

October 22, 2017

TO: MR. GUILLERMO VALENCIA, CHAIRMAN, GNSCCPA

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

SUBJECT: September Activity Report

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 and 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. **Binational Bridges and Border Crossings Meeting;**
3. **ADOT project for Ruby Road, Rio Rico and Frontage Road;**
4. **ADOT Safety Inspection Initiatives;**
5. **Reception in Honor of new US Consuls General in Sonora;**
6. **US-Mexico Joint Working Committee on Transportation;**
7. **AMC Committee Chair Luncheon;**
8. **IBWC's Advisory Committee Hearing;**
9. **AMC Inter-Plenary Session; and**
10. **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 Board of Directors informed and to ensure that our activities adhere 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. Guillermo Valencia 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.
- ◆ Initial cost estimates have come in higher than anticipated and alternative bids are being sought out.
- ◆ **Reminder:** information provided is limited due to Non-Disclosure Agreement signed that prevents public disclosure of detailed information.

2. BINATIONAL BRIDGES AND BORDER CROSSINGS MEETING

- ◆ On October 23, 2017, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico (SRE for its initials in Spanish), along with the its US counterpart, the Department of State, will hosting the next meeting of the Binational Bridges and Border Crossings (Arizona and California) meeting in Hermosillo, Sonora.
- ◆ In preparation for this meeting, the Port Authority coordinated an meeting that included The Honorable John Doyle, Mayor of Nogales and President Cuauhtemoc Galindo of the Municipality of Nogales, Sonora to coordinate the messaging during the Binational meeting.
 - The need to complete the full build out of all retention ponds and implement a program to maintain all existing ones
 - The urgency of making the much-needed improvements to the Grand Tunnel under the DeConcini port of entry on both sides of the border
 - Update on the situation at the International Outfall Interceptor
 - Push for the feasibility study for the modernization of the DeConcini Port of Entry.



The Honorable John Doyle along with President Cuauhtemoc Galindo, Chairman Valencia and Mr. Frank Felix

- ◆ During the meeting President Galindo presented a new proposal for the construction of a SENTRI lane at Mariposa (Please see Attachment #1 for the schematics proposed by Nogales, Sonora)

- President Galindo indicated that he has the full funding in hand to make the necessary improvements on the Mexican side.
 - He also indicated that these funds will have to be committed before his term in office expires in September of 2018.
- But he also indicated that some modifications would be required on the US side to add an additional north-bound vehicular lane.
- The Port Authority agreed to host an additional meeting to ensure general awareness by key stakeholders of this proposal.

3. ADOT RUBY ROAD, RIO RICO AND FRONTAGE ROAD PROJECT

- ◆ The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) is undertaking a study to look at the Ruby Road and Rio Rico Interchanges as well as the frontage road between these two intersections.
- ◆ The result of the Study will be a Design Concept Report that will outline the preferred alternatives and recommendations for the modernization project. This project, is not currently part of the ADOT 5-Year Plan. There is consideration in the ADOT extended plan for possibly the 2025-26 time frame for possible funding of these initiatives.
- ◆ In Attachment #2 is a copy of a recent outreach session notification by ADOT.

4. ADOT SAFETY INSPECTION INITIATIVES

- ◆ On September 19, 2017, ADOT kicked off a 2-day training seminar in Nogales, Sonora as part of the new program to help create a safer corridor between Arizona and Sonora, including Sinaloa, by providing training and certification seminars for truck drivers, mechanics and trucking company owners. , Senator Jeff Flake hosted a meeting with Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to discuss the urgent need to secure additional staffing for Arizona's ports of entry.
- ◆ Attending this seminar were:
 - The Honorable John Doyle, Mayor
 - The Honorable Cuauhtemoc Galindo, Municipal President
 - The Honorable Bruce Bracker, County Supervisor
 - Juan Ciscomani, Office of the Governor
 - Becky Freeman, Office of the Governor
 - Director John Halikowski, ADOT
 - Yamilett Martinez, Office of the Governor, State of Sonora
 - Chairman Valencia
 - Jaime Chamberlain, Fresh Produce Association
 - Among many others



Arizona and Sonora leadership at the ADOT Safety Training Certification in Nogales, Sonora



ADOT Safety Training Certification Program

- ◆ More than 60 people participated in the 2-day training program, including 8 drivers from the state of Sinaloa.
- ◆ As part of the promotional efforts of the program, a press conference was held at the ADOT compound located adjacent to the Mariposa port of entry.



ADOT Press Conference on Safety Training Certification Program

5. *RECEPTION IN HONOR OF NEW US CONSULS GENERAL IN SONORA*

- ◆ On September 19, 2017, The Arizona-Mexico Commission hosted a reception in Tucson, Arizona, to welcome the two new US Consuls General in Sonora:
 - The Honorable Virginia Staab, Consul General in Nogales Sonora
 - The Honorable Elia Tello, Consul General in Hermosillo, Sonora
- ◆ Attending this event on behalf of Nogales included:
 - The Honorable John Doyle, Mayor
 - The Honorable Marcelino Varona
 - The Honorable Jorge Maldonado
 - The Honorable Greg Lucero
 - Chairman Valencia
 - Jaime Chamberlain



Councilman Lucero, Jaime Chamberlain and ADEQ Director Misael Cabrera



Consuls Torres and Staab with various attendees

6. *US MEXICO JOINT WORKING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION*

- ◆ On September 26, 2017, The US Federal Highways Administration, and its Mexican counterpart, The Ministry of Communications and Transport (SCT), hosted the US-Mexico Joint Working Committee on Transportation meeting in Phoenix.
- ◆ Among the key topics for discussion during this 2-day meeting were:
 - Unified Cargo Processing, using Arizona as the example of the program

- Cross-border Data Sharing
- An Update on the NADBank Study, *Analysis of International Border Crossing Projects*, can be viewed by following the link:
 - [http://www.nadb.org/Reports1/Press Releases/english/2017/POE.pdf](http://www.nadb.org/Reports1/Press%20Releases/english/2017/POE.pdf)

7. *AMC COMMITTEE CHAIR LUNCHEON*

- ◆ On September 22, 2017, the Arizona-Mexico Commission hosted a luncheon with all Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs.
- ◆ During this meeting, Juan Ciscomani, Senior Advisor for Regional and International Affairs from the Office of the Governor, reaffirmed the Governor's commitment to the Arizona-Mexico relationship.



AMC Committee Chair Luncheon



Juan Ciscomani conveying a message from Governor Ducey

8. *IBWC CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE HEARING*

- ◆ On September 21, 2017, the US International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) hosted a hearing in Tubac that focused Small Water System Funding and the urgent repairs of the International Outfall Interceptor (IOI)
- ◆ During the meeting, IBWC Assistant Attorney, Rebecca Rizzuti and Chief Engineer, Jose Nuñez, presented both a History and Overview of the IOI and the planned short term and long term repairs to the IOI.
 - Some of the most salient points from the IBWC Presentation included:
 - The sewer line is over 50- years old and it has reached its useful life
 - Need to ensure the continued health and safety of the Ambos Nogales community and downstream communities in Nogales and Santa Cruz River
 - IBWC has Emergency Authority for emergency situations
 - A copy of the agenda is provided in Attachment #3



Councilman Marcelino Varona, Chairman Valencia, Shay Saucedo from Senator McCain's Office, Chris Stoller from Senator Flake's office and Jennifer St. John from Santa Cruz County.

9. *AMC INTER-PLENARY SESSION*

- ◆ On September 28, 2017, the Arizona-Mexico Commission hosted its Inter-Plenary Session in Hermosillo, Sonora.
- ◆ Among the members of a very large Arizona delegation were:
 - Kirk Adams, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
 - Juan Ciscomani, Senior Advisors, Office of the Governor
 - Sandra Watson, Arizona Commerce Authority
 - John Halikowski, Arizona Department of Transportation

- Jaime Chamberlain, Co-Chair, AMC Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
- ◆ During the meeting, the Transportation and Ports of Entry Committee worked on the agenda for the upcoming Summit and Plenary Session of the Commission
 - Among the topics are:
 - Update on Unified Cargo Processing
 - ADOT Safety Inspection Certification
 - Port of Entry modernization
 - ADOT Safety Corridor Training of Sonoran counterparts
 - Among various others



Transportation and Infrastructure Committee meeting

10. 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:
 - ADOT;
 - AMC;
 - DHS/CBP;
 - GSA;
 - Offices of Arizona Congressional Delegation;
 - Office of the Governor;
 - SCT;
 - SIDUR;
 - State Department;
 - State of Sonora;
 - Transportation and Trade Corridor Alliance;
 - Union Pacific Rail Road; and
 - UP de Mexico
- ◆ 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 #2

ADOT Notice of Public Outreach Session on DCR for Ruby Road, Rio Rico and Frontage Road

From: Noblitt, Jackie NoblittJackie@stanleygroup.com
Subject: FW: Meeting to discuss I-19 frontage road alternatives in Rio Rico
Date: September 6, 2017 at 8:51 AM

To: adeamico@ourston.com, Ammon Heier (ammon.heier@dot.gov) ammon.heier@dot.gov, amoore@freshfrommexico.com, anthony.kleppe@gsa.gov, arana@azdot.gov, armando.goncalvez@cbp.dhs.gov, Asadul Karim AKarim@azdot.gov, Bruce Bracker - Port Authority bruce@brackersaz.com, cdvertrees@seago.org, Chris Ciruli (chris@cirulibrothers.com) chris@cirulibrothers.com, Chuck Thomas - Thomas Produce Sales chuckie+4me@gmail.com, clopez@azdot.gov, D'Arcangelis, Chris D'ArcangelisChris@stanleygroup.com, dbenton@azdot.gov, Dcruz@azdot.gov, edawson@azdot.gov, Eric Nichols (enichols@j2design.us) enichols@j2design.us, Ferreira, Linda FerreiraLinda@stanleygroup.com, GCollaco@azdot.gov, Ghassan Aouad (gaouad@azdot.gov) gaouad@azdot.gov, Grant Treinen - J2 gtreinen@j2design.us, gvalencia@evalencia.com, J Leonard Fontes Jr (jfontesjr@santacruzcountyaz.gov) jfontesjr@santacruzcountyaz.gov, Jaime Chamberlain (jaimedistributing.com) jaimedistributing.com, jdopadre@azdot.gov, Jeff Engelmann (jengelmann@j2design.us) jengelmann@j2design.us, Jerome Choy (jchoy@azdot.gov) jchoy@azdot.gov, Jesse.M.Rice@usace.army.mil, JGomes@azdot.gov, jguerra@nogalesaz.gov, jhays@santacruzcountyaz.gov, Jim Lewis - ADOT jlewis3@azdot.gov, jjames@azdot.gov, jvaldez@co.santa-cruz.az.us, Joder, David JoderDavid@stanleygroup.com, jramirez@azdot.gov, jsjohn@santacruzcountyaz.gov, Kimberly Noetzel KNoetzel@azdot.gov, Krista Perry - ACS kperry@acstempe.com, lance@freshfrommexico.com, Laura Stewart (lstewart@acstempe.com) lstewart@acstempe.com, lerzhavets@azdot.gov, Luis Ramirez (luis@ramirezadvisors.com) luis@ramirezadvisors.com, Mark Lenters - GHD, Inc. (mlenters@ourston.com) mlenters@ourston.com, mark.jankowski@dhs.gov, MGuzman@azdot.gov, Mmarin@azdot.gov, Monica Fox (mfox@azdot.gov) mfox@azdot.gov, mrascons@gmail.com, Neely, Scott (scott.neely@terracon.com) scott.neely@terracon.com, Oscar Rosas -- ADOT/ECD orosas@azdot.gov, president@thenogaleschamber.org, Priscilla Thompson (pthompson@azdot.gov) pthompson@azdot.gov, Qian Zhou (QZhou@azdot.gov) QZhou@azdot.gov, Ralph K. Ellis REllis@azdot.gov, rheiss@seago.org, rhenry@azdot.gov, rlane@azdot.gov, rlapierre@azdot.gov, Robert Bennen (rbennen@TA-DE.com) rbennen@TA-DE.com, Sabers, Dave SabersDave@stanleygroup.com, Sarah Karasz SKarasz@azdot.gov, Sayeed Hani - ADOT U&RR shani@azdot.gov, sbeck@azdot.gov, Scott Vandervoet - FPAA scott.vandervoet@gmail.com, Sebastián Tonazzi (STonazzi@azdot.gov) STonazzi@azdot.gov, Seth Placko - J2 splacko@j2design.us, Shajed Haque shaque@azdot.gov, Smithwick, Ted SmithwickTed@stanleygroup.com, Tad Niemyjski TNiemyjski@azdot.gov, Tami Wollaston (twollaston@azdot.gov) twollaston@azdot.gov, Tangella Diaz TDiaz@azdot.gov, Thomas Deitering (thomas.deitering@dot.gov) thomas.deitering@dot.gov, tmaxwell@salc.org, Tom Martinez tmartinez@azdot.gov, tremaine.wilson@dot.gov, Victor Yang (vyang@azdot.gov) vyang@azdot.gov, Walter Ram (wram@giumarra.com) wram@giumarra.com, wdownes@azdot.gov

FYI below. Outlook invitation to follow.

Thanks.
Jackie

From: Arizona Department of Transportation [<mailto:adot@service.govdelivery.com>]
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2017 10:12 AM
To: Noblitt, Jackie <NoblittJackie@stanleygroup.com>
Subject: Meeting to discuss I-19 frontage road alternatives in Rio Rico

Having trouble viewing this email? <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/AZDOT/bulletins/1b4528b>



SHARE

Meeting to discuss I-19 frontage road alternatives in Rio Rico

Public invited to help identify preferred choice

PHOENIX – Southern Arizona residents and business operators are invited to ask questions and offer comments about options for improving the Interstate 19 east frontage road between Rio Rico and Ruby Road at a public meeting on Sept. 13.

The event will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Calabasas Middle School, 131 Camino Maricopa in Rio Rico. The meeting will be an open house format with a presentation beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Community input will help determine which alternative will be selected for design and construction of improvements on the east frontage road.

During a 30-day comment period beginning Sept. 13, comments also can be submitted in these ways:

- Call the ADOT Bilingual Project Information Line at 855.712.8530

Attachment #3

Agenda for IBWC Citizens Forum Hearing

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) invites you to a public meeting of the...

SOUTHEAST ARIZONA CITIZENS FORUM

Thursday, September 21, 2017

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Tubac Community Center

50 Bridge Road*

Tubac, Arizona 85646

Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions** – John Light, Area Operations Manager, USIBWC, and Citizens Forum Co-Chair
- **Small Water Systems Fund – Expansion of Authorized Uses (HB2094)** to help small rural drinking water systems – Amanda Stone, Chief Policy and Legislative Affairs Officer, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
- **Flirting with Disaster**, video presentation about the sewer pipeline in the Nogales Wash – Sherry Sass, President, Friends of the Santa Cruz River
- **Update on Plans to Repair the International Outfall Interceptor (IOI) Sewer Pipeline and Manhole in Nogales, Arizona** – Wayne Belzer, Environmental Engineer, USIBWC
- Public Comment
- Board Discussion/Suggested Future Agenda Items

*Directions: From Tucson, take I-19 South, take exit #40 toward Chavez Siding Road, turn left onto Chavez Siding Road, turn right onto I-19 Frontage Road, turn left onto Bridge Road, turn left at Crosby Road, destination is on the right.

If you have a disability that you wish to self-identify confidentially that requires accommodation, please advise us ahead of time.

For information, call 520-281-1832 or e-mail lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov