

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR ARIZONA'S PORTS OF ENTRY WITH MEXICO

WHEREAS, the regional planning organizations sharing the border with Mexico and the regional planning agencies in the Sun Corridor: Central Arizona Association of Governments (CAAG), Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization (CYMPO), Flagstaff Metropolitan Planning Organization (FMPO), Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), Pima Association of Governments (PAG), SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization (SEAGO), Western Arizona Council of Governments (WACOG), and Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization (YMPO), and other regional planning agencies and Native American Communities that may wish to join in this effort, hereafter referred to as the Regional Planning Agencies, desire to advocate for resources to improve Arizona's ports of entry with Mexico; and

WHEREAS, legal entry of Mexican residents and goods is an essential element of Arizona's economy, with Mexico being the largest bilateral trading partner with Arizona accounting for an estimated \$30 million in two-way trade each day; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated \$7.3 million is spent each day in Arizona by Mexican visitors; and

WHEREAS, Texas exports \$72.6 billion worth of products to Mexico each year, while Arizona exports \$5.1 billion each year to Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Texas commercial ports of entry have the staffing resources to operate for longer periods of time when compared to the Arizona commercial ports of entry. The Arizona commercial ports of entry operate on average 8 to 10 hours per day, creating delays at the Arizona border and causing businesses to leave Arizona for the more efficient Texas ports of entry; and

WHEREAS, infrastructure improvements have been made to some Arizona ports of entry, and are being made to other Arizona ports of entry, yet the U.S. Customs and Border protection staffing levels for these ports of entry are inadequate based upon the improved infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, improvements to Arizona's transportation infrastructure connecting Arizona's ports of entry are needed, such as:

- Funding an alternative to State Route 189 near the Mariposa Port of Entry in Nogales
- Improving the San Luis Arizona Port of Entry 1
- Restoring the Wellton Branch rail line for freight and Amtrak service
- Improving US-95 and infrastructure to support the North/South traffic flow on the Arizona Department of Transportation designated Western CANAMEX passage
- Supporting Juan Sanchez Boulevard construction, Avenue E widening, and the SR-195 Connector to the Robert A. Vaughn Expressway (RAVE) and US-95
- Funding improvements to the Douglas Port of Entry, connecting routes of Chino Road and developing infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, to effectively enhance the flow of commerce to and from Mexico through Arizona it is necessary to improve the infrastructure in Mexico leading up to the Arizona port of entry to support import and export; and

WHEREAS, on September 3, 2009, the League of Arizona Cities and Towns adopted Resolution #1 in their Municipal Policy Statement urging the Governor, State Legislature and Arizona Congressional Delegation to support federal funding for Arizona's ports of entry including the expansion of and improvement of all forms of federal, state and local facilities and infrastructure related to the trade into and out of the ports of entry in the State of Arizona; and

WHEREAS, due to the necessity to act immediately, the Regional Planning Agencies noted in this resolution have signed with the understanding that other governmental and non-profit economic development organizations will be joining in supporting this resolution:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES as follows:

SECTION 1. That it is the intent of the respective Regional Planning Agencies to jointly advocate to the Arizona

Congressional Delegation for increased U.S. Customs and Border protection staffing for the Arizona/Mexico ports of entry and port of entry construction and improvements such as the San Luis Port of Entry 1 and Douglas, and advancing technologies.

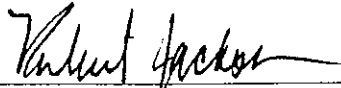
SECTION 2. That the Regional Planning Agencies jointly support highway and rail infrastructure that supports our Arizona/Mexico ports of entry and urge the State Transportation Board to consider the economic development potential of projects in the Arizona Department of Transportation's Long-Range Transportation Plan, and to explore additional funding and creative financing to implement these projects for the economic vitality of Arizona.

SECTION 3. That the Regional Planning Agencies agree to work cooperatively with our state partners, the Arizona Department of Transportation, the Arizona Commerce Authority, the Arizona Mexico Commission and the Governor's CANAMEX Task Force, and our federal partners, the United States Customs and Border Patrol, the General Services Administration, the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration, to support the necessary planning to improve the global competitiveness for Arizona with Mexico, which is the 13th largest economy in the world.

SECTION 4. That the Regional Planning Agencies agree to work cooperatively with our state partners and our neighboring agencies in Mexico to encourage improving the infrastructure in Mexico to enhance the flow of commerce through the Arizona/Mexico ports of entry.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES OF CENTRAL ARIZONA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS, CENTRAL YAVAPAI METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION, FLAGSTAFF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION, MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS, PIMA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS, SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA GOVERNMENTS ORGANIZATION, WESTERN ARIZONA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, AND YUMA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION, ON THE DATES PROVIDED BELOW.

ATTEST:



Robert Jackson, Chair
CAAG Regional Council
Mayor, City of Casa Grande

April, 2012

Date



Brian Tapp
CAAG Executive Director

See attached.

Patty Lasker, Chair
CYMPO Executive Board
Vice Mayor, Town of Prescott Valley

Date

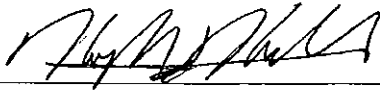
Christopher Bridges
CYMPO Administrator

Under consideration.

Hank Rogers, Chair
FMPO Executive Board
Member, State Transportation Board

David Wessel
FMPO Manager

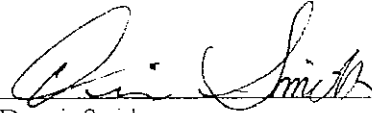
Date



Hugh Hallman, Chair
MAG Regional Council
Mayor, City of Tempe

April, 2012

Date



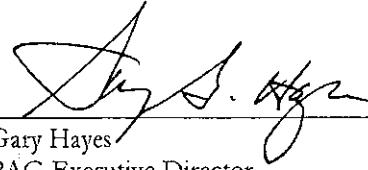
Dennis Smith
MAG Executive Director



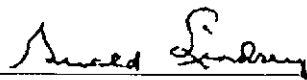
Jennifer Eckstrom, Chair
PAG Regional Council
Mayor, Town of South Tucson

April, 2012

Date



Gary Hayes
PAG Executive Director



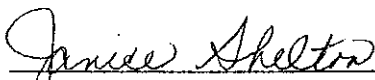
Gerald Lindsey, Chair
SEAGO Regional Council
Mayor, City of Willcox

April, 2012

Date



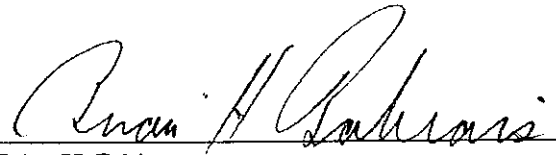
Randy Heiss
SEAGO Executive Director



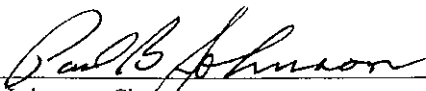
Janice Shelton, Chair
WACOG Executive Board
Superintendent, La Paz County Schools

April, 2012

Date



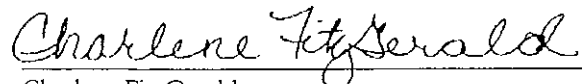
Brian H. Babiars
WACOG Executive Director



Paul Johnson, Chair
YMPO Executive Board
Councilmember, City of Yuma

April 13, 2012

Date



Charlene FitzGerald
YMPO Executive Director

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-03

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT TO THE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES TO ADVOCATE FOR RESOURCES TO IMPROVE ARIZONA'S PORTS OF ENTRY WITH MEXICO

WHEREAS, the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization was established and designated by the Governor of the State of Arizona to conduct a continuing, coordinated, and comprehensive (3C) transportation planning process, working in collaboration with Federal, State and Local Planning Partners; and

WHEREAS, legal entry of Mexican residents and goods is an essential element of Arizona's economy, with Mexico being the largest bilateral trading partner with Arizona accounting for an estimated \$30 million in two-way trade each day; and

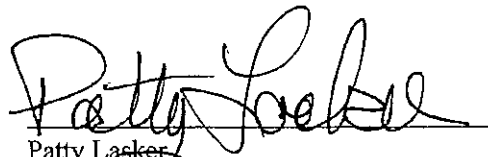
WHEREAS, infrastructure improvements have been made to some Arizona ports of entry, and are being made to other Arizona ports of entry, yet the U.S. Customs and Border protection staffing levels for these ports of entry are inadequate based upon the improved infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, improvements to Arizona's transportation infrastructure connecting Arizona's ports of entry are needed; and

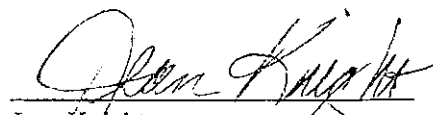
WHEREAS, to effectively enhance the flow of commerce to and from Mexico through Arizona it is necessary to improve the infrastructure in Mexico leading up to the Arizona port of entry to support import and export; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization supports the "Resolution of Support For Arizona's Ports of Entry With Mexico" by the Regional Planning Agencies in the Sun Corridor including but not limited to CAAG, MAG and PAG to work cooperatively with our State and Federal partners and our neighboring agencies in Mexico.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization, Prescott, Arizona, and this 18 day of April 2012.


Patty Lasker
CYMPO Chairwoman

ATTEST:


Jean Knight
CYMPO Program Coordinator