



PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE

Securing the Benefits of Commerce to
North America's Energy & Agricultural Heartland

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF AN EXTENSION OF INTERSTATE 27 AS A FUTURE INTERSTATE IN TEXAS.

WHEREAS, Congress has already designated the Ports-to-Plains Corridor in Texas as a High Priority Corridor on the National Highway System; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Department of Transportation published an *Initial Assessment Report on the Extension of I-27/Ports to Plains Corridor* in November, 2015 which stated: “The corridor will continue to be a critical link to state, national and international trade, growing population centers and critical energy and agricultural business sectors”; and

WHEREAS, according to the *Texas Freight Mobility Plan*, “By 2040 over 73 percent of Texas’ population and 82 percent of the state’s employment is projected to be located within five miles of an interstate”; and

WHEREAS, Texas has no major north-south interstate west of Interstate 35; and

WHEREAS, the *Texas Freight Mobility Plan* notes that further investment alone on I-35 will not fix the problem saying, “The state must focus not only on improving existing facilities, but also on developing future freight corridors to move products to markets and exports”; and

WHEREAS, the *Texas Freight Mobility Plan* goes on to recommend that TxDOT, “give additional consideration to the extension or designation of other interstate routes. Examples include I-27 and upgrades to portions of US Highway 190 to interstate standards”; and

WHEREAS, the proposed extension of Interstate 27 connects major West Texas population and economic centers including Amarillo, Lubbock, Midland-Odessa and San Angelo in addition to numerous smaller communities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed extension of Interstate 27 intersects with Interstate 40, Interstate 20 and Interstate 10; and

WHEREAS, the proposed extension of Interstate 27 will serve three border crossings with Mexico at Laredo, Eagle Pass and Del Rio; and

WHEREAS, the proposed extension of Interstate 27 will be a major backbone for the energy industry in Texas serving top oil and gas producing counties as well as the growing wind energy industry; and

WHEREAS, the proposed extension of Interstate 27 will also serve the agriculture industry including many of Texas top counties for the production of cotton, cattle, sheep and goats and other commodities; and

Resolutions of Support for Future Interstate 27 Designation in Texas

Page 2

WHEREAS, extending Interstate 27 in Texas is also a cost-effective option. The Texas Department of Transportation’s *Initial Assessment Report on the Extension of I-27/Ports to Plains Corridor* estimated that it would cost about \$7 billion to upgrade the nearly 1,000 miles of the Ports-to-Plains Corridor from the northern tip of Texas to Laredo. To extend Interstate-27 approximately 500 miles from Lubbock to Laredo is projected to cost \$5.2 billion. Compare that to the \$4.8 billion it cost to rebuild 28 mile section of Interstate 35 east from Interstate 635 to U.S. Highway 380 in Dallas County; and

WHEREAS, an additional cost saving option is associated with the primarily east-west, recently designated, Interstate 14 which includes a proposed segment that overlaps the Ports-to-Plains Corridor between Midland-Odessa and San Angelo, presenting an opportunity for that segment to be jointly designated as Interstate 14 and Interstate 27; and

WHEREAS, a future Interstate designation will be a significant new economic development tool for communities along the corridor. Site selectors for manufacturers, warehousing and distribution recommend sites along an interstate highway and travel services businesses such as hotels, truck stops, convenience stores and restaurants, which can have a dramatic impact on small communities will also expand. This will create much needed new jobs and expanded tax base in rural West Texas; and

WHEREAS, while designation as a future interstate is the first step in a very long process before the completion of an interstate highway, that does not lessen the importance of extending Interstate 27.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE _____ OF THE _____,

Section 1. That the _____ supports the designation of the extension of Interstate 27 as a Future Interstate by Congress and urges the Texas Department of Transportation to support such designation.

Section 2. This resolution to be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

Section 3. If any portion or provision of this resolution shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such portion or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Resolution, the intention being that the same are severable.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2019.

_____ Title

(S E A L)

ATTEST

_____ Title

Resolutions of Support for Future Interstate 27 Designation in Texas

Page 3

The Ports-to-Plains Alliance has received the following Resolutions to date Supporting Future Interstate Designation in Texas.

City of Big Spring

Dated: March 26, 2019

Executed by: Mayor Larry McLellan

City of Dalhart

Dated: March 12, 2019

Executed by: Mayor Phil Hass

City of Del Rio

Dated: March 12, 2019

Executed: Mayor Bruno J. Lozano

City of Lubbock

Dated March 26, 2019

Executed by Mayor Dan P. Pope

City of New Deal

Dated: March 20, 2019

Executed by: Mayor Pro-tem Gayla Tetter

City of Plainview

Dated: April 4, 2019

Executed: Mayor Wendell Dunlap

City of San Angelo

Dated: March 19, 2019

Executed: Mayor Brenda Gunter

City of San Angelo Development Corporation

Dated: March 27, 2019

Executed: President Todd Kolls

City of Tahoka

Dated: April 8, 2019

Executed: Mayor John B. Baker

City of Tulia

Dated: March 19, 2019

Executed by: Mayor Russell Procter

Dumas Economic Development Corporation

Dated: April 8, 2019

Executed by: Board President Shawn Frische

Hale County

Dated: March 25, 2019 0020

Executed by: County Judge David B. Mull

Howard County

Dated March 20, 2019

Executed by: County Judge Kathryn G. Wiseman

Moore County

Dated: March 25, 2019

Executed by: County Judge Rowdy Rhoades

Plainview Hale County Economic Development Corp

Dated: March 28, 2019

Executed by: Executive Director Michael Fox

Swisher County

Dated: March 25, 2019

Executed by: County Judge Harold Keeter

Tom Green County

Dated: March 19, 2019

Executed by: County Judge Steven C. Floyd; Commissioner Ralph Hoelscher; Commissioner Sammy Farmer; Commissioner Rick Bacon

Union County, New Mexico

Dated: March 12, 2019

Executed by: County Commission Chair Justin Bennett

Copies of executed resolutions are available upon request.

Additional Local Governments and Organizations are still in the process of considering this resolution.