

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Ports-to-Plains Alliance President/CEO Lauren Garduño Named 2025 Engineer of the Year by Houston Hispanic Architects and Engineers

The Ports-to-Plains Alliance proudly congratulates **Lauren Garduño, President & CEO**, for being recognized as the **2025 Engineer of the Year** by **Houston Hispanic Architects and Engineers, Inc. (HHAE)**.

This prestigious honor celebrates Garduño's decades of leadership and innovation in advancing transportation infrastructure across Texas and beyond.

"Lauren is an expert in his field and an incredibly well-respected leader, both from his time at TxDOT and now as President of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance," said John Osborne, CEO and President of the Lubbock Economic Development Alliance. "His deep understanding of infrastructure and ability to bring together partners across Texas and the nation have been invaluable. Lauren continues to drive forward federal initiatives and investments that will strengthen our transportation network and help move our great state and region forward."

A Career of Service and Leadership

With more than **35 years of distinguished service at the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)**, Garduño has been at the forefront of statewide transportation development. His career highlights include:

- Managing operations in **Odessa and Abilene** and serving in executive leadership roles in **Austin**.
- Leading the **reorganization of five TxDOT divisions**, including new units for **Fleet Management** and **Professional Engineering Procurement**.
- Overseeing project planning during significant expansions of the **Unified Transportation Program (UTP)**.

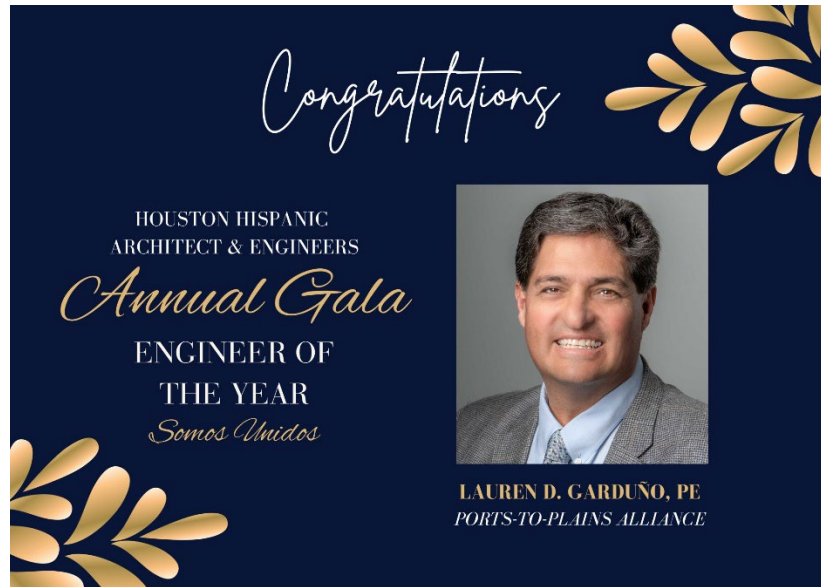
Since **2022**, Garduño has guided the **Ports-to-Plains Alliance**, championing the future of **Interstate 27** and advancing regional economic development through strategic transportation planning.

A Proud Texas Engineer

Garduño is a proud graduate of **Texas Tech University**, holding a degree in **Civil Engineering**, along with advanced degrees in **Management** and **Civil Engineering**. Beyond his professional accomplishments, he and his wife operate a **Charolais cattle ranch in Happy Valley, Texas**.

Celebrating a Legacy of Impact

The Houston Hispanic Architects and Engineers' recognition affirms Garduño's transformative contributions to the profession and to communities across the state and nation.



Congratulations, Lauren, on this well-deserved honor!

★ **Engineer of the Year** ★

Your leadership and service continue to move Texas — and the nation — forward.