



# PORTS-TO-PLAINS

## TRADE CORRIDOR

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



### Texas Tech University to host Thursday evening conference reception

Texas Tech University is showing its support for the Ports-to-Plains Alliance and its upcoming conference scheduled for Sept. 30 – Oct. 2 in Lubbock, Texas. [The Texas Tech University System Office of the Chancellor](#) along with TechMRT ([Center for Multidisciplinary Research in Transportation](#)); WISE ([Texas Tech Wind Science and Engineering Research Center](#)) and the [Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering](#) are teaming up to host Thursday (Oct 1) evening's conference reception on the club level of Jones AT&T Stadium on the Texas Tech University campus. [Read more»](#)

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### MLA Len Mitzel elected to Ports-to-Plains Board of Directors

On July 29, 2009, during the third quarterly Ports-to-Plains board meeting of the year, Len Mitzel was elected to represent the Province of Alberta, Canada on the Ports-to-Plains Board of Directors. Mitzel is currently serving his second term as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta for the constituency of Cypress-Medicine Hat and was instrumental in garnering Ports-to-Plains support from Alberta that resulted in the recent membership agreement between Alberta and the Ports-to-Plains Alliance. [Read more»](#)

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### Mexico Trade Mission co-hosted by Ports-to-Plains

Looking to do business in Mexico? Wanting to know how to do business in Mexico? Wanting to see Mexico City and learn about opportunities across Mexico? Ports-to-Plains is joining the [Chamber of the Americas](#) (COTA) in co-hosting a Mexico City Trade Mission during the week of November 9-13, 2009. The Mission is also in cooperation with Continental Airlines. [Read more»](#)

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### State Loop 480 inaugurated in Maverick County

State loop 480 is a milestone project for south Texas, Maverick County and the Laredo TxDOT District as it was inaugurated on July 20, 2009 in Eagle Pass/Maverick County amidst state and local elected officials and special guests.



This 5.6 mile segment construction of SL 480 is a third portion of what will eventually become part the entire Eagle Pass Outer Loop. Zachry Construction Corporation will construct this segment at a cost of \$26.2 million. [Read more»](#)

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Oyen, Alberta is legendary for its Bull-A-Rama held every year.

## Just like us ... No ... They are us!

During the week of July 20th, several members of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance had the opportunity to meet with community members in eastern Alberta.

Cal Klewin, Executive Director of the Theodore Roosevelt Expressway Association, Bob Sivertsen, Executive Director of the U.S. Highway 2 Association, Pat Vice, Executive Director of Lincoln County Economic Development, and Joe Kiely, V.P. of Operations for Ports-to-Plains joined Drew Hutton, representing the Province of Alberta met with community leaders in eastern Alberta. [Read more»](#)

## Updates on Heartland & Theodore Roosevelt Expressways



### *Heartland Expressway*

The Panhandle Area Development District and Ports-to-Plains, along with local, state, and federal representatives, recently met in Gering with FHWA administrators and NDOR officials, including Director Monty Frederickson, to discuss a resolution on how Federal Heartland Expressway earmarks can be utilized.

PADD Director Jerrod Haberman said, "Everyone in attendance, the FHWA, the NDOR, the Governor's representative, and our elected representatives all came into the room with a similar objective, they wanted to find a solution to build the Heartland Expressway in a manner that was suitable to local residents while meeting state and federal requirements." [Read more»](#)

### *Theodore Roosevelt Expressway*

Theodore Roosevelt Expressway (TRE) Executive Director Cal Klewin and Ports-to-Plains V.P. Joe Kiely visited the Black Hills of South Dakota during the week of July 13, 2009. They met regional leaders to discuss membership to TRE and Ports-to-Plains Alliance and the benefits membership provides for transportation enhancement along the Alliance corridor. [Read more»](#)



## Why Social Media?



Twitter .... Facebook ... LinkedIn ... Website ... Why? Why? Why?



Most of us get the purpose of a website, especially in the economic development arena. Absolutely critical because it is the first impression that site selectors and others have of our communities and its opportunities. This also applies to an alliance like the Ports-to-Plains Alliance. Only this time, the audience is media, citizens, and policy makers. If you have not looked at <http://www.portstoplains.com/> in a while, take a moment to do so. You will be joining the 1,577 unique visitors to our site during the month of July. These visitors were over 66% new visitors to the site and they viewed over 7,000 pages on the website. To keep up on the latest information about PTP and general transportation news, including reauthorization, the website is the most comprehensive of our media tools. [Read on»](#)

Register for the Ports-to-Plains Conference at [www.portstoplains.com](http://www.portstoplains.com) before

**the early bird rate expires on August 31!**

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**Special thanks to the Ports-to-Plains Conference Sponsors!**

If your organization would like to become a conference sponsor  
please call the Ports-to-Plains Office at (806) 775-3373.

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