



Multimodal Project Grant Program – INFRA Grant

El Paso International Bridge System
Needs Assessment



\$15 Billion Infrastructure Grant Funds

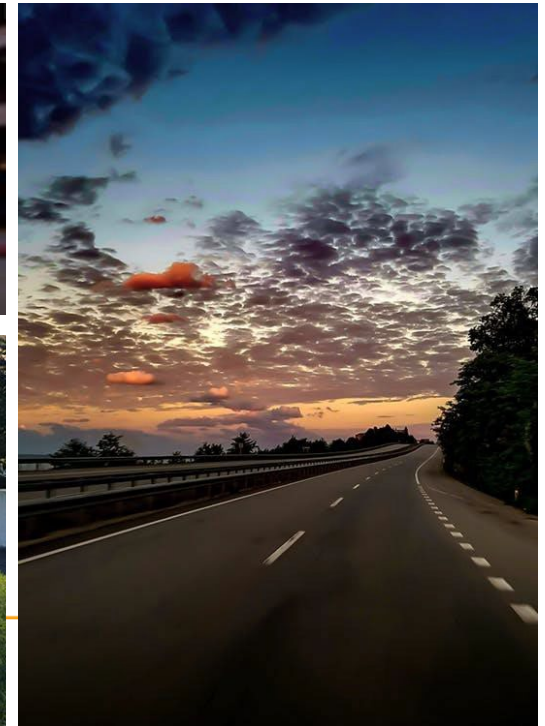
- For capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure awarded on a competitive basis
- \$2.85 Billion in 2022
 - \$1B for the **Mega Program** – *large projects: 50% to be awarded for projects between \$100-500M and 50% for projects over \$500M*
 - \$1.55B for the **INFRA program** – *small and large: small = less than \$100M*
 - \$300M for the **Rural program** – *projects in jurisdictions with fewer than 20,000 people*
- Applications must be submitted by May 23, 2022
- Award will be announced by Fall 2022
- Grant award may not exceed 60% of project cost

Eligible Projects

Good-paying jobs, improve safety, apply transformative technology, and explicitly address climate change and racial equity. Focus on highway infrastructure, ports of entry, multimodal surface projects.

Project scope may consist of:

- Planning – feasibility analysis, environmental review, preliminary engineering, design work
- Implementation – construction, property and equipment acquisition, environmental mitigation



Selection criteria

- **Safety**-*reduce accidents, eliminate unsafe grade crossings*
- **State of Good Repair**-improve condition, life-cycle costs, support border security
- **Economic Impacts, Freight Movement, and Job Creation**
- **Climate Change, Resiliency, and the Environment**
- **Equity, Multimodal Options, and Quality of Life**-*increase transportation choices, expand access to services for jobs, health care, destinations*
- **Innovation**

Project Outline

- **Project Description:** project schedule, statement of work, transportation challenges, how will they be addressed
- **Project Location**
- **Grant Funds, Sources, and Uses of all Project Funding**
- **Selection Criteria**
- **Project Readiness**
- **Benefit Cost Analysis (if construction)**
- **Limited to 25 pages**

INFRA Project Application:

El Paso International Bridge System Needs Assessment



El Paso International Bridge System

- ❖ 2021 Trade through the City of El Paso totaled \$84.8 billion 57% imports; 43% exports
 - Ranks 2nd in personal vehicles crossings (near 8.9 million)
 - Ranks 2nd in pedestrian crossings (over 4.0 million)
 - Ranks 3rd in cargo crossings (almost 850,000)



City of El Paso Strategic Plan

1.5

Stimulate economic growth through transit and bridges integration

- **Create comprehensive International Bridges Capital Improvement Program**
- Enhance cross-border mobility experience for bridge users (2.0)
- Capital Improvement implementation
- Revamp toll operation schedules and lane management

Enhance cross-border mobility experience for bridge users (2.0)

El Paso International Bridge System Needs Assessment:

Budget: \$5M

Local Match: \$2M | **Federal:** \$3M

Funding Source: Bridge Revenues



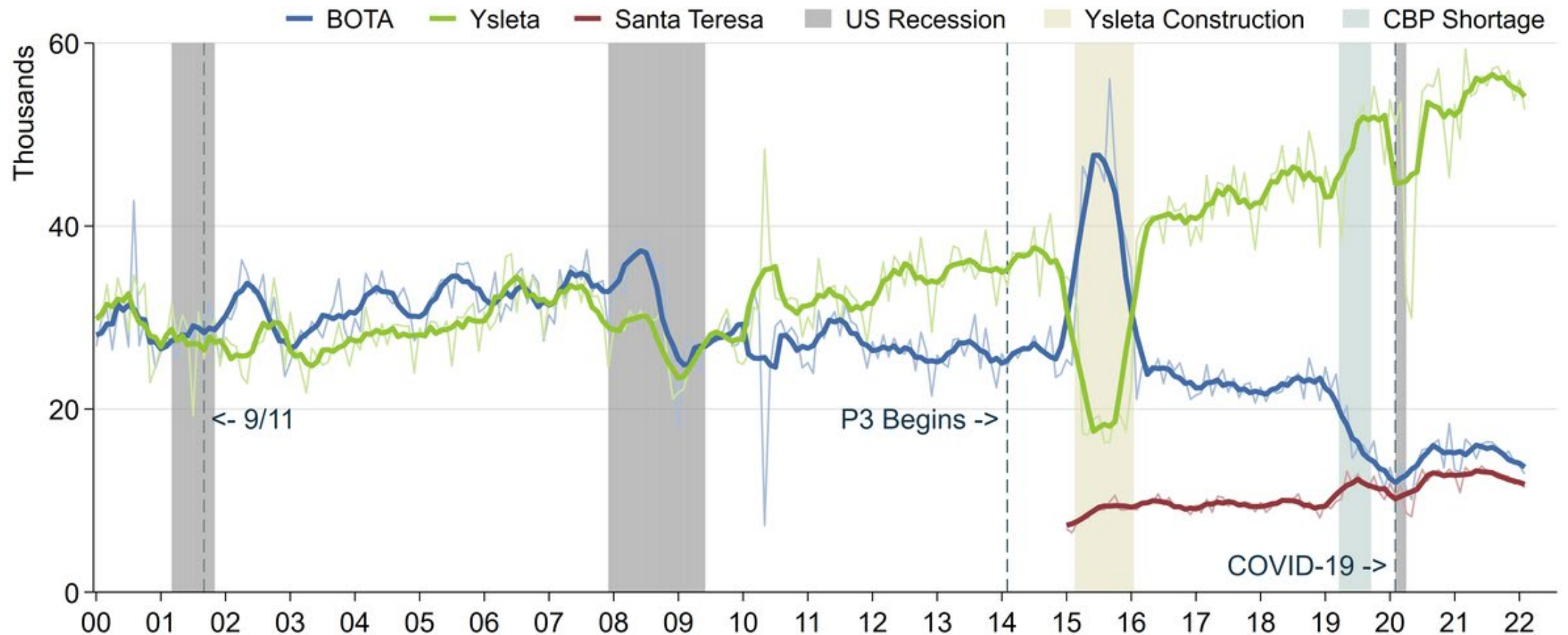
System Needs Assessment Scope of Work

- ❖ Study existing system-wide transportation patterns to include trip allocation and origin/destination
- ❖ Port of entry master planning and conceptual redesigns
- ❖ Freight industry dynamics
- ❖ Evaluating alternative, automated and emerging technologies
- ❖ Transportation modeling with a goal of evaluating traffic patterns to keep up with demand and system pressures
- ❖ Collaboration with members of the Bridges Steering Committee



COVID-19 Impact on Bridge Crossings

Cargo Crossings



Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection compiled by the City of El Paso International Bridges. Last observation: February, 2022.

Project Alignment

- ❖ Strategic Plan: Enhance cross-border mobility experience for bridge users
- ❖ Continues momentum gained with TX-MX Border Transportation Master Plan
- ❖ Scope in alignment with recently approved Bridges CIP
- ❖ Complements planned ITS improvements and investments via Rider 44
- ❖ Limited P3 dollars: need for other funding sources to complete large bridge projects
- ❖ POEs have historically experienced lack of investment



TX-MX Border Transportation Master Plan (BTMP)

- ❖ BTMP efforts began December 2018, adopted by Texas Transportation Commission March 2021
- ❖ Effort led by Border Trade Advisory Committee (BTAC) and Texas Department of Transportation
- ❖ City of El Paso, Bridges Steering Committee and all regional stakeholders involved throughout process
- ❖ BTMP identified policy, program and project recommendations
- ❖ **Regional needs: 292 identified projects, \$11.6B**
 - **661 border wide total projects, \$37.4B total cost**
 - **El Paso International Bridge System Master Plan consistent with elements included in BTMP**



Bridges Steering Committee

United States

- Border Industrial Association
- Borderplex Alliance
- Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority
- City of El Paso (IBD, CID, SAM, PD, PI)
- County of El Paso
- El Paso Community Foundation
- Metropolitan Planning Organization
- New Mexico Border Authority
- Southwest Maquiladora Association
- Texas A&M Transportation Institute
- Texas Department of Public Safety
- Texas Department of Transportation El Paso
- U.S. Consulate
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- U.S. Department of Transportation
- U.S. General Services Administration
- UTEP – Civil Engineering Department

México

- Asociación de Transportistas
- Fideicomiso de Puentes Fronterizos de Chihuahua
- Gobierno del Estado de Chihuahua
- IMIP (Jrz. Planning Office)
- INDEX (Maquiladora Association)
- Municipio de Juárez
- Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores
- Servicio de Administración Tributaria

Interagency Binational Collaboration





Requested Council Action

City Council support to submit a
INFRA grant application for the
following project:

**El Paso International Bridge
System Needs Assessment**

Mission

Deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life and place for our community

Values

Integrity, **R**espect, **E**xcellence,
Accountability, **P**eople

Vision

Develop a vibrant regional economy, safe and beautiful neighborhoods and exceptional recreational, cultural and educational opportunities powered by a high performing government