



PORTS-TO-PLAINS

ALLIANCE

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

News Release

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Roadside Services Impacts of Ports-to-Plains

As you drive the Ports-to-Plains Alliance Corridors, one of the obvious economic impacts of the increasing traffic counts is an increase in the number of roadside services. You will see an increase in the number of truck stops, c-stores, lodging and restaurants – each the result of increased travel along the corridor. In such a long corridor, it is nearly impossible to summarize that increase, but the 2004 Ports-to-Plains Corridor Development and Management Plan (CDMP) used modeling to provide an estimated economic impact of the expansion of highways along the Ports-to Plains Corridor in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Colorado. The CDMP evaluated lodging, food, gasoline, diesel and other retail purchases driven by the increased travelers. The CDMP found that the improved road will attract more travelers, increasing the spending at roadside establishments.

Between 2006 and 2030, the expansion of commercial activities serving Corridor travelers is expected to generate approximately 2,031 new annual jobs and about \$722.4 million in earnings in 2004 dollars throughout the Corridor states by 2030.

As the corridor continues to develop, lodging sales are expected to increase incrementally to an annual total of 215 new jobs and a total of \$71.8 million in total earnings through 2030. These jobs total 2,830 job-years (a job-year is one new job counted for each year it exists during the period) through 2030.

Food sales increases will result in an estimated increase of \$83.3 million in total earnings and 4,055 new job-years while the total number of jobs in this sector grows incrementally to an annual total of 314 new jobs by 2030.

Employment associated with diesel sales was estimated to increase incrementally per year to an annual total of 309 new jobs in 2030 or by 3,550 new job-years across the period. Earnings from those jobs total an estimated \$105.5 million through 2030.

Gas sales are expected to increase incrementally to an annual total of 461 new jobs and by \$182.1 million in total earnings through 2030. These jobs total 6,070 job-years through 2030.

The largest sector of roadside services is other retail. Other retail sales increases will result in an estimated \$279.7 million in total earnings from 9,415 new job-years while the total number of jobs in this sector grows incrementally to an annual total of 732 new jobs by 2030.

These new jobs and earnings are often the economic lifeblood of smaller communities along the corridor.

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Ports-to-Plains is a grassroots alliance of over 275 communities and businesses, including alliance partners Heartland Expressway, Theodore Roosevelt Expressway and Eastern Alberta Trade Corridor Coalition, whose mission is to advocate for a robust international transportation infrastructure to promote economic security and prosperity throughout North America's energy and agricultural heartland including Mexico to Canada. Additional information on the Ports-to-Plains Alliance is available at <http://www.portstoplains.com/>.

Graphic:

