

El Paso Regional POE Operations Plan



Update: April 5, 2011

El Paso Regional POE Operations Plan

The Charge

- Review all existing ports of entry (POE) within the El Paso region, from *Santa Teresa, New Mexico to the Tornillo/Guadalupe POE*
- Analyze how these POEs currently function *individually and as a system*
- Assess their ability to handle future demand under a number of different *operational scenarios*
- Develop immediate, short-term, mid-term, and long-term recommendations to improve cross-border mobility in the region that are *consistent with local needs and issues*

El Paso Regional POE Operations Plan

The Approach

Project Identification and Screening
150+ projects

Model Development and Calibration

Scenario Development and Evaluation
22 projects

Implementation Strategies

Public and Stakeholder Outreach

Public and Stakeholder Outreach

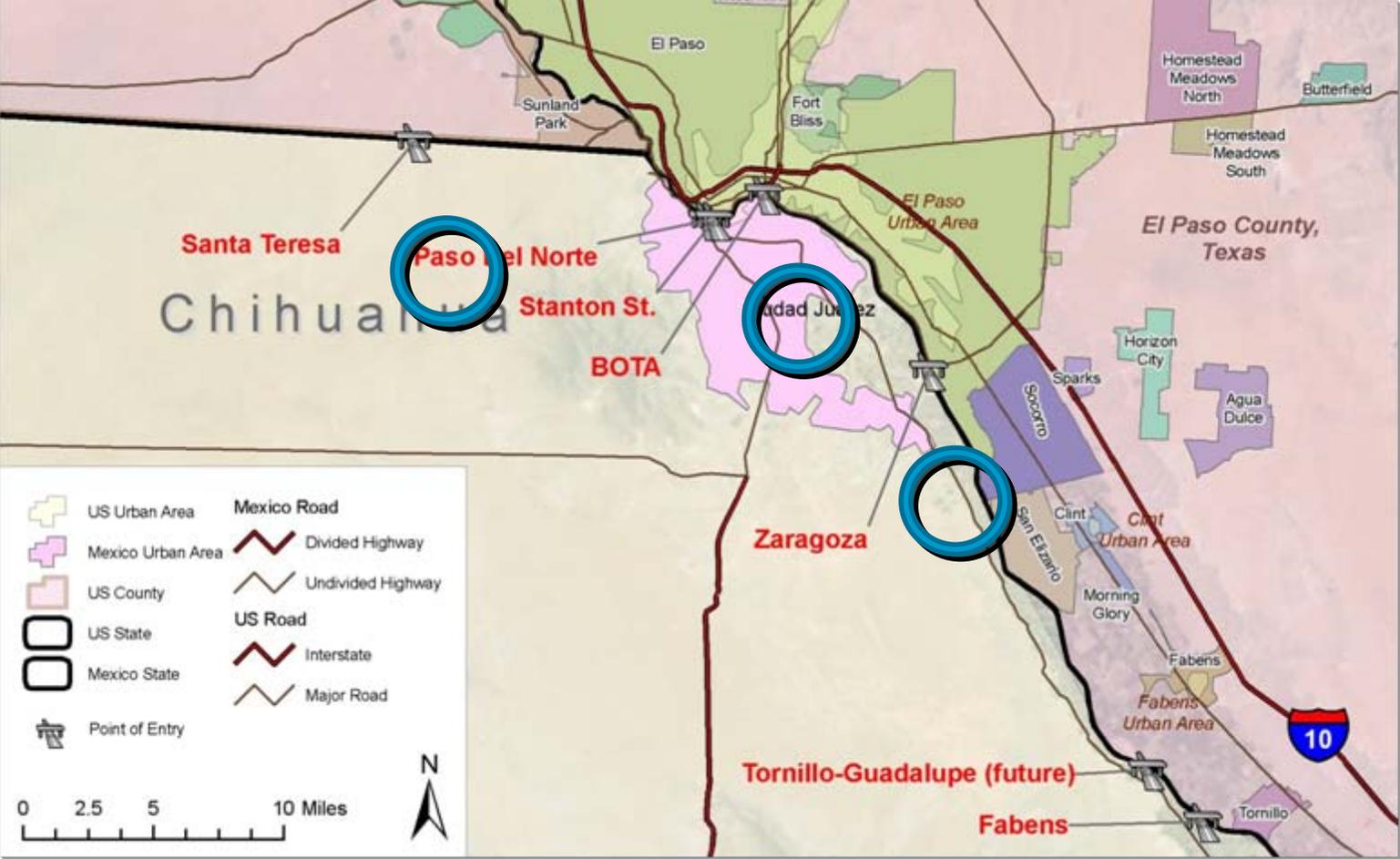
- **Initial activities designed to *understand issues and priorities* (Apr-Jun 2010)**
 - » Public opinion survey
 - » Targeted focus groups
 - » Public meetings
- **Midpoint activities designed to *finalize scenarios* (Oct-Nov 2010)**
 - » Targeted stakeholder briefings
- **Final activities designed to *vet and validate recommendations and implementation plan* (Apr 2011-May 2011)**
 - » Targeted stakeholder briefings: April 18-29
 - » Public meetings: May 9-20

El Paso POE Operations Plan

The Approach – Final Scenario Development

- **Final scenarios evaluated include**
 - » **Crossing management**, e.g., CBP staffing levels, hours of operation, streamline FMCSA/DPS inspection process at BOTA/Zaragoza
 - » **Technology**, e.g., ITS or RFID applications
 - » **Pricing**, e.g., toll rates, congestion pricing, variable toll rates
 - » **Traffic engineering/infrastructure**, e.g., designated commuter lanes, increase the number of FAST lanes for commercial trucks, bridge specialization (such as bridge pairs, commercial only port designation, private vehicle only port designation), changes to approach networks within existing bridge footprints and roadway approaches to the port of entry; infill to BOTA to add four travel lanes

El Paso Regional POE Operations Plan



1. Crossing Management Scenarios

Crossing Management Scenarios

Scenario 1:

Extend all commercial ports of entry to 20-hour operations (5 a.m. to 1 a.m.)

Scenario 2:

Extend commercial hours of operation at Zaragoza only (5 a.m. to 1 a.m.)

Scenario 3:

Extend commercial hours of operation at Santa Teresa only (5 a.m. to 1 a.m.)

Crossing Management Scenarios

Scenario 4:

Extend commercial hours of operation at Bridge of the Americas (BOTA) only (5 a.m. to 1 a.m.)

Scenario 5:

Fully staff front line officers at all existing booths at all crossings during periods of high demand

Scenario 6: Streamline FMCSA/DPS inspection processes at BOTA and Zaragoza

2. Technology Scenario

Technology Scenarios

Scenario 7: Install ITS devices, including queue monitoring technology, on bridges and approaches

3. Pricing Scenarios

Pricing Scenarios

Scenario 8:

Toll BOTA at the same rate as Paso Del Norte and Zaragoza (Autos \$2.50, Trucks \$3.50 per axle)

Scenario 9:

Increase tolls during peak periods at PDN, Stanton, and Zaragoza

Scenario 10:

Dynamically adjust tolls based on real-time traffic flows at PDN, Stanton, and Zaragoza

Scenario 11:

Toll empty trucks at BOTA (\$3.50 per axle)

4. Traffic Engineering and Infrastructure Scenarios

Traffic Engineering and Infrastructure Scenarios

Scenario 12:

Provide designated commuter lanes (DCL) at all ports of entry

Scenario 13:

Increase the number of FAST lanes at all commercial ports of entry

Scenario 14:

Limit commercial vehicles at BOTA to empties southbound and FAST northbound

Scenario 15:

Route all SB commercial traffic through BOTA and NB commercial traffic through Zaragoza

Traffic Engineering and Infrastructure Scenarios

Scenario 16:

Establish Ysleta-Zaragoza as a commercial-only port of entry and allow southbound empty trucks

Scenario 17:

Route all NB commercial traffic through BOTA and SB commercial traffic through Zaragoza

Traffic Engineering and Infrastructure Scenarios

Scenario 18:

Construct grade separations between Santa Teresa POE and I-10 (Artcraft Road)

Scenario 19:

Improve loop road that connects Stanton/PDN, BOTA, and Ysleta-Zaragoza

Scenario 20:

Add an additional left-turn lane on the LP 375 westbound frontage road (Zaragoza POE)

Traffic Engineering and Infrastructure Scenarios

Scenario 21:

Reconfigure southbound lane assignments on BOTA approach (Paisano, U.S. 54, and IH-10)

Scenario 22:

Complete BOTA bridge infill between the NB and SB spans to add two travel lanes in each direction

El Paso Regional POE Operations Plan Next Steps

- **Targeted Stakeholder Briefings**
 - » **Scheduled for April 18-29**
 - » **Similar to briefings conducted as part of scenario development (Oct/Nov 2010)**
 - » **Purpose is to describe model results; answer questions about approach, assumptions, methods; understand barriers to implementation**
- **Public Meetings**
 - » **Tentatively scheduled for May 9-20**
 - » **Likely same locations as meetings conducted in Spring 2010**
- **Completion date of operations plan: late May**

Other initiatives implemented / in process

Implemented:

- **Ready Lane at Zaragoza**
- **Southbound Commercial Cab Traffic allowed at Zaragoza – Feb 16**
- **Accelerated construction of empty commercial truck inspection lane at Zaragoza – construction to commence July and completion by end of year**

Other initiatives implemented / in process

In Process:

- **Secure Truck Program – pilot program at Zaragoza**
- **Universal Freight Shuttle Program at Zaragoza**
- **CBP southbound inspection of commercial trucks empty on behalf of Mexico**

Request for Information / Interest International Bridge Public Private Partnership

- **Responses due February 28, 2011**
- **14 responses received, 4 from operators (others looking for consulting work)**
- **Operational changes suggested (traffic management initiatives)**
 - tolling / pricing alternatives**
 - bridge specialization**
 - ITS**
 - infrastructure changes**

Request for Information / Interest International Bridge Public Private Partnership

- **May 5th Transportation LRC**
**--(consistent with schedule for stakeholder review of
recommendations from Operations Plan)**