

May 20, 2022

TO: Mr. Jaime Chamberlain, Chairman

FROM: Luis Ramirez, President, Ramirez Advisors Inter-National

SUBJECT: Monthly Report of Activities – April 2022

On behalf of Ramirez Advisors Inter-National, LLC (“RAI-N”) we are pleased to present our monthly activity report to you and the Board of Directors of the Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority. As always, we request and welcome your continued comments and suggestions as to how we can improve on our services, our communications and on our activities on your behalf. With your feedback, we will make every effort to improve our response to your directives and ensure an effective implementation of the initiatives at hand.

Our recent activities on behalf of the GNSCCPA have focused on the following key areas:

1. Mariposa Cold Room Project Update;
2. ASU Cronkite School Visits Nogales;
3. NADBank Roundtable Hosted by Arizona-Mexico Commission;
4. State Transportation Board holds Meeting in Nogales;
5. Port Authority Provides border crossing update to Office of Senator Sinema;
6. Safety Inspection Facilities discussion hosted by ADOT and DPS with FMCSA;
7. ADOT and SIDUR Launch Update to Arizona-Sonora Border Infrastructure Master Plan;
8. USDOT and SICT Host US-Mexico Joint Working Committee on Transportation meeting;
9. Updates on IOI projects;
10. Port Authority Hosts Valley Leadership; and
11. DHS releases Plan for Southwest Border Security and Preparedness.

This report is not intended to be a full description of all activities but rather, provides highlights and information on the direction of our activities to keep the Board of Directors informed and to ensure adherence to the vision and guidance imparted to RAI-N by the GNSCCPA and its leadership. Throughout this period, RAI-N has maintained active and frequent communications with Ms. Allison Moore, Mr. Bruce Bracker and various other members of the Board of Directors in order to ensure that we have a fully coordinated approach to our efforts. RAI-N stands ready to address any issue, concern or suggestion that may arise from this report and from our on-going dialogue with the leadership and the Board of Directors.

1. MARIPOSA COLD ROOM PROJECT UPDATE

- Port Authority has signed the 5-Year Licensing Agreement (single year with 4 automatic yearly renewals) with the General Services Administration. Awaiting the GSA signature so that project can move forward.
- Port Authority architect has submitted 90% design to GSA for technical review.
 - Architect is in contact with vendors to estimate fulfillment estimates.

2. ASU CRONKITE SCHOOL VISITS NOGALES



▪ On April 12, 2022, the Arizona State University (ASU) Cronkite School once again brought a delegation of students for a visit to Nogales.

▪ The student group represented 14 different countries, and the interaction with Port Authority leadership helps them take back a realistic message of what Nogales and the border has to offer.

▪ Joining Chairman Chamberlain in the discussion were:

- Supervisor Bruce Bracker
- Guillermo Valencia from the Nogales Customs Brokers Association
- Olivia Ainza Kramer from the Nogales Chamber of Commerce

▪ The student group also visited the Arizona Department of Transportation at the Mariposa

Port of Entry to see trade and tourism in action.

- Special thanks to Lt. Joe DoPadre for providing a tour of the facilities to the student group.
- The student group posted a special thank-you note to the Port Authority (see picture).

3. NADBANK ROUNDTABLE HOSTED BY THE ARIZONA-MEXICO COMMISSION



- On April 14, 2022, the Arizona-Mexico Commission hosted a roundtable discussion the leadership of the NorthAmerican Development Bank in Tucson.
- During the discussion, Calixto Mateos-Hanel, Director General, provided an overview of NADBank activities on the border, with over \$200 million worth of projects on the Arizona border alone.
- Aside from the legacy projects on water, wastewater and garbage disposal, the

bank has expanded its mandate to include a broad spectrum of projects with an environmental component to them, with particular focus on renewable energy, electric vehicles, and green industrial development among them.

- The Bank is looking forward to working with Nogales leadership from both the public and private sector in identifying possible projects for their involvement.

▪ Joining Chairman Chamberlain in representing Nogales were:

- The Honorable Bruce Bracker, Supervisor, Santa Cruz County
- Olivia Ainza Kramer, Nogales Chamber of Commerce
- Greg Lucero, South32 and Santa Cruz County



Mining Cluster

4. STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD HOLDS MEETING IN NOGALES



- On April 15, 2022, the Arizona Transportation Board held its monthly meeting in Nogales.
- On April 14, 2022, the Port Authority hosted a dinner with the members of the Board and the leadership of the Arizona Department of Transportation, offering members of the board the opportunity to engage with the Board in an informal setting.
- During the official meeting Chairman Chamberlain testified during Call to the Public.
- Chairman Chamberlain’s testimony focused on the need to modernize the I-19 Interchanges at Ruby Road and Rio Rico

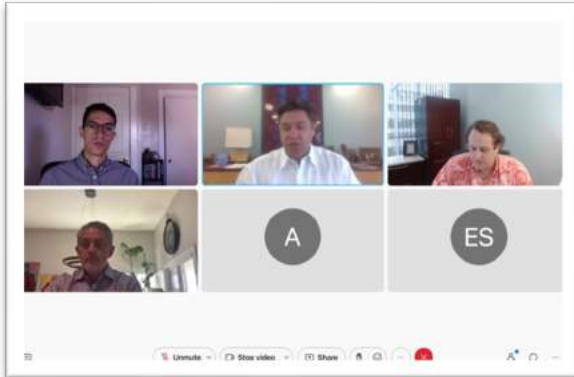
Drive. That these interchanges are an integral part of a broader transportation system that is connected to international trade.

- Joining Chairman Chamberlain in testifying were:
 - The Honorable Bruce Bracker
 - Allison Moore, Fresh Produce Association of the Americas
 - Guillermo Valencia
- The Port Authority continues to request the inclusion of the improvements to the aforementioned interchanges in the ADOT 5-Year plan.
- A copy of his testimony is provided in Attachment #1.

5. PORT AUTHORITY PROVIDES BORDER CROSSING UPDATE TO THE OFFICE OF SENATOR SINEMA



- On April 20, 2022, Chairman Chamberlain and other representatives of the Port Authority provided an update of border crossing conditions to the Office of Senator Krysten Sinema.



- The discussion included the conditions at ports of entry, the need to invest in infrastructure, the need to update the port of entry staffing model, deployment of new technology and the long-term goal of converting the Mariposa Port of Entry to a 24-hour, full-service port.
- Additionally, the Port Authority expressed its concern that with the lifting of Title 42, there may be the need

to pull resources out of the ports of entry to support asylum processing, and that the necessary resources should be allocated to the border to ensure that there are no disruptions to port operations.

6. SAFETY INSPECTION FACILITIES DISCUSSION HOSTED BY ADOT AND DPS WITH FMCSA



- On April 15, 2022, ADOT and the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) hosted a meeting with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) at the ADOT compound at the Mariposa port of entry.
- The meeting was focused on proposed changes to the safety inspection facilities requested by FMCSA to better accommodate the motor-coach safety inspection process.
- FMCSA is concerned that the current

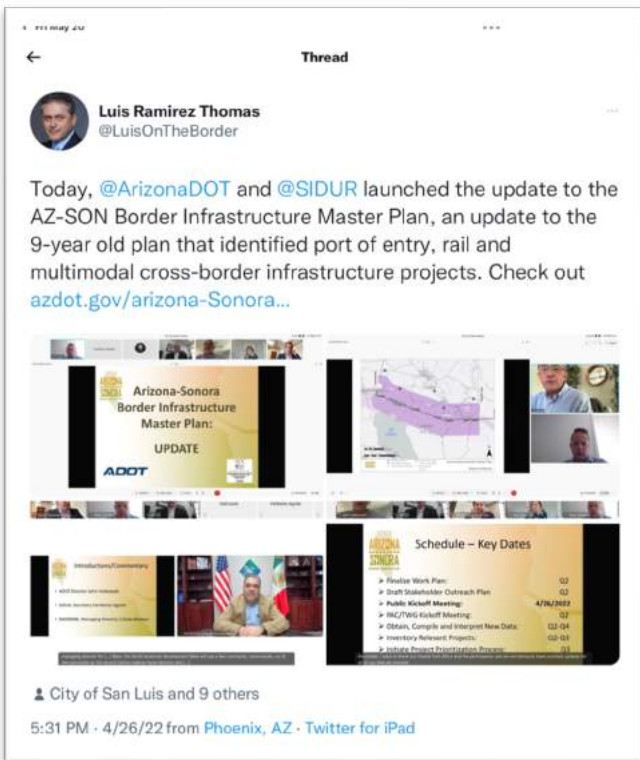
facilities do not offer a user-friendly environment for the off-loading/loading and waiting for bus passengers while they conduct a motor-coach safety inspection.



appreciative of the support and open discourse offered by the members of the Port Authority.

- During the meeting, there was discussion over the possible expansion of the Border Liaison Unit certification program to motor-coach drivers.
- Members of the Port Authority were invited to participate in a roundtable discussion.
- During the meeting the Port Authority addressed concerns over possible changes that could impact the efficient flow of trucks.
- The enforcement agencies were

7. ADOT AND SIDUR LAUNCH UPDATE OF ARIZONA-SONORA BORDER INFRASTRUCTURE MASTER PLAN

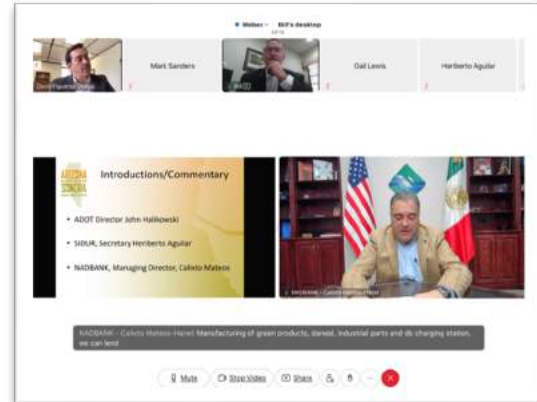
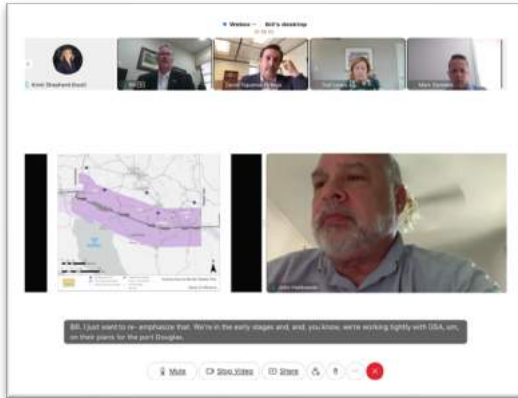


- On April 26, 2022, ADOT, along with its Sonoran counterpart, the Department of Infrastructure and Urban Development (SIDUR), hosted a virtual meeting to launch the update of the Arizona-Sonora Border Infrastructure Master Plan (BIMP).
- During the meeting, Director John Halikowski of ADOT, indicated that this is a high priority for the department and the binational coordination on infrastructure is essential for the long-term growth of the region.
- The BIMP is intended to be an all-inclusive list of infrastructure projects on the Arizona-Sonora border, including ports of entry highways, rail, and other

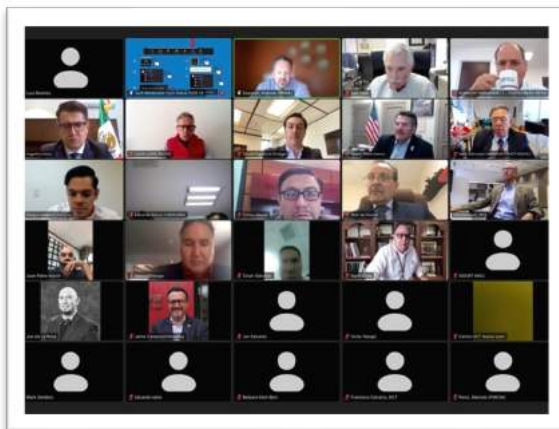
multimodal project.

- The US Federal government has indicated that border crossing projects need to be included in BIMPs for them to be considered,
- The last BIMP for the region dates back to 2013.

- Joining ADOT during the presentation was Calixto Mateos-Anel, Director General of NADBank.
- A new web page has been created that is embedded in the ADOT website at a dot.gov. The website will offer the ability for participants to provide input to the project team on border or related projects that they want to be considered.
- This is an 18-month process so there will be plenty of opportunity for public input into the process.



8. USDOT AND SICT HOST US-MEXICO JOINT WORKING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION MEETING



- On April 27, 2022, the US Department of Transportation and its Mexican counterpart, the Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications and Transport (SICT), hosted a meeting of the US-Mexico Joint Working Group on Transportation.
- During the meeting, Mark Sanders of ADOT and Luis Ramirez provided an update on programs and projects on the Arizona-Mexico border, including the recent funding by the Administration for the Feasibility Study for the modernization of the DeConcini Port of Entry at Nogales.
- This an opportunity for both countries to coordinate projects that cross the border.

9. UPDATES ON IOI PROJECTS

- On April 27, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) confirmed that they have submitted an \$11.8 million funding request to fund the maintenance and operation fo the International Outfall Interceptor.



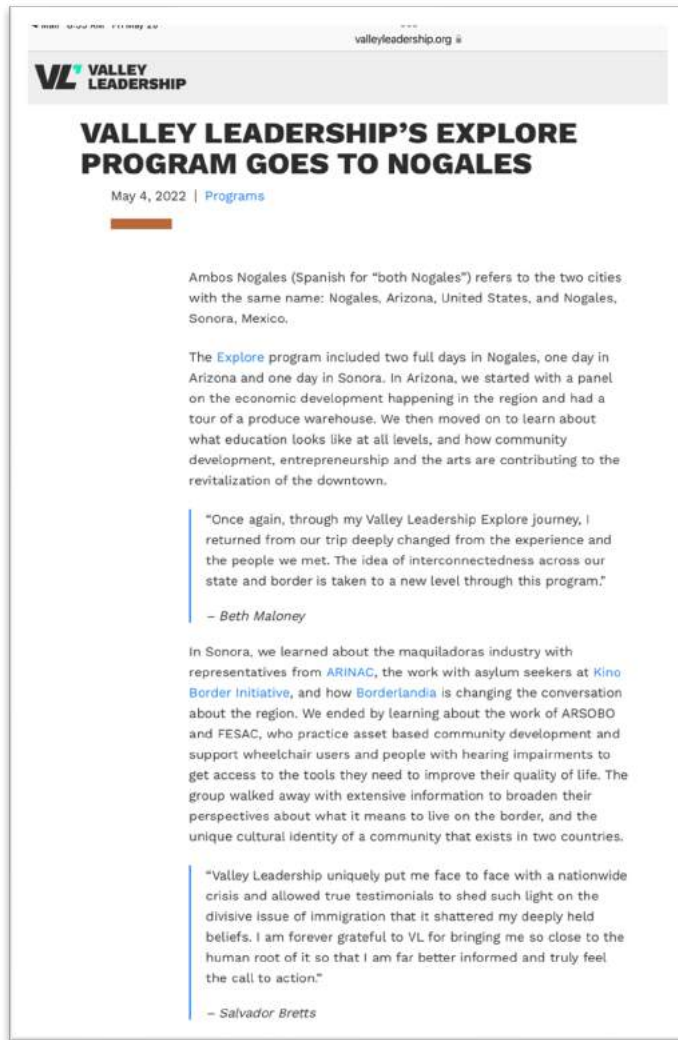
- This funding would be added to the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) budget.
- This was discussed during the April meeting of the Port Authority’s Board of Directors, which included the participation of various representatives from our Congressional Offices.
- This effort has been coordinated with the IBWC leadership.
- Additionally, the IBWC announced that they have issued the Request for Proposals for Phases 4 and 5 of the IOI Rehabilitation Project.
- This proejct continues to move forward and the Port Authority has been asked to assist

ADEQ sand the IBWC in securing the necessary permits from Union Pacific Railroad as the project is adjacent to railroad right of way.

- The Port Authority is coordinating this outreach with ADEQ.

10. PORT AUTHORITY HOSTS VALLEY LEADERSHIP

- On April 29, 2022, the Port Authority hosted a delegation from the Phoenix-based Valley Leadership (valleyleadership.org).
- Valley Leadership is a very influential non-profit that works to impact issues affecting Arizona.



- Thought their “Explore Program” they arrange visits throughout Arizona, including the border region.
- During this trip, they toured Ambos Nogales and visited with leaders from the public and private sector, including non-profit organizations to directly hear the issues that are affecting the binational region, from trade and tourism to immigration and security.
- According to a press release from Valley Leadership regarding the visit to Nogales, “...We started with a panel on the economic development happening in the region and had a tour of a produce warehouse. We then moved on to learn about what education looks like at all levels, and how community development, entrepreneurship and the arts are contributing to the revitalization of downtown.”

11. ***DHS RELEASES PLAN FOR SOUTHWEST PLAN FOR SECURITY AND PREPAREDNESS***

- On April 26, 2022, the US Department of Homeland Security released the ***Southwest Plan for Security and Preparedness***.
- This 6-pronged plan provides a roadmap for how the Department is addressing the current situation at ports of entry and the border.
- A copy of the full report can be found at <https://www.dhs.gov/publication/dhs-plan-southwest-border-security-and-preparedness>
- As reported via email to the Board on April 27, 2022:

Jaime,

Thanks to the Arizona Border Counties Coalition, we have received a copy of a memorandum from the Secretary of Homeland Security regarding the “Whole of Government” response to the ending of Title 42. It provides a lot

of detail on a number of new and ongoing initiatives. Allow me to highlight a couple of areas:

“In order to safeguard public health and the safety of our workforce, noncitizens, and border communities, our efforts also include medical support and COVID-19 mitigation protocols, including testing and administering age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccines in 24 CBP sites by May 23, building on our existing vaccination program for those in Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody.”

“Our goal is to help communities alleviate the pressures they experience by expanding NGO capacity, through communication and coordination with all relevant partners, and other assistance such as the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP), a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant program that supplements and expands ongoing work of local NGOs to meet the needs of local agencies”

This could be a topic for discussion during the upcoming Port Authority Board meeting.

Respectfully,
Luis Ramirez

Attachment #1

Chamberlain Testimony Before Transportation Board

Testimony
State Transportation Board Meeting

Presented by:
Jaime Chamberlain, Chairman
Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority

April 15, 2022

Chairman Thompson and Members of the Board, welcome to Nogales.

My name is Jaime Chamberlain, and I am here as Chairman of the Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority.

I know that last night we had the opportunity to interact with you and the ADOT leadership but I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to thank you Mr. Chairman, and board members Maxwell and Stratton, for joining us during the ribbon cutting ceremony marking the completion of the SR-189 project. A tremendous project! And we congratulate Director Halikowski and his team for delivering a truly impactful, state of the art project that will impact our community and the Arizona-Mexico corridor for generations to come.

I believe that by now you understand the importance of Nogales as a gateway for trade, tourism and investment. And while SR-189 is a real keystone project, it is part of a broader transportation system in the Nogales area.

As many as 2,000 trucks per day cross into Arizona from Mexico to deliver fresh produce and manufactured products destined for locations all over North America and beyond. But the vast majority of these trucks cross and deliver their products to warehouses and distribution centers in Nogales and the Rio Rico area. These products are in turn picked up by US carriers and transported to their final destination all over North America and beyond.

That is why I stand before you today to stress the importance of modernizing the I-19 interchanges at Ruby Road and Rio Rico Drive. Not only is it the trucks that originate from Mexico that use these interchanges but we also have thousands of trucks that come from all over the US to pick up loads at the warehouses, and once loaded, they turn around and leave Nogales and head north on I-19. By some estimates, for every truck that comes in from Mexico, as many as 2 or 3 come in to pick up loads.

The situation at these interchanges is further complicated with the growth in local, non-commercial traffic as these are areas of fast population growth in our community.

I know that some will say that we just got SR-189 done and you are now asking for more. But the reality is that we have always presented the challenges in our transportation network and not single projects.

While the DCR of these interchanges was completed in 2018 and showed an initial project cost of \$26 million, we are now estimating that these improvements are more in the range of \$35 million. Again, these are projects that will not only address congestion and safety but also have tremendous economic development and social welfare impacts for our community.

I thank you for making the time to visit us in Nogales. I would be happy to address any questions you may have