



PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE

Securing the Benefits of Commerce to North America's Energy & Agriculture Heartland

Contents:

- [Ports-to-Plains Upcoming Activities](#)
- [15th Annual Ports-to-Plains Alliance Photos](#)
- [Transportation News](#)
- [Economic Development / Trade](#)
- [Energy News](#)
- [Northern Task Force Strategic Planning](#)
- [Visionaries](#)
- [Staff](#)

Upcoming Activities of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance

- November 14 -- [2012 Theodore Roosevelt Expressway \(TRE\) Annual Update Meeting](#), Medora, ND
- November 14-16 -- [Western States Transportation Alliance Issues Summit](#), Albuquerque, NM
- November 29 -- [International Unmanned Vehicle Systems Virtual Conference](#), Online
- December 4 -- [Keystone XL Pipeline Draft Evaluation Report Public Hearing](#), Albion, NE



Additional Photos from the 15th Annual Ports-to-Plains Alliance Conference

Medicine Hat, Alberta

- [Photos from Business to Business Meeting, October 2, 2012](#)
- [Ports-to-Plains Alliance Board of Directors Meeting, October 2, 2012](#)
- [Opening Reception at Medalta Pottery, October 2, 2012](#)
- [General Sessions, October 3, 2012](#)
- [General Sessions, October 4, 2012](#)
- [Wild Horse Border Committee Meeting on October 4, 2012](#)

Every participant made this a successful conference... THANKS TO ALL!

TRANSPORTATION

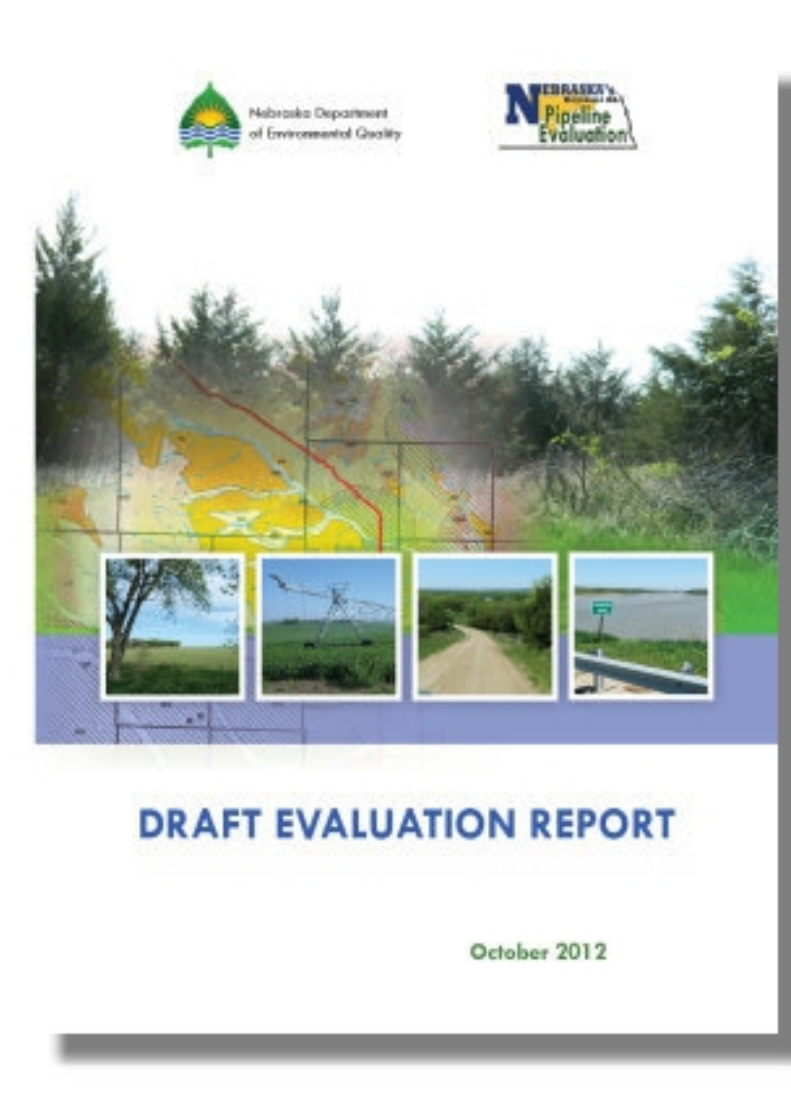
Ports-to-Plains Alliance unifies Heartland Expressway partners

The Ports-to-Plains Alliance recently held their 15th annual meeting in Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada. This was the first time the conference was held outside the United States. There were 221 attendees ranging from Canada to Mexico with the majority from Alberta and Texas. The Heartland Expressway Association, one of the three legs of the alliance in the United States was represented by three Nebraska attendees; Travis Hiner, long serving and outgoing Ports-to-Plains Board Member, Lane Danielzuk, City Administrator of Gering and Marlin Johnson, Planner for Scottsbluff and Alliance. Danielzuk is the newly elected Chairman of the Heartland Expressway Association and also replaces Travis on the Ports-to-Plains Board of Directors...



NDDOT begins talks on four-laning of U.S. 85

Opinion: Our infrastructure needs investment



ENERGY

Keystone XL Pipeline: NDEQ Releases Pipeline Draft Evaluation Report

The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) has completed its Draft Evaluation Report for Keystone's proposed Nebraska Reroute of the Keystone XL Pipeline. This report is available on below.

The agency is also announcing that a public hearing and information session will be held in Albion on Dec. 4, 2012 at the Boone County Fairgrounds.

"Input from Nebraskans has been tremendously helpful for our work so far," said Mike Linder. "Prior to finalizing the report and submitting it to the Governor, we will carefully consider all additional comments made through the end of the hearing."

TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP (Keystone), proposes to construct, operate, and maintain an 875 mile long, 36-inch diameter crude oil pipeline from the U.S.-Canadian border to Steele City, Nebraska, referred to as the Keystone XL Pipeline Project. Keystone submitted a new proposed route on April 18, 2012. Based on public and agency input, Keystone refined the route in the Supplemental Environmental Report, which was submitted to NDEQ on Sept. 5, 2012. NDEQ evaluated Keystone's proposed refined Nebraska Reroute and has completed its Draft Evaluation Report...

Colorado's wind-power capacity seen growing by 26% in 2012

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Metro Denver EDC: Colorado high in economic outlook, but near bottom in education funding

MetroDenver EDC is a member of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance. While this study focuses on Colorado and its competitors, the data for each state is included for each category. It is definitely worth some review time.

The last section of the study looks directly at infrastructure including Federal Highway Funding per Capita and Highway Performance.

NORTHERN TASK FORCE STRATEGIC PLANNING

Members of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance, organizations and individuals from North Dakota, Montana, Alberta and Saskatchewan met in Regina on October 10 and 11, 2012 to develop a northern plan to enhance the Ports-to-Plains Corridor. Those who attended the two day planning session are listed at the end of the attached document.

GOAL: DEVELOP NORTHERN BUSINESS CASE FOR CORRIDOR

- Strategy A: Development of Northern Business Case for Ports-to-Plains Corridor

GOAL: BUILD NORTHERN WORK FORCE CAPACITY AND PROMOTE EDUCATIONAL/BUSINESS EXCHANGES

- Strategy B: Collaborate, educate, create partnerships and build capacity
- Strategy C: Advocacy Process for Federal, State and Provincial Governments with Partners
- Strategy D: Create an education plan to support Ports-to-Plains economic objectives

GOAL: IMPROVE BORDER SERVICES AND STANDARDIZE TRANSPORTATION REGULATIONS ALONG CORRIDOR

- Strategy E: Improve Border Hours and Commercial Access Along US/Canada Border
- Strategy F: Develop common corridor transportation programs, regulations and permitting

GOAL: PROMOTE THE VALUE IN COORDINATED INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING AND INVESTMENT AND IMPROVING THE USE OF TECHNOLOGIES ALONG THE CORRIDOR AND CONNECTING HIGHWAY NETWORKS

- Strategy G: Encourage Saskatchewan membership in Ports-to-Plains
- Strategy F: Investigate the feasibility of establishing a transportation logistics parks in participating communities including the Swift Current area.

[Link to PDF of Northern Working Group Strategic Plan](#)



U.S. Representative **Pete Olson** (TX)

Ports-to-Plains Alliance Caucus

THANK YOU VISIONARIES

Without your leadership and support, our continued success would not be possible.

Current Members

Membership Opportunities

Congressional Ports-to-Plains Caucus Support Rural Transportation and Economic Development

Co-Chairs:

- Rep. Randy Neugebauer R-TX
- Rep. Adrian Smith R-NE
- Senator Ben Nelson D-NE
- Senator John Cornyn R-TX

Members:

- Rep. Mike Conaway R-TX
- Rep. Bob Filner D-CA
- Rep. Quico Canseco R-TX
- Rep. Pete Olson R-TX
- Rep. Cory Gardner R-CO
- Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison R-TX
- Rep. Jeff Fortenberry R-NE
- Senator Kent Conrad D-ND
- Senator Mark Udall D-CO
- Senator John Hoeven R-ND
- Senator Mike Johanns R-NE
- Rep. Rick Berg R-ND

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