

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE JOINT
MOTRAN/PORTS-TO-PLAINS TIGER GRANT SUBMISSION

WHEREAS, The “La Entrada Al Pacifico” corridor (National High Priority Corridor #56) links the Port of Topolobampo with a proposed West Texas transportation corridor from Presidio through the Odessa-Midland area to Lamesa, Texas; and

WHEREAS, The “Ports to Plains” corridor (National High Priority Corridor #38) links the Odessa-Midland combined statistical area and the City of Lamesa to the Lubbock and Amarillo metropolitan statistical areas, and on to Denver, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, these two National High Priority Corridors, providing linkages to Mexico and Canada, provide accessibility to major east-west routes in the U.S., thus enhancing the United States trade potential with Mexico and Canada and the ability for goods to reach major eastern and northern markets; and

WHEREAS, the two corridors overlap on the segment of State Highway 349 and its connection to the proposed US 87 Relief Route in Lamesa, Texas; and

WHEREAS, noted economist Dr. Ray Perryman estimated the potential impact of this proposed four lane linkage on the export potential to Mexico along the route from Amarillo to Odessa/Midland through Lubbock could be as much as \$15 billion in total expenditures; \$6.8 billion in Gross Area Product; \$3.7 billion in annual Personal Income; \$2.8 billion in annual Wages and Salaries; \$1.4 billion in Retail Sales; and over 131,000 Permanent Jobs based on 1995 levels of overall economic activity; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the potential impact of this proposed four lane linkage on the export potential to Mexico along the route from Amarillo to Odessa/Midland through Lubbock could be as much as \$33 billion in total expenditures; \$14 billion in Gross Area Product; \$8 billion in annual Personal Income; \$6 billion in annual Wages and Salaries; \$3 billion in Retail Sales; and over 283,000 Permanent Jobs by 2020; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of this segment of roadway would enhance domestic and international trade in Texas, Mexico, Canada, and the United States; and save over \$300 in trucking costs, three hours in driving time, and three hours in wait time on a one way trip from Chihuahua City to Midland-Odessa further enhancing the competitive advantage in U.S. trade ; and

WHEREAS, the MOTRAN Alliance and Ports to Plains Coalition and their respective community members have partnered in effort to promote the development of this crucial segment of roadway through funding from the TIGER Grant program; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners, that we support the submission of this project for funding via the TIGER Grant program of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we join in this innovative partnership of communities and entities to promote the funding and development of this project which will enhance economic development, job creation, and travel safety throughout West Texas, the Permian Basin, and the Texas Panhandle.

[Signature]
By [Signature]
[Signature]

5/11/09
Date