



PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE

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

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Washington DC Flyin This Week

A delegation of Ports-to-Plains Alliance members will be traveling to Washington DC this week to advocate for the Ports-to-Plains Alliance Mission. The delegation of 20 represents eight states and provinces in the Ports-to-Plains Alliance Region. Meetings are scheduled in 10 offices of U.S Representatives and 15 U.S. Senators from the region.

Additionally the delegation will be meeting with the leadership of the U.S House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure including Representative Bill Schuster (MN), Chair; Nick Rahall(WV), Ranking Member; John Duncan (TN), Vice Chair; and Thomas Petri (WI), Chair of the Subcommittee on Surface Transportation.

The delegation will be highlighting the Transportation Recommendations of *North America's Energy and Agricultural Corridor: A Rural Corridor of National Significance*. Participants will be demonstrating that this corridor needs greater capacity to carry the growing levels of traffic and commerce, must be modernized to safely accommodate today's trucks and to keep U.S. agriculture competitive, and to provide greater connectivity for its communities, as well as the importance of a strong Federal role in transportation.

On Friday, the Ports-to-Plains Alliance will hold its 4th Annual Energy Conference that brings together the importance of a true energy policy to the North American economy. [Click here for the agenda.](#)

The Alliance will be distributing its 2013 Policy Recommendations including:

- Aggressive Oversight of MAP-21
- Fix the Highway Trust Fund
- Increase Overall Investment
- Focus Resources to Achieve Network Benefits
- Ensure Focused Resources for Critical Rural Freight/Energy Corridors

[Click here for a copy of the 2013 Policy Recommendations.](#)

Upcoming Activities of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance

- April 22-26 -- Ports-to-Plains Alliance D.C. Fly-In
- April 23 -- Ports-to-Plains Board Meeting at 9 a.m. in office of Jack Schenendorf
- April 26 -- Ports-to-Plains Energy Conference on the Hill
- May 15 -- Heartland Expressway Annual Meeting, Alliance, NE (re-scheduled due to weather)
- July 18-19 -- Ports-to-Plains Regional Meeting and Board Meeting in Sonora, TX
- October 1-3 -- 16th Annual Ports-to-Plains Conference in Amarillo, TX



With improvements completed on U.S. 40/287 through southeast Colorado, the Alliance focus remains on the Lamar Reliever Route and the Heartland Expressway north of Limon to the Colorado/Nebraska border.

TRANSPORTATION

Ports-to-Plains: Colorado behind curve(s)

Colorado is behind the curve(s) when it comes to Ports-to-Plains highway upgrades.

Joe Kiely, vice president of operations, briefed area officials Thursday on the progress of the projects to upgrade highways between Mexico and Canada to bring in and export products from the plains east of the Rocky Mountains....

[Business has good reason to worry about Texas highways](#)

Texas is big. Really big. Whether you look at square miles, number of residents or the size of the economy, the Lone Star State is right up there at the top of the rankings of states (and even most nations). We project some 15 million new residents by 2040, while the economy doubles (and then some). One crucial element in our infrastructure that will be strained to deal with future growth is the state's system of highways and roads...

[South Dakota: Highway 85 concerns move south](#)

Traffic concerns in the Oil Patch are well known to the people living and working in western North Dakota.

Worries about how the Bakken energy boom is now affecting or could, in the future, affect roadways have now spread across state lines.

ENERGY

[Ports-to-Plains Alliance and Keystone XL SEIS Hearing - April 18, 2013... News Release... Submitted Letter ... Video of Testimony](#)

Local elected officials living along the route of the proposed Keystone XL pipeline urged the U.S. State Department to swiftly finish its review of environmental impact and signoff on pipeline construction. Over two-hundred officials signed the letter which was submitted at a public hearing held here today...



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

[Economic Developers Association of Alberta Awards Alberta HUB Communities](#)

Awards of Excellence during the Minister's Dinner & Awards Banquet at the Delta Kananaskis Lodge. These awards honour Alberta communities and individuals for excellence in business attraction, retention, expansion and marketing.

Alberta HUB is pleased to announce that 2 Alberta HUB community members came away winners for being recognized for their hard work towards economic development.

Small Community Category

Town of Vegreville, AB
Creative Innovations – Video

Town of Vermilion, AB
Brochure: New Business Development Incentive Program
Creative Innovation - Promotional Item or Giveaway: Map and Business Guide
Branding-Destination Marketing: New Ideas for Living!

Congratulations to our partners in Alberta!

THANK YOU VISIONARIES

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

[Current Members](#)

[Membership Opportunities](#)

PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE STAFF

Michael Reeves
President
5401 N MLK Blvd. #395
Lubbock, TX 79403
P: 806-775-2338
F: 806-775-3981
michael.reeves@portstoplains.com

Joe Kiely
Vice President of Operations
PO Box 9
Limon, CO 80828
P: 303-586-1787
F: 719-775-9073
joe.kiely@portstoplains.com

Duffy Hinkle
Vice President of Membership & Marketing
5401 N MLK Blvd. #395
Lubbock, TX 79403
P: 806-775-3373
F: 806-775-3981
duffy.hinkle@portstoplains.com

Cal Klewin
Executive Director
Theodore Roosevelt Expressway
PO 1306 22 E Broadway
Williston, ND 58802
P: 701-577-8110
cal@trexpressway.com

Fernando Madero
Vice President of Mexico Operations
Jazmines 123, Torreón Jardin
Torreón, Mexico
P: 011 52 (871) 120 1030
maito:fernando.madero@portstoplains.com?subject=

Marlin Johnson
Communications Director
Heartland Expressway
Association
2525 Circle Drive
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
P: 308-630-6244
mjohnson@scottsbluff.org

Jacque Daly
Administrative Assistant
5401 N MLK Blvd. #395
Lubbock, TX 79403
P: 806-775-3369
F: 806-775-3981
jacque.daly@portstoplains.com



www.portstoplains.com

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5401 N MLK Blvd. Unit #395 | Lubbock, TX 79403 | Ph:(806)775-3373

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