

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**DEPARTMENT:** International Bridges Department  
**AGENDA DATE:** Public Hearing: August 30, 2021  
**CONTACT PERSON/PHONE:** David A. Coronado, (915) 212-7505,  
[CoronadoDA@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:CoronadoDA@elpasotexas.gov)  
**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All Districts  
**STRATEGIC GOAL:** Goal #1: Create an environment conducive to strong sustainable economic development

**SUBJECT:**

That the El Paso City Council hereby approves the list of projects on Exhibit "A" attached to the Resolution, totaling \$42,850,000.00, which establishes: 1) the "Comprehensive International Bridges Capital Improvement Program" as the approved list of International Bridges Capital Improvement Program projects for FY 2022 through FY 2026; and 2) the use of the identified funding sources. Further, the El Paso City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to make all necessary budget transfers prior to the execution of the projects.

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

Starting in 2015, a new approach was taken under the direction of the City Manager and aligned with Goal #1 of our then new Strategic Plan, the City of El Paso took the first step to leverage the bridges for economic development purposes. Since then, IBD has been managing and facilitating the Bridges Steering Committee (BSC) dedicated to bridge infrastructure and inspection processing improvements at the ports of entry. This new collaborative has created a venue for all regulatory agencies, business groups and other key stakeholders to come together and work on the issues impacting the regional international ports of entry.

IBD, working alongside the BSC, has developed and updated a comprehensive five-year Capital Improvements Program (CIP) to address several infrastructure needs. This CIP addresses critical needs at all ports of entry within the City of El Paso across all modes (commercial traffic, privately owned vehicles and pedestrians) for both north- and south-bound border crossings.

This item requests the approval of IBD's updated five-year CIP with an estimated total projects cost of \$42,850,000.00 to be funded by the funding sources noted below.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

December 3, 2013 – CC approval of the Section 560 "P3 program" reimbursable fee agreement with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

September 23, 2014 – First P3 program extension

September 22, 2015 – Second P3 program extension

July 12, 2016 – Third P3 program extension through December 18, 2018

February 6, 2018 – BOTA addition to P3 program for port of entry capital improvement projects

December 10, 2018 – Permanent approval of the Section 559 "P3" reimbursable fee agreement with CBP

December 10, 2018 – Approval of the Comprehensive International Bridges CIP for FY 2019 through FY 2023

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

1. International Bridges Restricted Fund (P3 program) – Dept. 564 - Fund 3360 - Division 64870
2. Texas Mobility Funds (Rider 44): Intelligent Transportation System at the International Ports of Entry at the Bridge of the Americas and the Zaragoza Bridge in El Paso

\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**LEGAL:** (if required)

**FINANCE:** (if required)

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** David Coronado, MPA  
Director for International Bridges



**APPROVED FOR AGENDA:**

**CITY MANAGER:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

## RESOLUTION

### BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

**THAT** the El Paso City Council hereby approves the list of projects on Exhibit "A" attached hereto, totaling \$42,850,000.00, which establishes: 1) the "Comprehensive International Bridges Capital Improvement Program" as the approved list of International Bridges Capital Improvement Program projects for FY 2022 through FY 2026; and 2) the use of the identified funding sources. Further, the El Paso City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to make all necessary budget transfers prior to the execution of the projects.

**APPROVED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021**


### CITY OF EL PASO

\_\_\_\_\_  
Oscar Leoser  
Mayor


### ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura D. Prine  
City Clerk

### APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roberta Brito  
Assistant City Attorney

### APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Coronado, MPA  
Director of International Bridges

(Exhibit "A" on the following page)

## Exhibit "A"

### International Bridges Department - Five Year Capital Improvement Program (FY 2022 - FY 2026)

City of El Paso - Funded Projects	Total Budget Allocation		
	Total	P3	Rider
ITS at Ysleta and BOTA (Rider 44 - Off-System)	\$ 18,000,000	\$ -	\$18,000,000
ITS at Ysleta and BOTA (Rider 44 - On-System)	\$ 14,000,000	\$ -	\$14,000,000
Ysleta toll booth improvements (add'l lane, lane assignments)	\$ 650,000	\$ 650,000	\$ -
Stanton Street Traffic Study	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -
E-Fast Pass traffic only lane at Stanton	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -
Paso del Norte bridge toll collection system upgrades	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -
ITS at Stanton	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 1,800,000	\$ -
Ysleta Preliminary Engineering Report	\$ 650,000	\$ 650,000	\$ -
Redesign pedestrian waiting/pick-up area at Ysleta	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ -
Pedestrian improvements at Ysleta	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ -
General bridge facilities operations and maintenance	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -
Pavement markings, striping and lane dividers	\$ 540,000	\$ 540,000	\$ -
Stanton E-Fast Pass Office	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000	\$ -
International Bridges Crossborder Survey Project	\$ 560,000	\$ 560,000	\$ -
Improve ADA accessibility	\$ 1,250,000	\$ 1,250,000	\$ -

Total	P3	Rider
\$ 42,850,000	\$10,850,000	\$ 32,000,000



# International Bridges 5-Year Capital Improvement Program

David A. Coronado, MPA



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# 1. Background



# El Paso International Bridge System





# El Paso International Bridge System

❖ 2020 Trade through El Paso POE totaled \$70.4 billion **59% imports; 41% exports**

- Ranks **2<sup>nd</sup> in personal vehicles** crossings (over 7.2 million)
- Ranks **2<sup>nd</sup> in pedestrian** crossings (over 3.3 million)
- Ranks **3<sup>rd</sup> in cargo** crossings (over 750,000)





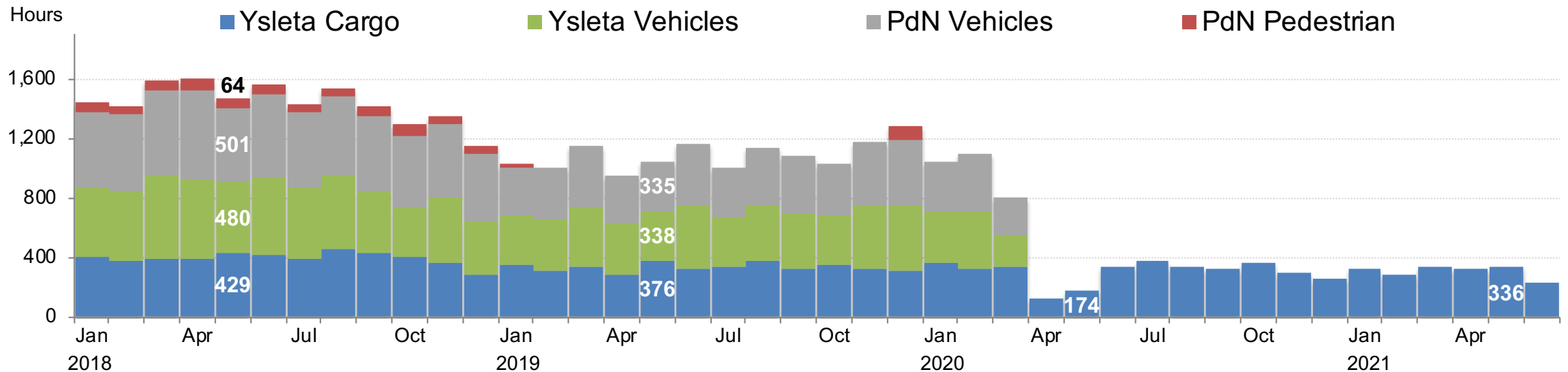
# International Bridges Department

- ❖ Department restructuring and transformation as a first step to leverage the bridges for economic development purposes in 2015
- ❖ New key positions added to IBD staffing table
- ❖ Application of research methodologies and advanced statistical analysis, including qualitative and (GIS) spatial techniques
- ❖ Adoption of permanent P3 agreement with U.S. Customs and Border Protection to stabilize and reduce bridge wait times



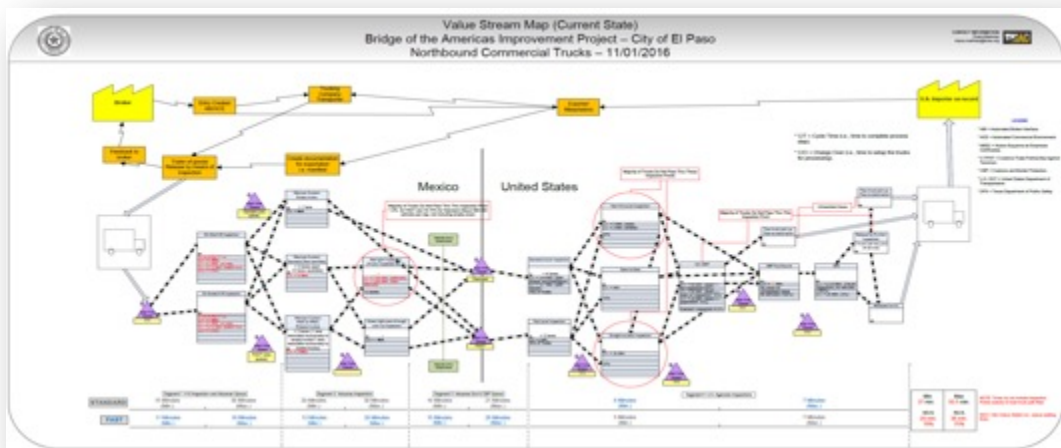
# P3 Program: CBP Overtime

- ❖ El Paso one of five entities selected for the initial five-year P3 pilot program
- ❖ City supplements CBP overtime to staff all lanes during peak hours to help **reduce or stabilize wait times** at PdN and Ysleta
- ❖ Paid for by an increase in tolls starting January 2014
  - \$0.50 for autos and \$0.50 per axle for cargo trucks
- ❖ P3 revenues also used for **infrastructure** and **traffic control**



# International Bridges Department

- ❖ Bridges Steering Committee established to benefit and improve the operations of all regional POEs, all modes, both NB|SB
- ❖ Binational member stakeholder groups (20+ agencies/organizations)
- ❖ Monthly work sessions to discuss operations, projects and coordination efforts in the region
- ❖ Rider 44: \$32M in state transportation funding
- ❖ Development and adoption of comprehensive Capital Improvement Program for the City's ports of entry





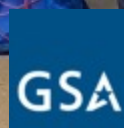
# Bridges Steering Committee

## 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

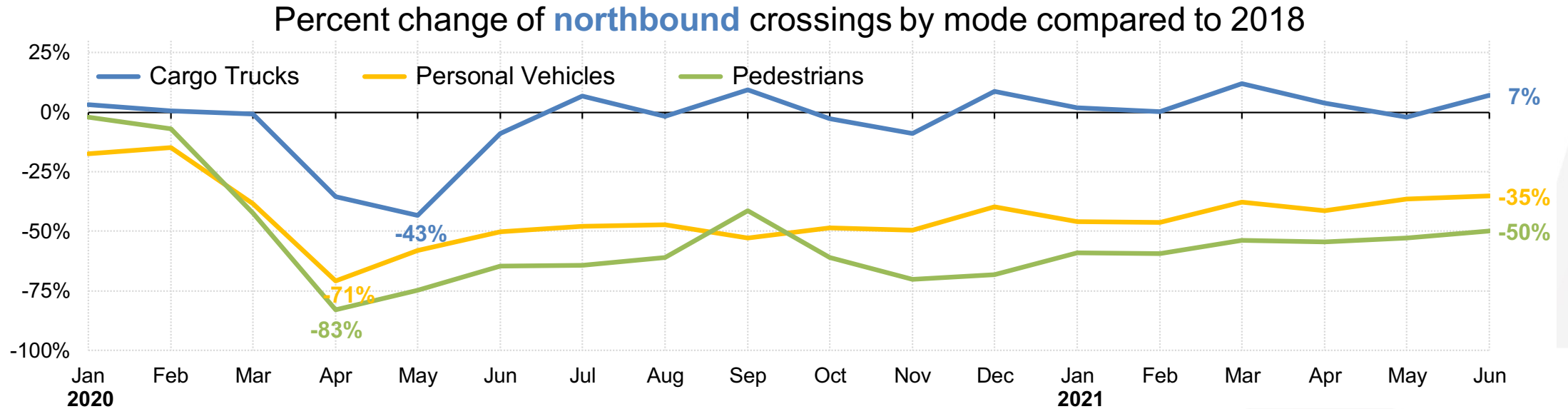
## México

- 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





# COVID-19 Impact on Bridge Crossings



Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection compiled by the City of El Paso International Bridges. Last observation: June, 2020

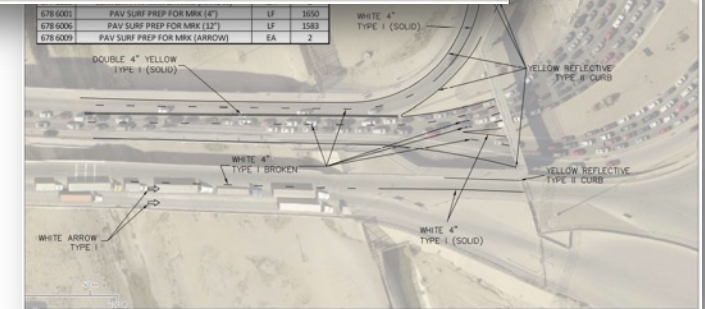
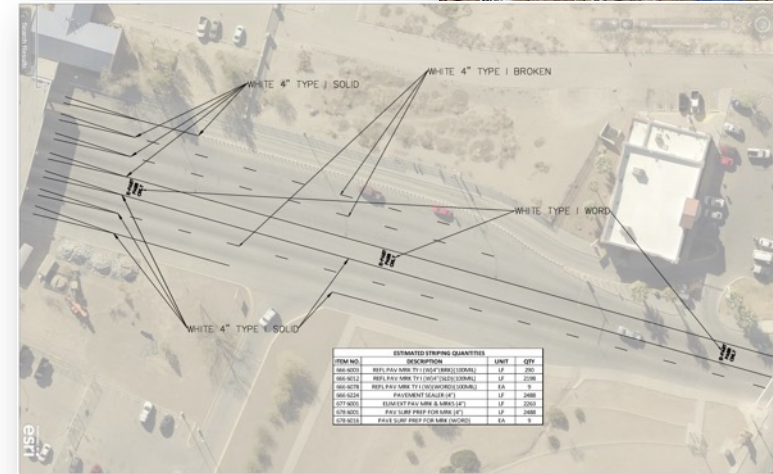
- ❖ Travel restrictions on non-essential trips effective March 21, 2020
- ❖ Restrictions renewed monthly, current extension in effect through July 21, 2021
- ❖ Considerable decline in vehicle and pedestrian crossings, no impact on commercial traffic



## 2. Progress Update

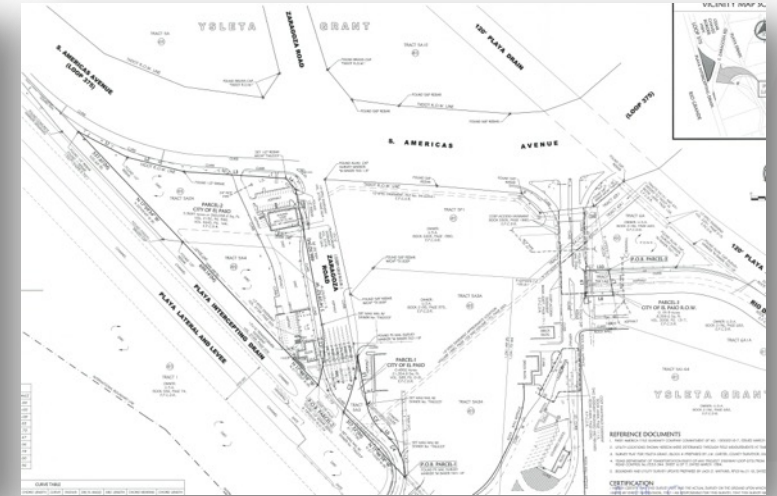
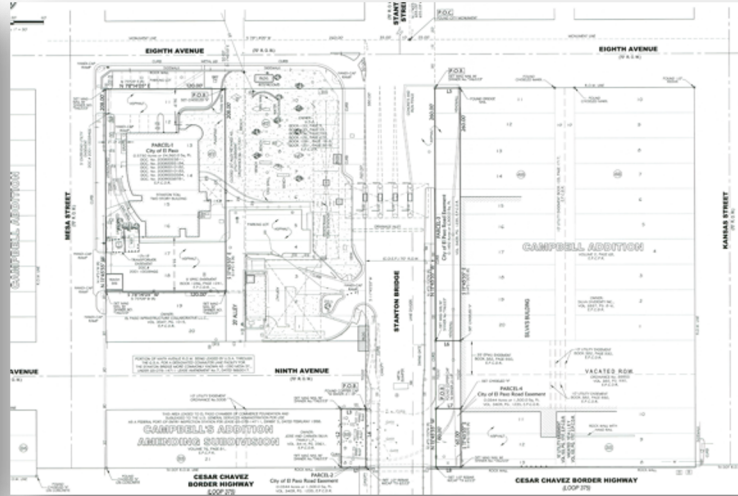
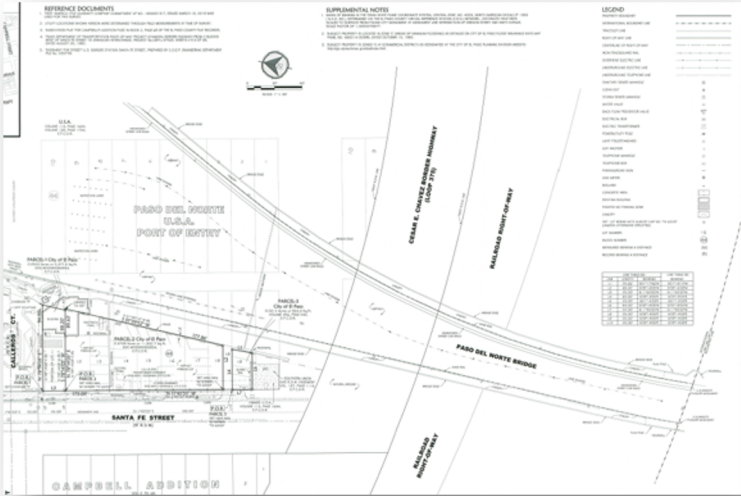
# Projects Update

- ❖ Land surveys completed for all bridges
- ❖ Conducted research on old property, ROW vacation, easements, documents/plans, etc.
- ❖ Stanton old pedestrian toll structure demolition completed
- ❖ Stanton Street traffic study: scope of work finalized
- ❖ Rider 44
- ❖ Ysleta/Zaragoza striping project completed
- ❖ Winn Rd./Pan American project
- ❖ TX-MX Border Transportation Master Plan





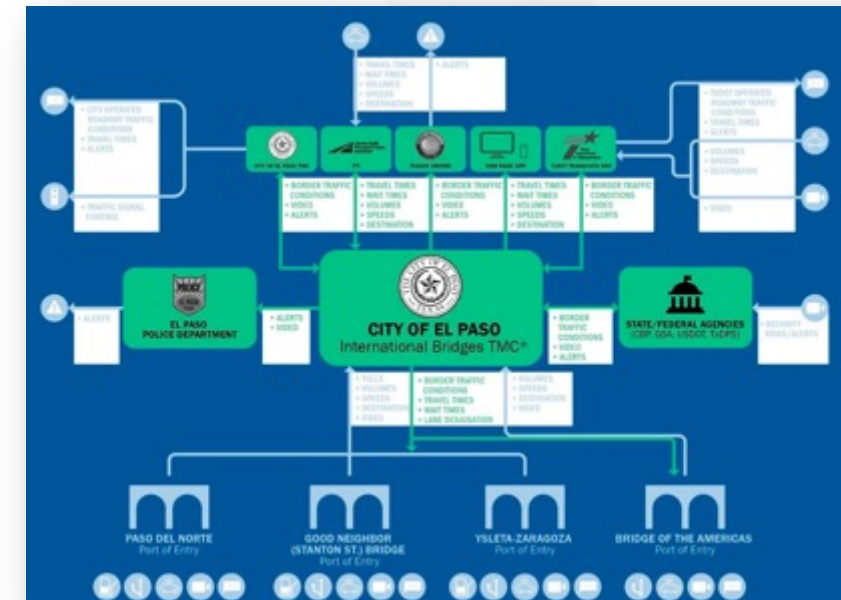
# POE Land Surveys






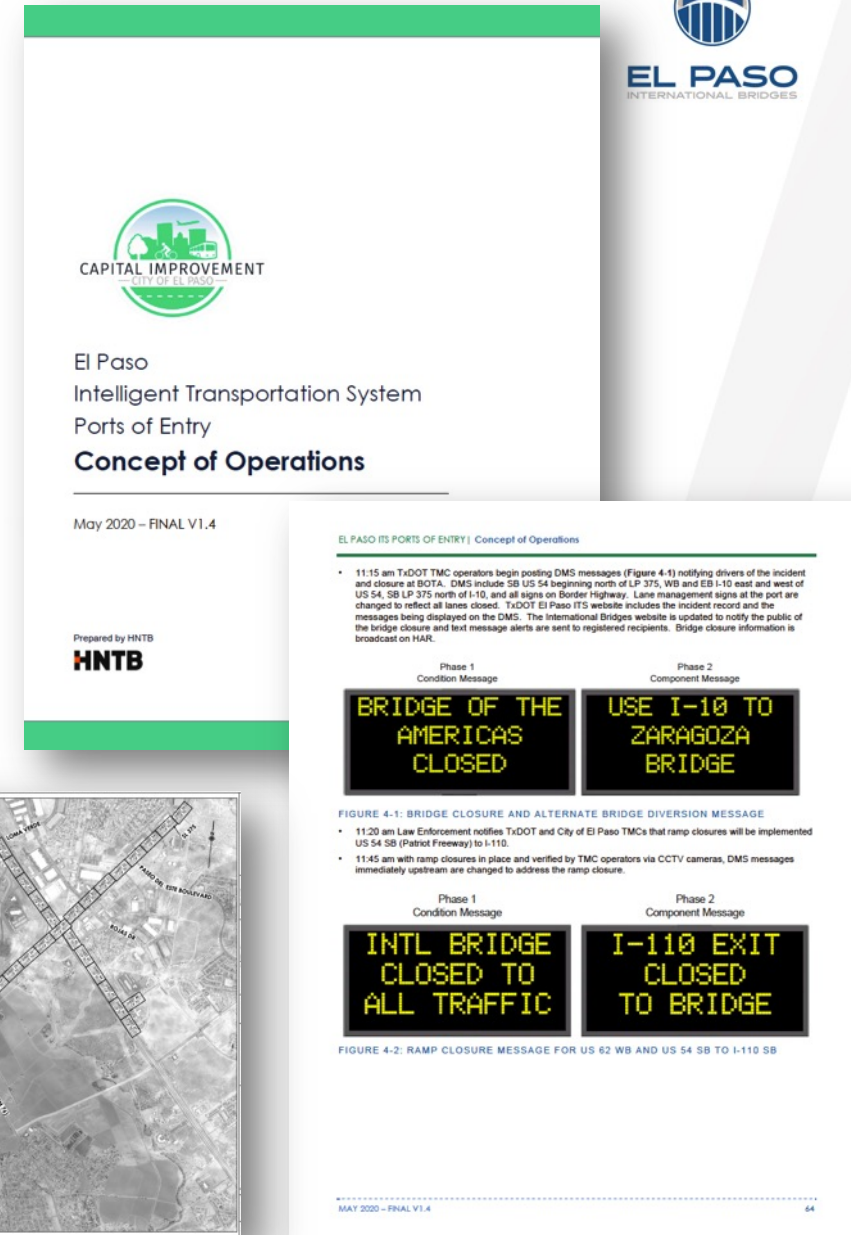
# Rider 44 Overview

- ❖ Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) at Bridge of the Americas and Ysleta POE (\$32M project: \$18M off-system | \$14M on-system)
  - Concept of Operations developed (interagency coordination)
  - Dynamic message signs
  - CCTV for traffic management and monitoring, video feeds available at PDNuno.com
  - Wait-time collection devices integrated with TTI's BCIS
  - In close coordination with BSC stakeholders including TxDOT, CBP, TTI, EPPD and others
  - Integration with Fideicomiso de Puentes Fronterizos de Chihuahua ITS enhancements
  - Regionally integrated payment system



# Rider 44 Update

- ❖ Continued coordination with TxDOT El Paso and Austin to finalize agreements to access funding
  - ❖ State delegation letter to TxDOT leadership raising concerns and asking for status update and expected timeline
  - ❖ IBD and CID staff have worked diligently to advance project as much as possible without funds being available
    - Off-system improvements at pre-90% design
    - On-system improvements at 15% design
    - Concept of Operations document completed
    - Held numerous plan review meetings with TxDOT
  - ❖ Conversations with TxDOT are on-going, goal is to finalize AFAs before end of 2021
- 



# Winn Rd. and Pan American Dr.

- ❖ **New truck route opened Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**
- ❖ IBD is working in close collaboration with the Capital Improvements and Streets & Maintenance Departments
- ❖ City of El Paso efforts include:
  - Continued coordination with stakeholders
  - Increased traffic control assistance from Police Department funded by International Bridges Department
  - Use of signage to help guide truck traffic
  - Expanded toll booth schedules to increase throughput and help reduce southbound wait times
  - Rio del Norte striping plan
  - S. Americas Ave. improvements





# TX-MX Border Transportation Master Plan 2021 (BTMP)

- ❖ TX-MX Border Transportation Master Plan 2021 completed
- ❖ Effort led by Border Trade Advisory Committee (BTAC) and Texas Department of Transportation
  - Five El Paso regional seats appointed by Texas Secretary of State
- ❖ BTMP efforts began December 2018, adopted by Texas Transportation Commission March 2021
- ❖ Bridges Steering Committee involved throughout process
- ❖ Plan identified policy, program and project recommendations
- ❖ El Paso/Santa Teresa/Chihuahua Region: 292 identified projects, \$11.6B
  - 661 border wide total projects, \$37.4B total cost
- ❖ Continued collaboration with BTAC and TxDOT in future implementation phase of BTMP and defining our path forward in project priorities and evaluation criteria





# 3. Updated Capital Improvement Program Overview

# Capital Improvement Program

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Long-Term Goals				
1	Ysleta Port of Entry Expansion/Modernization Feasibility Study	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000	



# Additional Lane at Ysleta/Zaragoza





# Additional Lane at Ysleta/Zaragoza



# Stanton St. Bridge ITS

## ❖ Intelligent Transportation Systems at the Stanton St. bridge

- Dynamic message signs
- CCTV for traffic management and monitoring
- Wait-time data collection devices
- Project will allow to share real-time traffic conditions and data with government agencies and general public in both JZ and ELP
- Cost: \$9M (potentially funded by infrastructure bill)
  - Federal contribution \$7.2M
  - Local match \$1.8M
- PDN upgrades are programmed for future implementation
- **Complete ITS program at intl. bridges city-wide**



Stanton and Paso del Norte Bridges



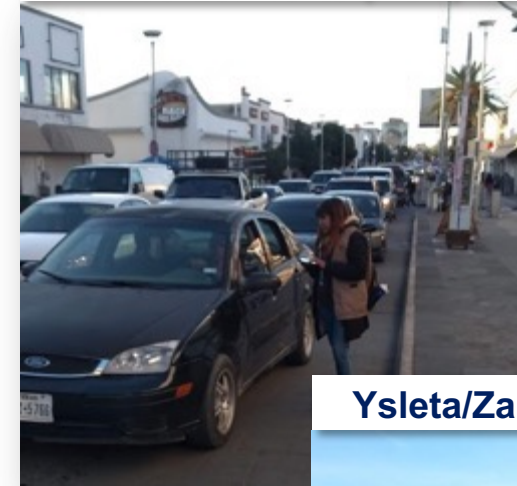
# IB Crossborder Survey

**Objective: Quantify cross-border social and expenditure activities and the monetary impact on the El Paso economy.**

- ❖ Binational collaboration between IBD and El Colegio de la Frontera Norte (Cd. Juárez and Tijuana campuses)
- ❖ Administered by COLEF on the Mexican side year-round all days of the week (entry and exit surveys)
- ❖ Captures seasonal and cyclical trends, and effects of external shocks (exchange rate, violence, national security)
- ❖ Trip purpose – shopping, work/business, friends/family, recreation/vacation, school, health, etc.
- ❖ Factors that influence travel frequency, travel mode, bridge choice, and destination patterns
- ❖ Expenditures by activity and area of town

**Findings available online at: [pdnuno.com/data/ibcs](https://pdnuno.com/data/ibcs)**

**Paso del Norte (POV)**



**Ysleta/Zaragoza (Sentri)**

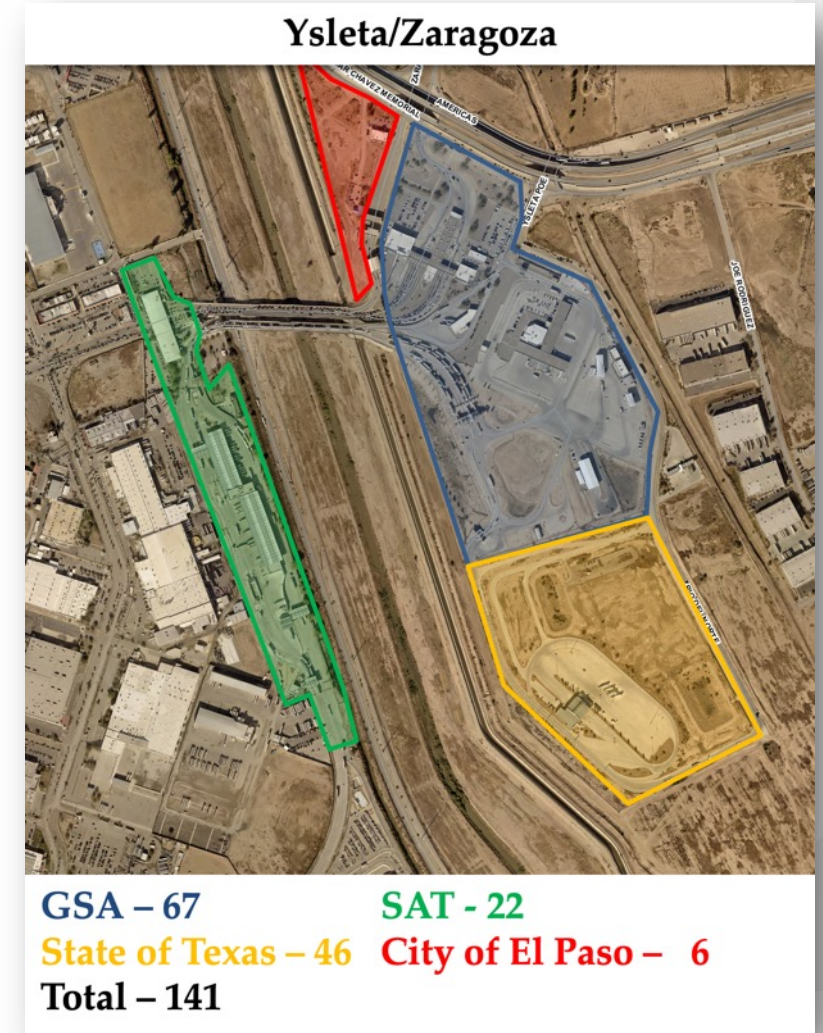




# Future Priority Project

## ❖ Ysleta/Zaragoza POE Expansion/Modernization Feasibility Study

- Recent port investments include:
  - ITS enhancements (\$32M)
  - Winn Rd. and Pan American Dr. Project (\$12M)
  - TxDOT's Loop 375 construction, ramp reversals and main lane widening projects (\$100M+)
  - Parallel Fideicomiso de Puentes ITS and pedestrian enhancements projects currently underway
  - MX Aduana PITA program and facility modernization project completed 2016
- Est. Cost: \$5M
- Scope of work would include elements such as possible port expansion, modernization alternatives, enhanced pedestrian amenities, new technologies, improved traffic control measures, public parking, etc.



# 4. Requested City Council Action

# Requested City Council Action

Approval of the International Bridges Department's five-year comprehensive port of entry capital improvement plan (FY2022-2026) in the estimated total projects cost amount of \$42,850,000 and to authorize the City Manager to make all necessary budget transfers prior to the execution of the projects.





Thank you