



# PORTS-TO-PLAINS TRADE CORRIDOR

Securing the Benefits of Trade to North America's Energy and Agricultural Heartland

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U.S. Senator John Cornyn addresses the audience at the San Angelo Legislative Summit

### San Angelo Legislative Summit Explores Transportation Funding for West Texas

As gasoline prices continue to rise, consumers are thinking twice before starting up their vehicles....and this has led to a decline in revenue from state and federal gas taxes.

This is not good news for the State's transportation budget as officials tackle the tough job of allocating new construction and highway maintenance dollars. And compounding the problems for West Texas is the fact that the greatest growth – and the greatest need – is along the I-35 corridor within the so-called "Golden Triangle" of Dallas, San Antonio and Houston.

West Texas officials gathered in San Angelo on August 14th to discuss this and other challenges faced by communities in our region. [Read more»](#)

### 2007 COLORADO TRADE BY TRUCK AND RAIL

Colorado imported \$1.9 billion of goods (up 43.9% from 2004) from Canada and exported another \$1.6 billion (up 11.8% since 2004) in 2007.

Trucking accounts for \$2.7 billion of these amounts. The inland ports of Raymond (MT), Sweet Grass (MT) and Portal (ND) served, by the Great Plains Corridor, account for 28.3% or \$972 million (up \$310 million or 46.8% and 103.7% since 2004) of this trade volume.

Colorado truck trade through the three ports is valued at \$883 million (32.5% of the total Colorado truck trade with Canada and up \$286 million or 48% in the past year).

The largest of the three is Sweet Grass which handled \$777 million (up 62.5% this year and 105% since 2004) of Colorado trade. [Read more»](#)



Ports-to-Plains wishes to thank the City of Del Rio and Val Verde County for their continued support as long time members of the Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor Coalition. Also, thanks to all the officials from the City of Del Rio and City of Acuña for your part in hosting the upcoming conference.

### Ports-to-Plains Mission Statement

The Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor is a planned, multi-modal highway that will facilitate the efficient transportation of goods and services from Mexico, through West Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, and Oklahoma, and ultimately on into Canada and the Pacific Northwest.



## Ports-to-Plains Conference

[Click to Register!](#)

Time is running out to register for the 11th Annual Ports-to-Plains Conference scheduled for October 1-3 in Del Rio and Cd. Acuña!

This year's conference is presented by Ports-to-Plains and the Texas Department of Transportation and will focus more on the business impact the Corridor can have on the region.

Our aim is to let the business people know how their bottom line will benefit from the completion of the Ports-to-Plains Corridor.

The Conference will feature a trade show for businesses to display their goods and services and to network with other business people along the Corridor. Speakers and panels will focus on how businesses can capitalize on their location upon the Corridor and how communities can use the Corridor to attract new business. We will also offer tours of maquiladora factories in Acuña and presentations on opportunities for trade with Mexico.

Register early to save! The early registration fee is only \$99 through September 15. After that date, the registration fee will be \$125. If you are interested in exhibiting at the trade show, you can sign up when you register online. Exhibit space is \$250.

[Click here for more conference information or to register.](#)



### Ports-to-Plains and Theodore Roosevelt Expressway Announce Cooperative Agreement

**A Powerful New Advocacy and Economic Partnership**

Two major U.S. trade corridor groups – Texas-based Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor Coalition, and the Theodore Roosevelt Expressway Association, based in North Dakota – announced an agreement today to jointly promote, raise funds for and develop new and enhanced highway and related infrastructure to better secure the benefits of trade to their combined 9-state, 2333-mile Great Plains economic region, North America's energy and agricultural heartland.

The PTP-TRE Cooperative Agreement is a major milestone in the U.S. trade corridor movement. [Read more»](#)

### Ports-to-Plains Membership Spotlight: Del Rio, Texas

Home to Ports-to-Plains Chair, Sid Cauthorn, the city of Del Rio, Texas, is located in Val Verde County on the Texas-Mexico border, midway between Padre Island and Big Bend National Park. The city is eight miles south of Amistad National Recreation Area which surrounds Lake Amistad, formed by the Rio Grande, Pecos and Devil's Rivers, with 850 miles of shoreline.

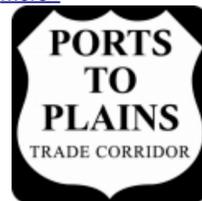
Del Rio is immediately across from the International Bridge that originates in Ciudad Acuña, Mexico, and is seven miles east of the Air Education Training Command's Laughlin Air Force Base.

Del Rio is on U.S. Highway 90, running east-west and U.S. 277, running north-south. It is 150 miles from San Antonio to the east and 154 miles from San Angelo to the north along the Ports-to-Plains Route. [Read more»](#)



### Finalizing Plans for Ports-to-Plains Conference

Officials from several organizations met last week to finalize plans for the upcoming Ports-to-Plains Conference in Del Rio and Acuña. [Read more»](#)



Ports-to-Plains Appreciates Our Coalition Members! [Click Here to View Members](#)  
Want to become a Ports-to-Plains Member?  
Call our office at (806) 775-3373 for more information!



Mayor Tom Martin

### Lubbock Mayor Receives Transportation Award

Lubbock's Mayor Tom Martin was recently awarded the Panhandle/Great Plains Excellence in Transportation Award at the Texas Transportation Summit in Irving. Recently elected Mayor of Lubbock, Tom Martin served on the Lubbock City Council for a number of years. He currently serves as vice chair on the Ports-to-Plains Board of Directors.

Tom Martin also serves as an educator in Political Science and Criminal Justice at Wayland Baptist University, Lubbock campus. He serves on the Lubbock Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization, the Lubbock Scottish Rite Dyslexia Learning Center and is a member of TEX-21.

Mayor Martin has taken a strong leadership role in focusing on promoting Lubbock's economic growth and developing more business opportunities in the Lubbock area.

Congratulations to the Mayor for receiving this prestigious award.



### Lubbock Chamber awarded Executives' Chamber of the Year

Ports-to-Plains congratulates the Lubbock Chamber for recently being recognized as the *American Chamber of Commerce Executives' Chamber of the Year* during ACCE's annual conference held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

"We are extremely proud to bring home this exceptional honor to our members," said Lubbock Chamber of Commerce Chairman Gary Gregory.

"This is an indication of the quality of our members, volunteers and staff. It is our members who have made the chamber what it is today, and we are proud to serve them."

The Lubbock Chamber is a member and long-time supporter of the Ports-to-Plains Coalition. [Read more»](#)