

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MEASURES TO REDUCE WAIT TIMES AT EL PASO INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso recognizes and endorses the continued protection and security of our region and our country as a priority;

WHEREAS, international trade, commerce and mobility between the City of El Paso and Ciudad Juarez is beneficial to both communities;

WHEREAS, recently, international bridge wait times have dramatically increased at this region's international ports of entry and in some cases have extended to over two hours;

WHEREAS, the long wait times at international bridges have resulted in a decreased quality of life for area residents, a reduction in the quality of the region's air shed, and has encumbered business affairs in the region;

WHEREAS, the efficiency of mobility can be improved by the use and implementation of the most modern mobility technologies, traffic management techniques, and field management methods; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to fully take advantage of our region's history, geography, and potential, the City of El Paso has adopted the policy goal of being a leading international just in time port.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the Mayor and City Council of the City of El Paso, Texas, fully endorse the following measures:

1. Action to seek assistance in reducing bridge wait time is hereby designated as a priority action item on the City of El Paso's Federal Legislative agenda.
2. The City of El Paso supports additional funding for appropriate staffing of INS inspectors and the lifting of FTE and overtime caps.
3. The City of El Paso supports a re-examination of the "zero tolerance" policy currently in effect regarding DCL use that has resulted in revocation of privileges without an adequate appeal process.
4. The City of El Paso supports extended hours of operation of the DCL and all commercial ports of entry.

5. The City of El Paso will fully support the efforts of Congressman Silvestre Reyes, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison and Senator John Cornyn and their respective staffs in their efforts to resolve this issue and the use of City staff and resources is hereby authorized.
6. City of El Paso officials will provide briefing to appropriate federal security and transit officials concerning the negative effects to this region of extended international bridge wait times.
7. The City of El Paso encourages the full exploration of new technologies such as facial recognition, wireless access, TECS and IBIS and other measures aimed at increased international bridge efficiency, mobility, and security and will support the testing of such measures at the region's international ports of entry.
8. The City of El Paso supports funding for the initiation of a long-term planning study aimed at identifying ways to move people and product in a manner that is safe, timely, and efficient.

ADOPTED this the _____ day of _____, 2007.

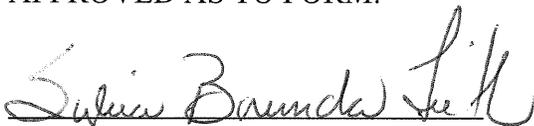
CITY OF EL PASO

John F. Cook
Mayor

ATTEST:

Richarda Duffy Momsen
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Sylvia Borunda Firth
Senior Assistant City Attorney

CITY CLERK DEPT.
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