TEXAS-MEXICO BORDER STRATEGIC TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVES PLAN

Border Trade Advisory Committee
Texas Border Strategic Transportation Blueprint Outline

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- Blueprint Goals
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Introduction

What is the Texas Border Strategic Transportation Blueprint?

Framework for addressing Texas-Mexico border trade gateways and trade corridor needs.

What is the Guiding Principle of the Blueprint’s vision?

To facilitate and promote cross-border trade and economic development in the border region, Texas, and the nation.
Blueprint Goals

Enhance Texas' Economic Prosperity

- Achieve a comprehensive and unified vision for the Texas border
- Increase public awareness and education
- Improve connectivity within the Texas border regions and with the rest of the state and nation
- Enhance binational communication, coordination, collaboration, and cooperation
- Improve the operation, efficiency, and capacity of Texas' trade gateways and corridors
Preliminary list of key recommendations based on input from Secretary of State:

- Establish a Texas-Mexico Gateways and Trade Corridors Task Force
- Develop a Texas Border Trade Gateways and Corridors Program
- Develop a Public Awareness and Education Program
- Implement Technology and Innovative Binational Border Strategies
- Foster Private Sector Involvement
**Establish a Texas-Mexico Gateways and Trade Corridors Task Force**

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<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Expected Outcomes</th>
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| Mexico is Texas’s largest trading partner and there is no binational forum to address issues specific to Texas-Mexico trade gateways and corridors or to prioritize opportunities. | ▪ Promote regional cooperation, integration, and partnerships.  
▪ Provide a forum for binational communication, coordination, and collaboration.  
▪ Assess binational needs and outline strategies.  
▪ Facilitate binational data collection, sharing, and analysis.  
▪ Develop a binational action plan.  
▪ Facilitate communication among border transportation planning agencies.  
▪ Provide a forum for transportation and economic development. | ▪ Improved collaboration and coordination.  
▪ Forum for binational coordination.  
▪ Increased information sharing.  
▪ Strengthened communication and consensus building.  
▪ Advice to the Texas Secretary of State and TxDOT.  
▪ Identify needed studies on specific Texas-Mexico border issues. |
### Key Recommendations

#### Develop a Texas Border Trade Gateways and Corridors Program

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| A program to address needs and develop investment strategies for the Texas-Mexico trade gateways and transportation corridors is needed. | - Enhance economic prosperity.  
- Identify strategic needs and investments.  
- Improve connections to Texas’s trade gateways and between Texas border regions and the state/nation.  
- Outline comprehensive program for addressing needs and investments. | - Comprehensive evaluation of current investments and projects under development.  
- List of system gaps and needs.  
- Region-wide criteria for analysis, prioritization, and development of improvements.  
- Identify available funding. |
## Key Recommendations

### Develop a Public Awareness and Education Program

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| General lack of awareness and understanding of border issues and the border region’s contributions to the state’s and nation’s economies. | ■ Communicate national economic benefits of the Texas-Mexico border.  
■ Communicate importance of trade with Mexico to the Texas economy.  
■ Outline challenges and potential strategies.  
■ Communicate criticality of connections to border crossings.  
■ Communicate need for funding for border region. | ■ Program that tells Texas-Mexico border story using:  
• Fact sheets  
• Project web pages  
• Workshops  
• Advisory committees  
• Electronic updates  
• Project newsletters  
• Social media |
## Key Recommendations

### Implement Technology and Innovative Binational Border Strategies

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| Current border crossing processes are inefficient, generating long and unreliable border wait and crossing times. | ■ Reduce cost of transportation and trade, as well as alleviate impacts on local communities.  
■ Initiate dialogue among U.S. and Mexican stakeholders.  
■ Advocate for pilot projects.  
■ Facilitate sharing of real-time data for binational traffic management.  
■ Identify public-private partnership opportunities. | ■ Expected outcomes specific to technology or innovative binational border strategy.  
■ Examples:  
• Secure Origins - Border crossing times reduced, on average, by 54 minutes.  
• Joint inspections – Average wait time of 24 minutes (down from 3.4 to 8.0 hours). Company overall cost savings exceed $700,000. |
### Key Recommendations

#### Foster Private Sector Involvement

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| Engaging the private sector in the funding, planning, prioritizing, and implementation of trade-related infrastructure and operational improvements, which are vital to foster Texas’s international trade | ■ Identify opportunities to reduce, share, or mitigate risks for private sector investors  
■ Leverage public funding with private-sector investment at border crossings and along key corridors  
■ Expand participation in CBP’s Federal Donation and Reimbursement Programs.  
■ Identify feasibility for the creation of a North American border infrastructure bank. | ■ Expedited development of freight transportation infrastructure.  
■ More stable and sustainable P3 borrowing environment.  
■ Increased private-sector interest in funding border projects  
■ Innovative funding for border infrastructure projects. |
Additional Recommendations

- Other important recommendations to add?
## Recommendation Champions

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<th>Recommendation</th>
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