

July 23, 2019

**TO:** MR. GUILLERMO VALENCIA, CHAIRMAN, GNSCCPA

**FROM:** Luis E. Ramírez Thomas, President, RAI-N

**SUBJECT:** June Activity Report

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On behalf of Ramirez Advisors Inter-National, LLC (“RAI-N”) allow me to present our activity report to you and the Board of Directors of the Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority (“GNSCCPA”). Before outlining the issues and efforts we have addressed on your behalf to date, 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 needs and learn to better anticipate your directives.

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

1. **Donation Acceptance Program Update;**
2. **AMC Summer 2019 Summit;**
3. **US-Mexico Mini Binational meeting;**
4. **Nogales Wastewater Fairness Act Introduced in House;**
5. **IBWC Southeast Citizens Forum in Nogales;**
6. **AUDUBON Report on Impacts of Santa Cruz River for Arizona;**
7. **GSA to conduct EIS for new FMCSA Facilities;**
8. **Congressional Letter on Seasonality;**
9. **Letter Supporting Supplemental Funding for CBP Operations;**
10. **Governors of Arizona and Sonora sign joint letter supporting USMCA;**
11. **Mexican Senate ratifies T-MEC;**
12. **Border Counties Coalition Sends letter in support of USCMA Ratification;**
13. **Representation of GNSCCPA with Key Entities.**

This report is not intended to be a full description of all our 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. DONATION ACCEPTANCE PROGRAM UPDATE**

- Dialogue between the GNSCCPA Technical Team and Customs and Border Protection and the General Services Administration continue with bi-weekly conference calls.
  - A proposal has been selected and it is being presented and discussed with federal stakeholder agencies.

**2. AMC SUMMER SUMMIT 2019**

- On June 26-28, 2019, the Arizona-Mexico Commission hosted its annual Summer Summit which brought together over 650 business leaders and government officials from Arizona and Mexico to address a number of key trade, infrastructure and related policy issues impacting the Arizona-Mexico relationship.
- The Nogales-Santa Cruz County issues were a topic of discussion in multiple sessions. Among the topics discussed were:
  - Tourism
  - Infrastructure
  - Transportation
  - Environment
  - International Outfall Interceptor
  - Arizona-Mexico Corridor Study
  - Tomato Suspension Agreement
  - Fresh Produce Seasonality
  - DeConcini Port of Entry
  - Mining
  - Securing the Nogales-Guaymas Rail Corridor
  - Cold Rooms at Mariposa
- Among those representing the Nogales-Santa Cruz County community were:
  - The Honorable Arturo Garino, Mayor
  - The Honorable Bruce Bracker, Supervisor
  - The Honorable Jorge Maldonado, Councilman
  - The Honorable Nubar Hanessian, Councilman
  - The Honorable Robert Rojas, Councilman
  - The Honorable Hector Bojorquez, Councilman
  - City Manager Frank Felix
  - Assistant City Manager John Kissinger
  - Deputy City Attorney Michael Masee
  - Chairman Guillermo Valencia
  - Jaime Chamberlain, Fresh Produce Association of the Americas
  - Lance Jungmeyer, Fresh Produce Association of the Americas
  - Allison Moore, Fresh Produce Association of the Americas
  - Georgina Felix, Fresh Produce Association of the Americas

- Greg Lucero, South32
  - Olivia Ainza Kramer, Greater Nogales Chamber of Commerce
  - Consul General of the United States, Virginia Staab
- In a special session, Chairman Bracker and Supervisor Bracker were able to participate in a private discussion with Congresswoman Debbie Lesko and congressman David Schweikert to push for the prioritization of the project to modernize the DeConcini port of entry.
  - During a Panel Discussion moderated by Kirk Adams, Congressmen Schweikert and Stanton, along with Congresswoman Lesko, indicted their support for Arizona’s Top Priority Port of Entry projects, including the Modernization of the DeConcini Port of Entry.
  - Here are some of pictures from the event that demonstrate the involvement and level of participation from those representing the Nogales-Santa Cruz County community.



**3. *US-MEXICO MINI BINATIONAL MEETING***

- Recognizing that the US-Mexico Binational Bridges and Border Crossings meeting has been postponed by the US and Mexican governments, we were able to leverage the presence of several key federal agency representatives

and schedule a Mini Binational Session to focus on Arizona's Ports of Entry, including the need to Modernize the DeConcini Port of Entry.

- Chairman Valencia was able to make a presentation on the current conditions of the port and the impacts it is having on the community, particularly on the downtown merchants.
- During the meeting, Director Lupe Ramirez of the Tucson Field Office of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) stressed that DeConcini is in need of major investments in order to ensure that CBP can fulfil its mission.
- During the meeting, Juan Ciscomani, Senior Advisor to Governor Ducey, stressed that the Governor is supportive of the top priority projects at the ports of entry.
- Director John Halikowski, of the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), indicated that he is prepared to have ADOT advance the assessment process to better understand the infrastructure needs at DeConcini.
- A copy of the Presentation that was used during this session is provided in Attachment #1.
- Here are some pictures from the Mini Binational:



#### ***4. NOGALES WASTEWATER FAIRNESS ACT INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE***

- Congressman Raul Grijalva, in his continued efforts to find long term solutions for the issues surrounding the International Outfall Interceptor (IOI), has once again introduce the Nogales Wastewater Fairness Act.
- The Bill has passed the House which includes an amendment to direct the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) to set aside an additional \$4 million within the IBWC's budget to clarify the responsibility for the maintenance and operation of the IOI. The IBWC has an existing \$21 million to repair the IOI.
- Congressman Grijalva is encouraging the US Senate to take up the bill and pass it.
- A copy of the press release from Congressman Grijalva is provided below.
- Special thanks to Congressman Grijalva for his continued efforts to find a solution to this issue.

Congressman  
**RAÚL M. GRIJALVA**



*Proudly Serving the People of Arizona's 3rd Congressional District*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
 June 18, 2019  
 Press Contact:  
 Geoffrey Nolan – [202-580-5289](tel:202-580-5289)

**Rep. Grijalva Celebrates Passage of Nogales IOI Amendment,  
 Calls on Senate to Act**

**WASHINGTON**— Today, the U.S. House of Representatives passed an amendment by Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva to direct \$4 million within the International Border and Water Commission (IBWC) to clarify the responsibility for the maintenance and operation of the International Outfall Interceptor (IOI) in Southern Arizona. The IOI pipeline is approximately 8.5 miles long and transports wastewater from Nogales, Sonora and Nogales, Arizona to the Nogales International Wastewater Treatment Plant.

“Due to the aging infrastructure and neglected repairs of the IOI, the people of Southern Arizona live under the constant threat of water contamination,” said **Rep. Grijalva**. “By clarifying responsibility with this amendment, the IBWC should finally be able to move forward with the necessary repairs, fix this problem once and for all, and ensure that we have a real solution to protect the public health of the people along the U.S.-Mexico border.”

Under a 1944 water utilization treaty, Mexico can treat water in the United States. The International Border and Water Commission is tasked with managing international infrastructure negotiations and jointly operates the Nogales International Sanitation Project. The IBWC has an existing \$21 million to repair the IOI, and Rep. Grijalva’s amendment directs an additional \$4 million within the International Border and Water Commission to clarify the responsibility for the maintenance and operation of the IOI.

“I’m proud of the stakeholders, advocates, and Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle who have worked on this issue for decades and helped fight to safeguard the public health of Nogales residents,” continued **Rep. Grijalva**. “Now the Senate must act to ensure this funding dedicated to the purpose of clarifying responsibility for the IOI is included in any funding bill they pass.”

In addition to the amendment, Rep. Grijalva introduced the *Nogales Wastewater Fairness Act* to clarify the issue of responsibility of the IOI. U.S. Senator Martha McSally (R-Ariz.) introduced the companion legislation in the U.S. Senate.

[Click here](#) to watch Rep. Grijalva speak on the floor and urge the House to pass his amendment.

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**5. IBWC SOUTHEAST CITIZEN’S FORUM IN NOGALES**

- At the Request of the leadership of Nogales Community Development, the Port Authority issued a letter in support of the funding request by Nogales

Community Development for a grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Notes

**International Boundary and Water Commission  
Southeast Arizona Citizens Forum Meeting**

Thursday, June 20, 2019

**Board Members:**

- John Light, Manager, USIBWC Nogales Area Operations and Citizens Forum Co-Chair
- Ben Lomeli, Board Member, Friends of the Santa Cruz River
- The Honorable Rosanna Gabaldon – Arizona State Representative, Legislative District 2
- Yolanda Soto, Resident, Santa Cruz County
- James Meza, Water Resources Specialist, Arizona State Parks and Trails
- Jacob Petersen-Perlman, Research Analyst, University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center
- Chuck Graf, Tucson Resident
- Barbara Escobar, Pima County, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department, Compliance and Regulatory Affairs Manager
- Mark Taylor, Vice President, Westland Resources, Inc.

**Public Participants:**

- The Honorable Bruce Bracker, Santa Cruz County Supervisor
- Homero Lopez, Santa Cruz county Citizens Council
- Amanda Smith, Sonoran Institute
- Allison Lamb, IBWC
- Ray Sarye, Santa Cruz Office of Emergency Management
- Chris Freimund, US Geological Survey
- Laura Norman, Western Geographic Science Center
- Ray Sayre, Santa Cruz County Office of Emergency Management
- Chris Freimund, United States Geological Survey
- Lorenzo Ortiz, IBWC
- Abohorahd, Resident
- Juan Guerra, City of Nogales
- Jackson Jenkins, Pima County
- Chuck Galloway, Tubac Rotary Club
- Romero López, Citizens Council
- Ruben Reyes, Office of Congressman Grijalva
- Judi Torres, Green Valley Resident
- Francisco Lara, Arizona State University
- Daniel from the US Consulate General in in Nogales, Sonora US

- Stephen Tencza, City of Nogales
- John Hays, Santa Cruz County
- John Kissenger, Assistant City Manager, City of Nogales
- Frank Felix, City Manager, City of Nogales
- Claudia Gil, ADEQ
- Joseph Saavedra, Communications International Consultants LLC
- Reid Penland, Friends of Santa Cruz River
- Daniola Tarbay, US Consulate General in Nogales, Sonora
- Ian Wan, Nextgen Engineering
- Richard Chamberlain, LD2
- Michele Manos, LD2 Dems Chair
- Corinne Ray, Ramirez Advisors

Presentations:

- The Sonoran Institute is conducting a study on the Santa Cruz River with the goal of determining what portions are used most by residents and visitors
- The US Geological Survey has implemented on flood warning systems, rainfall mapping, and adding detention structures to decrease flow and sediment
- Rainfall mapping has been conducted to determine areas at highest risk so that measures can be taken to lessen impact on local communities
- A question from attendees about how the border wall will impact the cross-border flows and why it isn't currently being studied was asked
- IBWC only conducts the studies that are required by law
- The drainage flows underneath the wall
- A Pima County representative suggested using the water as a revenue source for the IOI repairs
- The Board cannot address the suggestion directly per open meeting law

Board Meeting:

- Questions from Board Members were asked about the nature of the water, where it comes from and how it can be used including if the water can be transferred from AMA, if the water can be used as a source of revenue, and if there is a long term water storage unit in Pima County
- The issue of quality tests on the Nogales wash was discussed
- IBWC only tests what they are permitted to test
- Friends of the Santa Cruz River does collect and test and share with ADEQ

Follow up items

- Invite Misael Cabrera, Director, ADEQ to present on the current status of the IOI
- Determine if the water can be sold
- Monitor the Nogales Wastewater Fairness Act

- Hold the next meeting in Nogales

6. ***AUDUBON REPORT ON IMPACTS OF SANTA CRUZ RIVER FOR ARIZONA***

- The Audubon Society released a study on the impacts of Santa Cruz River to the Arizona Economy.
- In the article below, the Audubon Society makes the argument that investing in the much-needed repairs of the IOI are important for the health of the Santa Cruz River.

▪

*International Infrastructure Issues Threaten Arizona's Santa Cruz River*

*Why fixing a nine-mile sewage pipe is crucial for people and birds. (UPDATE 5/28/19) Arizona's 2019-2020 budget included more than \$2.5 billion dollars for the International Outfall Interceptor Project.*

Between southern Arizona in the United States and northern Sonora in Mexico, there is a shared piece of infrastructure failing to do its job. The International Outfall Interceptor (IOI) is a massive pipe that carries wastewater (sewage from Nogales, Sonora in Mexico and Nogales, Arizona in the United States) to a wastewater treatment plant in Rio Rico, Arizona. There, the water is treated, purified, and put back into the Upper Santa Cruz River, which then flows 17 miles in a stretch that would normally run dry without the treated wastewater to sustain it.

The problem is that the nine-mile IOI pipe carrying raw sewage into Arizona for treatment and purification has far exceeded its engineered life and suffers from a backlog of critical maintenance. Pipe breaks are an all-too-regular occurrence, causing raw sewage spills that contaminate the local waterways and threaten the health of the environment and the nearby communities and industries. One event alone during the 2017 monsoon season resulted in the release of approximately 27 million gallons of raw sewage.

Despite these challenges, the purified wastewater is critical for the river, the aquifer, and the habitat the water sustains. The Upper Santa Cruz River is an Important Bird Area. Thanks in large part to the river and its associated riparian habitat, Gray Hawk, Bell's Vireo, and Yellow-billed Cuckoo thrive in this corridor. The flowing river is also a critical component to groundwater recharge in the Santa Cruz Active Management Area (an area whose groundwater use is regulated by the Arizona Department of Water Resources).



The city and surrounding area of Nogales in Sonora supplies more than 90 percent of the wastewater treated in Arizona. To ensure this water continues to flow into the United States and sustains the flow of the Santa Cruz River, the infrastructure must be fixed. Without repair, we will continue to experience contaminated flows or we may risk losing the flow of wastewater from Mexico altogether.

Thankfully, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, among other domestic and international stakeholders, are working to acquire funds to repair the IOI pipe. Repairs are estimated at \$48 million in total, with \$26 million needed to start the first few phases. Numerous public and private organizations have committed to contributing funds necessary to start the project; however, \$2.5 million is still needed. The Arizona Legislature is currently considering House Bill 2448, sponsored by State Senator Frank Pratt, R-8. If enacted, it would appropriate the final \$2.5 million to this project and allow the International Boundary and Water Commission—the binational organization tasked with maintenance of the infrastructure—to begin work immediately.

In order to maintain a healthy and flowing Upper Santa Cruz River, this issue must be addressed. It has plagued the nearby communities for far too long, putting public health and our environment at risk.

Additionally, Santa Cruz County's waterways support a vibrant outdoor recreation economy: **Audubon Arizona recently released a report that found outdoor recreation along water in Santa Cruz County, the smallest county in Arizona, generates \$142 million dollars in economic output and support 1,600 jobs in the state.** Birders, hikers, families, and the local community know that this is a gem in Arizona worth protecting.

**7. GSA TO CONDUCT EIS FOR NEW FMCSA FACILITIES**

- On June 21, 2019, the General Services Administration (GSA) published a new notice in the Federal Register announcing a series of hearing and stakeholder meetings regarding the proposal to build new truck safety inspection facilities for the Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration (FMCSA) at several ports of entry, including Nogales and San Luis, Arizona.
- This proposal stands to dramatically impact the flow of commercial conveyances at Arizona's ports of entry by creating a redundant and inefficient flow of traffic.
- Additionally, there is little space for the construction of new facilities.
- The suggested course of action continues to be the No-Build alternative that encourages colocation with the Arizona Department of Transportation.
- A copy of the new Federal Register notice is provided below.

29206

Federal Register / Vol. 84, No. 120 / Friday, June 21, 2019 / Notices

1800 F Street NW, Washington, DC 20405, telephone 202-501-4755.

Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0026, Change Order Accounting, in all correspondence.

Dated: June 17, 2019.

**Janet Fry,**

*Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division,  
Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy,  
Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of  
Governmentwide Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2019-13176 Filed 6-20-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6820-EP-P**

**GENERAL SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION**

**[Notice-PBS-2019-05; Docket No. 2019-0002; Sequence No. 14]**

**Notice of Intent To Prepare an  
Environmental Impact Statement for  
Land Ports of Entry**

**AGENCY:** Public Buildings Service (PBS),  
General Services Administration (GSA).

**ACTION:** Revised Notice of Intent;  
meeting updates.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and the GSA have partnered to develop a program of projects at a number of Land Ports of Entry (LPOEs) so that FMCSA agents can safely and effectively inspect both commercial truck and bus traffic. GSA intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the potential impacts from the proposed construction of six (6) inspection facilities at five (5) different LPOEs in both California and Arizona. A NOI was published concerning the EIS and scoping meetings on May 23, 2019. The revised Notice of Intent is to notify interested parties that dates for the scoping meetings have changed for the two (2) Arizona Sites. Meetings for the California scoping meetings have not changed.

**DATES:** The views and comments of the public are necessary to help determine the scope and content of the environmental analysis. Interested parties are encouraged to attend and provide written comments regarding the scope of the EIS and the proposed facilities by August 2, 2019.

Updated scoping meetings for the two (2) Arizona sites are listed below:

- San Luis II, AZ, Wednesday, July 17, 2019, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Nogales Mariposa, AZ, Thursday, July 18, 2019, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be conducted in an open house format, where project information will be presented and distributed. Comments

regarding the scope of the EIS and the proposed facilities may be sent to the point of contact listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** section.

The meetings will be held at the following locations:

- *San Luis II, AZ Site*, Holiday Inn Express and Suites Yuma, 2044 S Avenue 3E, Yuma, AZ 85365, (928) 317-1400,
- *Nogales Mariposa, AZ Site*, Holiday Inn Express Nogales, 850 W Shell Road, Nogales, AZ 85621, telephone (520) 281-0123.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

- *Email:* Osmahn Kadri at [osmahn.kadri@gsa.gov](mailto:osmahn.kadri@gsa.gov),
- *Mail:* Attn: Osmahn Kadri, NEPA Program Manager, 50 United Nations Plaza, 3345, Mailbox #9, San Francisco, CA 94102.
- *Telephone:* (415) 522-3617 (Please also call this number if special assistance is needed to attend and participate in the public scoping meetings).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

The FMCSA mission includes ensuring that commercial vehicles entering the United States (U.S.) and travelling on U.S. Highways are operating safely and within current U.S. standards. To achieve this mission and ensure safety on public highways, FMCSA must inspect commercial and bus traffic at points of destination or origin, the U.S.-Mexico Border being a main point of origin.

FMCSA inspectors currently inspect both bus and commercial truck traffic at multiple LPOEs along the U.S.-Mexico Border in both California and Arizona at facilities that were not built for their needs and at sites which do not allow for thorough, safe inspection of vehicles. In April of 2018, FMCSA received funding from the Committees of Congress to develop, design, and construct facilities that will allow them to meet their mission goals safely and effectively.

It has been determined that to achieve this mission, six (6) inspection facilities will be needed at five (5) different LPOEs in both California and Arizona. The two (2) Arizona LPOEs are described below:

- *Nogales Mariposa, AZ* (Commercial Truck Inspection)
- *San Luis II, AZ* (Commercial Truck Inspection)

**Alternatives**

The EIS will consider three Alternatives; a "preferred build alternative" for six (6) facilities at five

(5) locations, a "smaller footprint" build alternative for six (6) facilities at the same five (5) locations, and a "no action" alternative. The alternatives for the Two (2) Arizona locations are described below:

*San Luis II LPOE, AZ*

The proposed truck inspection facility would be located on the northern edge of the LPOE property line. A portion of the site work would be constructed on newly acquired Federal land that will allow access from the site after hours. Site work would require the clearing of the existing site, extension of existing utilities for electrical, sanitary sewer and water, paving of the truck path, and relocating the existing CBP impound lot. Facility construction would include an inspection canopy with pits and an FMCSA administration building. The other build alternative would consist of a smaller facility footprint on the same location.

*Nogales Mariposa LPOE, AZ*

The proposed truck inspection facility would be located on privately owned land, north of the existing LPOE. Site work would require the clearing of the existing site, extension of existing utilities for electrical, sanitary sewer and water, paving of the truck path. Facility construction would include an inspection canopy with pits and a FMCSA administration building. The other build alternative would consist of a smaller facility footprint on the same location.

The "no action" alternative assumes that no new facility would be constructed at any of the sites and the LPOEs and FMCSA operations would continue to operate under current conditions.

Dated: June 18, 2019.

**Jared Bradley,**

*Director, Portfolio Management Division,  
Pacific Rim Region, Public Buildings Service.*

[FR Doc. 2019-13293 Filed 6-20-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6820-YF-P**

**8. CONGRESSIONAL LETTER ON SEASONALITY**

- The Fresh Produce Association of the Americas has continued its strong advocacy efforts to fight against the Florida-driven efforts to have the US Congress adopt Seasonality Provisions that would severely impact the flow of Mexican produce to the US market.

- A second Congressional letter on this issue was sent to US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer on June 14, 2019.
- A copy of the letter is provided in Attachment #2.

**9. *LETTER SUPPORTING SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING FOR CBP OPERATIONS***

- On June 25, 2019, in an effort led by the US Chamber of Commerce, dozens of organizations, including the Port Authority and the Fresh Produce Association of the Americas, signed on to the letter urging the US Congress to provide supplemental funding to Customs and Border Protection in order to ensure the Agency can continue to fulfil its mission.
- As stated in the letter, “This funding is needed to support CBP Officer (CBPO) staffing, overtime, and travel costs related to ongoing redeployment of CBPOs from POEs to address the national emergency situation along the southern border. This funding will ensure that the cross-border commerce critical to our economy is not impeded.”
- A copy of the letter is provided in Attachment #3.

**10. *GOVERNORS OF ARIZONA AND SONORA SIGN JOINT LETTER IN SUPPORT OF USMCA RATIFICATION***

- On June 18, 2019, the Governors of Arizona and Sonora signed a joint letter addressed to the federal legislatures of both countries, urging the ratification of the United States Mexico Canada Agreement (USMCA).
- The USMCA One of the principle trade issues where both states have emerged as principle leaders in advancing this historic agreement.
- A copy of the letter can be found in Attachment #4

**11. *SANTA CRUZ COUNTY ISSUES LETTER IN SUPPORT OF USCMA RATIFICATION***

- On June 25, 2019, the Arizona Border Counties Coalition issued a letter in support of the ratification of the USMCA.
- A copy of that letter is provided in Attachment #5.

**12. *MEXICO RATIFIES T-MEC***


- On June 19, 2019 the Mexican Senate voted overwhelmingly to ratify the USMCA, or T-MEC as it is referred to in Mexico.
- Mexico became the first country to ratify this historic agreement. It is hoped that this will provide added pressure for both the US and Canada to move with their respective ratification processes.

**13. REPRESENTATION OF THE GNSCCPA WITH KEY ENTITIES**

- Continuing efforts to maintain an on-going dialogue with various agencies to ensure full coordination of efforts and maximizing the impact of our limited resources, including, but not limited to:
  - ACA;
  - ADHS
  - ADOT;
  - AMC;
  - AOT;
  - DHS/CBP;
  - GSA;
  - Offices of Arizona Congressional Delegation;
  - Office of the Governor;
  - SIDUR;
  - State Department; and
  - State of Sonora.
  
- It is imperative to highlight the great success that has been achieved on these efforts by coordinating efforts with key stakeholders, including the FPAA, Santa Cruz County, the City of Nogales and others, as each has well established relationships with most of these entities.

**Attachment #1**

Copy of PowerPoint used during AMC Summit and Mini Binational



**A Commitment to Competitiveness**

Guillermo Valencia  
 Chairman

Phoenix, Arizona  
 June 27-28, 2019

**Membership**

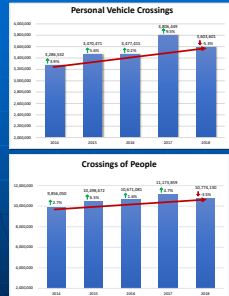
- The Port Authority is tasked with advancing strategies to improve the ports of entry at Nogales and the quality of life for our residents.
- Membership:
  - City of Nogales
  - Santa Cruz County
  - Fresh Produce Association of the Americas
  - Nogales US Customs House Brokers
  - Nogales Santa Cruz County Economic Development
  - INDEX – Maquila Association of Sonora
  - Nogales Community Development Foundation

www.nogalesport.org

**Regional Competitiveness**

- Nogales is Arizona's principle gateway for trade, tourism and Innovation – Over \$26 billion worth of goods!
- \$250 million of investment in modernizing port of entry
- \$134 million on transportation infrastructure
- Close to \$1.8 billion being invested on MX-15 connecting Arizona with Mexico City
- Home-base for Unified Cargo Processing
- Attracting new investment in Warehousing and Distribution Centers
- Ranked among the 20 safest cities in Arizona!

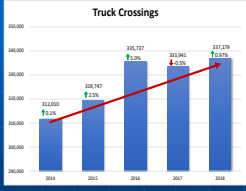
**Nogales by the Numbers**



- In two-way traffic, Nogales is the gateway for over 6.2 million cars and 21.5 million people and over 1,500 trains!
- Hardening of the border has resulted in increased border wait times
  - Trucks waiting more than double than before
  - Common to see 2 hour waits for cars
  - Q4-Q1 Time Frame experienced 10% drop compared over same time frame previous year

Source: US Department of Transportation

**Nogales by the Numbers**



- Nogales processed 337,000 NB trucks in 2018
- According to USDOT this represents more than \$26 billion of trade between US and Mexico
  - \$3+ billion in produce
  - \$23+ billion in manufactured products
- Volumes also reflect investment in Maquila and diversification of produce
- Maquila needs 4,000+ new employees today!


Source: US Department of Transportation

**Modernization of SR189**



- \$134 million modernization of SR189 to start in 2019
- Funding program includes:
  - \$25 million Tiger Grant
  - \$25 million Arizona Legislature appropriation
  - \$12 million from City of Nogales and Santa Cruz County
  - \$72 million from Arizona Transportation funding

### Need to Modernize DeConcini




- DeConcini is the main pedestrian crossing for Nogales
- Landlocked on both sides of the border
- City grew up around the port
- Continual pedestrian and vehicular delays are an impediment to frequent crossers
- Downtown retail is down over 40% in recent years
- Need to get CBP and GSA to prioritize project

### Need to Modernize DeConcini



### Storm Water Tunnel




- GSA has a plan to make needed repairs on the US side of the Grand Tunnel
- Ask GSA to provide timeline for these repairs

### Expansion of SENTRI



- Two SENTRI lanes downtown
- Supporting efforts to deploy SENTRI at Mariposa, essential for Maquila industry
- All 12 primary inspection booths equipped for SENTRI
- US Consulate General in Nogales, Sonora is working with CBP on possible High-Impact/Low-Cost project for a SENTRI lane

### Nogales DAP Proposal



- Convert up to 6 docks to refrigerated docks in order to maintain cold-chain for temperature sensitive products
- CBP/GSA and Port Authority Technical team working on design Approximately 6,000 SF that can be kept at 34° F to 40°F
- Governor's Budget includes \$700,000 to pay for construction of Cold Rooms
- FPAA and Santa Cruz County have each committed up to \$250,000 towards the cost of the project

Guillermo Valencia  
 Chairman  
 Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority

[www.nogalesport.org](http://www.nogalesport.org)  
 (520) 287-2707

**Attachment #2**  
Copy of Congressional Letter on Seasonality

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20515

June 14, 2019

The Honorable Robert E. Lighthizer  
United States Trade Representative  
600 17<sup>th</sup> St. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20508

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer:

We are writing to express our concerns about reports that the administration may be exploring the inclusion of a so-called "seasonality" provision in legislation implementing the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). As Members of Congress who support free, fair, and reciprocal trade between the United States and its trading partners around the globe, we strongly object to adding any seasonality provision that conflicts with the intent of the agreement.

We were pleased that a seasonality provision was not included in USMCA when the agreement was finalized by the U.S., Mexico, and Canada last year. Seasonality, whereby certain agricultural products could be subjected to numerous seasonal and regional dumping duties at various times throughout the year, runs counter to the spirit of a free trade agreement intended to tear down both tariffs and non-tariff barriers to trade.

Using USMCA as a vehicle for pursuing seasonal agriculture trade remedies risks pitting different regions of the country against each other. And, if successful, this tactic will result in higher prices for U.S. consumers, while reducing availability, selection, and quality in the supermarket aisle for items such as tomatoes, avocados, bell peppers, watermelons, strawberries and blueberries, just to name a few.

Consumers in the U.S. currently enjoy the lowest food costs in the world, with just 6.4 percent of U.S. income going toward food. U.S. per capita consumption of fresh vegetables stood at 126.8 pounds per year in 1993, before the implementation of NAFTA. In 2016, U.S. per capita consumption of fresh vegetables had reached 145.1 pounds per year, a 14 percent increase.

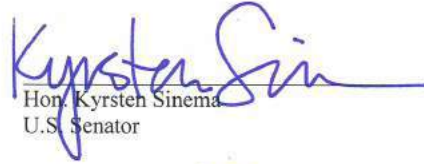
Some fresh fruits and vegetables, however, simply are not available in sufficient volume from the U.S. in certain months. U.S. companies have found significant value in working with farms in Mexico and Canada to produce and export the foods that contribute to healthful eating habits for U.S. consumers.

We strongly oppose the inclusion of any agriculture seasonality provisions in USMCA implementing legislation, as they would run counter to consumer preferences, undermine the spirit of the trilateral free trade agreement, and harm U.S. industries in order to artificially support a small segment of regional growers' interests.

Sincerely,



Hon. Martha McSally  
U.S. Senator



Hon. Kyrsten Sinema  
U.S. Senator



Hon. John Cornyn  
U.S. Senator



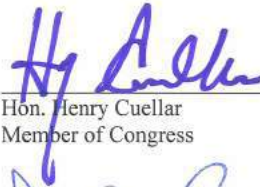
Hon. Ted Cruz  
U.S. Senator



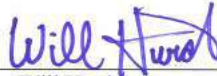
Hon. David Schweikert  
Member of Congress



Hon. Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



Hon. Henry Cuellar  
Member of Congress



Hon. Will Hurd  
Member of Congress



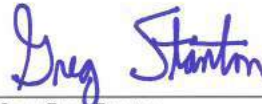
Hon. Andy Biggs  
Member of Congress



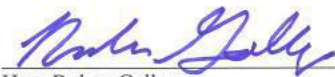
Hon. Debbie Lesko  
Member of Congress



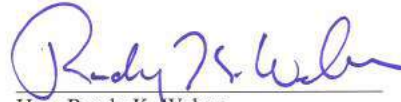
Hon. Ann Kirkpatrick  
Member of Congress



Hon. Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



Hon. Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress



Hon. Randy K. Weber  
Member of Congress





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Hon. Filemon Vela  
Member of Congress



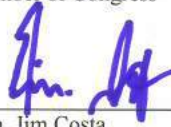
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Hon. TJ Cox  
Member of Congress



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Hon. Tom O'Halleran  
Member of Congress



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Hon. Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



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Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Member of Congress



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Hon. Devin Nunes  
Member of Congress



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Hon. Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



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Hon. Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



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Hon. Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress

**Attachment #3****Copy of Letter on CBP Supplemental Funding**

June 25, 2019

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS:

As stakeholders interested in the activities of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Customs and Border Protection (CBP) at land, sea, and air ports-of-entry (POEs) around the globe, we urge you to support the Administration's request for supplemental appropriations to cover CBP operations for the remainder of this fiscal year. This funding is needed to support CBP Officer (CBPO) staffing, overtime, and travel costs related to ongoing redeployment of CBPOs from POEs to address the national emergency situation along the southern border. This funding will ensure that the cross-border commerce critical to our economy is not impeded.

U.S. businesses rely on the safe and efficient movement of goods and people across our borders. However, recent activities by CBP in responding to the situation at the southern border are having enormous impacts on this flow of goods and people. In April, CBP reassigned 545 officers from U.S.-Mexico POEs to support U.S. Border Patrol operations at the southern border, severely tightening inspection capacity at the border and other POEs, and dramatically increasing wait times. It took freight up to seven hours to cross at the Bridge of Americas in El Paso, Texas, in April 2019, whereas it took less than an hour to enter the U.S. at the same time last year. Similarly, it took freight four hours to cross into the U.S. at Otay Mesa, California, in April 2019, as compared to nearly two hours in April 2018.

In May, CBP increased the redeployment to 731 CBPOs, with 245 coming from U.S.-Mexico POEs and the remaining 486 from POEs along the northern border, as well as from airports and seaports throughout the U.S. It is not clear when these redeployments will end, but it is already having an impact. According to CBP's own onboard data and workload staffing model the agency is already operating at a deficit of 3,700 officers. So, every officer taken away from a POE is having a significant impact on processing goods and people. For instance, U.S. international hub airports like Chicago-O'Hare, New York's John F. Kennedy, Los Angeles International, San Francisco International, and Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International routinely saw wait times for non-U.S. citizens to clear Customs and Immigration of two and three hours since the beginning of April. We are also hearing reports that airports are experiencing increased delays and missed connections due to the redeployments.

We are increasingly concerned about how CBP's situation will impact the flow of goods and people at our POEs this summer. Already, CBP has announced it is suspending mandatory training so that it can keep more CBPOs at POEs. CBP is also planning to scale back services at its Global Entry enrollment centers in order to limit disruptions to airport customs processing. We understand that CBP is also exploring steps to limit the disruption of people disembarking cruise ships at sea ports.

Without additional funding, we are concerned that these examples will be the first in a series of increasingly serious disruptions to CBP's critical customs and security work, and to the movement of people and goods at our borders and POEs. We are also concerned that this

situation may force DHS to draw upon the resources of other DHS agencies to support CBP if Congress does not provide additional funding.

The critical issues that American businesses are facing because of the situation at the southern border require quick, decisive action so that our government can provide for both border security and the flow of travel and trade. As such, we ask that you provide the supplemental funding to help CBP respond effectively to the challenges it has to overcome now and in the immediate future.

Sincerely,

Airforwarders Association  
Airlines for America  
Airports Council International - North America  
American Apparel & Footwear Association  
American Association of Airport Executives  
American Association of Exporters and Importers  
American Association of Port Authorities  
American Society of Travel Advisors  
American Trucking Associations  
Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Arizona Manufacturers Council  
Border Trade Alliance  
Borderplex Alliance  
Brawley Chamber of Commerce  
California Chamber of Commerce  
Cargo Airline Association  
City of Douglas, Arizona  
City of San Luis, Arizona  
Del Rio Chamber of Commerce  
Delta Air Lines  
DHL  
Douglas Industrial Development Authority  
Douglas International Port Authority  
Douglas Regional Economic Development Corporation  
El Paso Chamber of Commerce  
Express Association of America  
Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association  
FedEx  
Fresh Produce Association of the Americas  
Gilbert Chamber of Commerce  
Global Business Travel Association  
Global Cold Chain Alliance  
Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Merced Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority

Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce  
Hueneme Chamber of Commerce  
Inland Empire Regional Chamber of Commerce  
International Air Transport Association  
International Longshore and Warehouse Union  
Lake Havasu Area Chamber of Commerce  
Laredo Chamber of Commerce  
Lexington Institute  
Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce  
McAllen Chamber of Commerce  
Nashville Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
National Association of Waterfront Employers  
National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America  
National Industrial Transportation League  
National Retail Federation  
National Treasury Employees Union  
New Mexico Association of Commerce and Industry  
Nogales-Santa Cruz County Chamber of Commerce  
North San Diego Business Chamber  
Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce  
Oxnard Chamber of Commerce  
Pasadena Chamber of Commerce  
Port of Baltimore, Maryland  
Port of Long Beach, California  
Port of Los Angeles, California  
Port of Monroe, Michigan  
Port of Oakland, California  
Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Ryder System, Inc.  
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce  
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership  
San Ysidro Chamber of Commerce  
Surprise Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Texas Association of Business  
Texas International Produce Association  
Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce  
Transportation Intermediaries Association  
Travel Goods Association  
Truck Renting and Leasing Association  
Tucson Metro Chamber  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
United States Council for International Business  
U.S. Travel Association  
UPS  
West Gulf Maritime Association  
Yuma County Chamber of Commerce

**Attachment #4**

Copy of the Arizona-Sonora Joint letter on USMCA Ratification



DOUGLAS A. DUCEY  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF ARIZONA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

June 18, 2019

Dear Members of the Arizona Congressional Delegation,

As governors of Arizona and Sonora, we know first-hand the complexities and dynamics involved in border issues. With a mutual goal of bettering the lives of citizens of our respective states, we take on matters of commerce, trade, security, health, and education. And regardless of the national politics, we've dedicated ourselves to taking on these challenges together.

We like to say, Arizona and Sonora are more than just neighbors. We're partners — and this partnership is deeply rooted in the values of finding common ground and promoting respect and our mutual best interests.

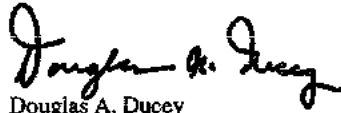
With these principles in mind, we are jointly calling on both our countries to refocus national efforts on ratifying the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) or Tratado Mexico Estados Unidos y Canada (TMEC). This plan was the result of countless hours of negotiations — with concessions on all sides. USMCA/TMEC will bring benefits to both our countries, and help Arizona and Sonora reach our full economic potential.

Last year alone, we saw two-way traffic of approximately 1,500 trains, 800,000 trucks, 25.6 million cars and 50.2 million people crossing the Arizona-Sonora border through the international ports of entry. And two-way trade between Arizona and Mexico was up 7.7 percent for a total of \$16.6 billion, with an estimated \$27.6 billion worth of goods flowing through our ports of entry. But USMCA/TMEC is critical to take this partnership to the next level.

The recent agreement reached between our two countries can and should be used as a stepping stone to move forward on trade. We all agree that tariffs on goods flowing between our states and countries would be a setback to our strong trade relationship, and we are encouraged that the leaders of both of our countries have reached a resolution.

We have a once in a generation opportunity to really propel our relationship to the next level. We are hopeful that both of our federal legislatures will recognize the importance of ratifying USMCA/TEC so that all our citizens can begin to benefit from the improvements, compromises, and modernization to which all three countries have agreed. The time is now.

Sincerely,



Douglas A. Ducey  
Governor of Arizona



Claudia Pavlovich Arellano  
Governor of the State of Sonora

**Attachment #5**

Copy of Border Counties Coalition letter in support of USMCA Ratification



June 25, 2019

The Honorable Raúl M. Grijalva  
1511 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: **Support USMCA**

Dear Congressman Grijalva,

On behalf of the Arizona Border Counties Coalition (ABCC), we are writing to request your support on the passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).


Ratifying the USMCA is an important step in creating stability and certainty for all United States businesses involved in trade in North America. It is estimated that in Arizona alone over 90,000 jobs have a direct nexus to trade with Mexico and Canada. Recently, due to the uncertainty of our trading relationship, there has been a noticeable decline in business investment in the border region. The ABCC respectfully urges you to support the passage of this agreement so we in our border communities may move forward with our economic development activities.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact Teresa Bravo at (520)724-2005 or to [teresa.bravo@pima.gov](mailto:teresa.bravo@pima.gov) with any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Ann English  
Cochise County Supervisor  
ABCC Alternate Representative

  
Sharon Bronson  
Pima County Supervisor  
ABCC Representative

  
Bruce Bracker  
Santa Cruz County Supervisor  
ABCC Representative

  
Tony Reyes  
Yuma County Supervisor  
ABCC Representative