corps and managing the World Trade Center El Paso/Juarez office. He also serves as Treasurer for an InfraGard chapter.

Mr. Giuliani founded an internet start-up by partnering with an innovative venture incubation group. He also worked assisting companies with business plans and intellectual property rights for their applications to the Emerging Technology Fund in Texas. He received his Juris Doctorate from Florida Coastal School of Law in 2007. He is licensed to practice law in Florida and the Western District Court of Texas.
K. Alan Russell  
**President and CEO, Tecma Group of Companies**

The Tecma Group of Companies provides shelter, manufacturing support, and consulting services throughout Mexico for foreign companies across the world. Alan co-founded the company in 1986 and is now President and CEO. Over the past 26 years, Alan has grown the company to more than 4,000 employees in 19 industrial facilities, competing directly with the China low-cost manufacturing alternative for North America.

Alan was recently appointed Chairman of one of Mexico’s major Industrial Development Committees; he serves as the first American to hold this position. He is also member of the Southwest Maquila Association; member of the University of Texas at El Paso 2014 Centennial Commission; member and major investor in the El Paso Chamber of Commerce and member of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. In recognition of his leadership in promoting aviation, Alan was inducted into the El Paso Aviation Hall of Fame. In 2010 Alan was given the Distinguished Alumni Award for his Alma Mater, Southeastern Oklahoma University.

Moderator: Gerald (Gerry) Schwebel  
**Executive Vice President, Corporate International Division, International Bank of Commerce**

In his position Mr. Schwebel offers special expertise in international trade finance, industrial/economic development and transportation.

Widely regarded as one of America’s leading experts on international trade and finance, he frequently represents IBC and its customers in consultation with top government and business leaders in the United States, Mexico and Canada. He has been called upon numerous occasions to testify before Congress on issues of U.S.-Mexico trade, including the North America Free Trade Agreement—NAFTA; U.S.-Mexico Transportation and Logistics issues; issues related to International Finance and most recently on U.S. Immigration Reform issues. Mr. Schwebel earned his undergraduate degree at Texas A&I University of Laredo (now Texas A&M International University). He has done graduate work in the fields of International Trade and Banking at the Stonier Graduate School of Banking at the University of Delaware.

Honorable Pete Saenz  
**Mayor – City of Laredo**

Mr. Saenz was elected for 12 years to the LCC Board; four of which he served as Board President. He was instrumental in the planning and construction of the LCC South Campus. Saenz has built a highly successful and distinguished law practice. He also worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a Range Conservationist. Pete has served on numerous community boards and advisory committees, including president of the South Texas Food Bank and president of the Laredo Affordable Housing Corporation.

Saenz is a third-generation son of Laredo. He graduated from St. Joseph’s Academy and earned a Bachelor and Master’s degrees in Animal Science and Range Management from Texas A&I University. He also earned a law degree from St. Mary’s University School of Law.
Honorable Robert Garza  
**Mayor – City of Del Rio**  
Mayor Robert Garza was elected Mayor of Del Rio on June 21, 2014. He has earned a reputation for his commitment to economic development, financial stewardship and community-based programs to address quality-of-life issues, education and public safety. In 1996 Garza was elected to the Del Rio City Council, as Councilman-at-Large Place B, and went on to serve the community as a city councilman until 2004. Mayor Garza established his Law Practice in 1981. He also served as Del Rio’s City Attorney from 1982-1987. He earned his Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Texas at Austin in 1978. He earned his Juris Doctor Degree with Distinction from St. Mary’s University School of Law in San Antonio in 1981.

Honorable Ramsey English Cantu  
**Mayor – City of Eagle Pass**  
Since his election to the Mayor’s seat in 2010, Mayor Cantu has worked tirelessly to assure that the needs of the Eagle Pass community are met. Under his leadership, the city has been able to repave, reconstruct and or provide maintenance to over 80 miles of streets in the incorporated city limits.

Currently Mayor Cantu is leading the charge to build a new Public Safety Complex that will house the new Eagle Pass Police and Fire Departments. This project will benefit and enhance the public safety of our community and meet the needs of our growing city at an estimated cost of $6.3 million.

Mayor Ramsey English Cantu, a life-long resident of Eagle Pass was elected to the Eagle Pass City Council on May 13, 2006 at the early age of 22. Mr. Cantu obtained his Bachelor’s Degree in Organizational Leadership with a Minor in Criminal Justice in 2015 and is currently pursuing his Master’s degree in Public Administration.

**LUNCH KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
Christopher Wilson  
**Deputy Director, Mexico Institute at Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars**  
Christopher Wilson is Deputy Director of the Mexico Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, where he leads the Institute’s research and programming on regional economic integration and U.S.-Mexico border affairs. He is the author of Working Together: Economic Ties between the United States and Mexico (Wilson Center, 2011) and coauthor of the State of the Border Report (Wilson Center, 2013). Chris has testified before the United States Congress and is regularly consulted by national and international media outlets regarding U.S.-Mexico relations.

Mr. Wilson has written opinion columns for the Wall Street Journal, Politico, CNN, and Reuters, among others. Chris previously worked as a contractor doing analysis on Mexico for the U.S. military and as a researcher at American University’s Center for North American Studies. In Mexico, he worked with the international trade consultancy IQOM, Inteligencia Comercial, and with American students studying regional political and social issues. He completed his M.A. in International Affairs at American University, focusing on U.S. foreign policy and hemispheric relations.