



# PORTS-TO-PLAINS TRADE CORRIDOR

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

## Make Plans to Attend Upcoming Events!

### Ports-to-Plains Energy Summit

Be sure to mark your calendar and plan to join us for the **First Energy Summit of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance** scheduled **April 8-9, 2010** at the beautiful Omni Interlocken Resort in Denver (Broomfield), Colorado. Conoco-Phillips is anchor sponsor for this event. More details and online registration will be available soon.



Click on image for larger view



### West Texas Trade Summit 2010

The City of San Angelo, Texas invites you to the **West Texas Trade Summit 2010 on Friday, February 19, 2010**. This important event will provide regional and local businesses, which are importing and exporting, an insight to the positive changes occurring in the Texas and Mexican trade corridors and how these changes will expand economic development opportunities throughout the world.

**Topics include:**

- *Planned Transportation Improvements - Highway and Rail*
- *Successes in Economic Development - Texas & Mexico*
- *Opportunities for Partnering to Promote Trade Expansion*

**Speakers include:**

Mr. Gilberto Cisneros, President and CEO of the Chamber of the Americas; Mr. Michael Reeves, President, Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor Coalition; James Beauchamp, President, MOTRAN;

Ing. Hilario Gabilondo, Vice President and CEO, Texas-Pacifico Limited Mexico, D.F.; Commissioner Fred Underwood, Texas Transportation Commission; and Lic. Carlos Roman Cepeda Gonzalez, Representative in Mexico, D.F.; Secretary of Economic Development, State of Coahuila.

Please RSVP to [info@sanangelodevelopment.com](mailto:info@sanangelodevelopment.com) or call 325.653.7197. Registration is \$25/person, via cash, check, Visa or MasterCard. Pay in advance or at the door.

### Alberta Trade Mission

The [Chamber of the Americas](#) and the [Ports-to-Plains Alliance](#) are working together to organize an Alberta Trade Mission during the week of March 15-19, 2010. Make plans to join us during this event. [Additional details, registration information and agenda](#)

### Ports-to-Plains participates in mission to Veracruz

Ports-to-Plains President Michael Reeves met with port and government officials as part of a Chamber of the Americas mission to Veracruz, Mexico in January. The Chamber of the Americas opened their new office in Veracruz that will be led by Sen. Juan Fernando Perdomo.

"Mexico is one of the top customers for U.S. farm products, so it is always good to explore opportunities to improve access to this important market," said Reeves.

The City of Veracruz is an important port city of more than a half million people located on Mexico's southern Gulf Coast. Many of Mexico's imports and exports go through one of the state's three ports. The state of Veracruz is one of Mexico's main oil producers, and a major agriculture producer as well.

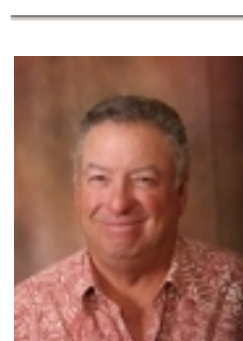
"The Veracruz economy is very similar to the economies of Ports-to-Plains communities – reliant on energy and agriculture. That means there is a great opportunity for trade between the Ports-to-Plains states and Veracruz," said Reeves. "For example, several Alberta and Texas oil and drilling equipment companies are already doing a great deal of business in Veracruz, and the Ports-to-Plains Corridor is handling a lot of this trade."

While in Veracruz, the delegation met with business leaders, government officials, port directors and chambers of commerce in the cities of Veracruz, Cordoba and Xalapa, the state capital. They also toured and met with officials at three universities.

"As we work on the federal transportation funding reauthorization, it is important that we identify all of the potential users of the corridor, and can demonstrate the important economic benefits of Ports-to-Plains. Working with new partners in Mexico will lead to more trade opportunities, and further demonstrate the importance of Ports-to-Plains," said Reeves.



From left to right: Michael Reeves, President, Ports-to-Plains; Dr. Ruth Chavez, Professor of Business, Metropolitan State College; Laura Sonderup, Chair, Chamber of the Americas and Director of Hispanidad Advertising Agency; Gilberto Cisneros, President/CEO, Chamber of the Americas; Senator Juan Fernando Perdomo, Mexico Federal Senator & Vice President of the Chamber of the Americas for Mexico



### Ports-to-Plains Board Members elect 'Trail Blazer' Travis Hiner to Board

Travis Hiner

Travis Hiner, Chairman for the Heartland Expressway Association was elected to serve on the Ports-to-Plains Board of Directors during their first quarterly meeting of the year in Austin, Texas on January 6, 2010. Board members discussed the upcoming Energy Summit in Broomfield, Colorado as well as other pertinent items on the agenda during their meeting that was held in conjunction with the Texas Transportation Forum.

Travis Hiner has been a resident of the Scottsbluff-Gering communities in Nebraska since 1945 where he was recently recognized by the Scottsbluff-Gering United Chamber of Commerce with their organization's most prestigious award, *'The Trail Blazer of the Year Award.'*

"The Trail Blazer Award recognizes an individual who give of his or her talents and resources to the community in such a way that the entire community reaps the benefits," said outgoing Chamber President Max Miller. Hiner received the award for his efforts to promote the Heartland Expressway.

Attending the board meeting in Austin were John Bertsch, Chairman; Tom Martin, Vice Chairman; Brad Bekkedahl, Secretary; Todd McKee, Treasurer and board members Sid Cauthorn, Gil Cisneros, Bill Crooker, Max Howarth, Leroy Mauch, Dave Niff, Milton Pax, and Gaynelle Riffe. Staff members at the meeting were Michael Reeves, President; Duffy Hinkle, Vice President of Membership & Marketing; Joe Kiely, Vice President of Operations; Debbie Stevenson, Executive Assistant and Scott Flukinger, Policy Advisor & Cross-Border Affairs.

Special guests at the meeting were John Hoehne, Director of Heartland Expressway Association; Cal Klewin, Executive Director of Theodore Roosevelt Expressway; Mike McAnally, TxDOT, Odessa District Engineer; Howard Holland, TxDOT, Amarillo District Engineer; and Colin Parrish, Executive Assistant to Commissioner Fred Underwood, Texas Transportation Commission.

The next Ports-to-Plains Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for late April in Washington, D.C.

### Dumas EDC Lands Green Technology Manufacturer

The green technology movement has landed in Dumas in the form of an innovative electric motor manufacturer. The Dumas Economic Development Corporation (DEDC) has announced that Written Pole Motors Corporation, a subsidiary of Florida based Precise Power Corporation (PPC), will establish operations in Dumas. The firm plans to assemble its patented and award winning motors, including the world's first commercially available 100 horsepower single-phase electric motor, in Dumas for global distribution. Citing proximity to distribution networks, market demand and available opportunities, Dumas was chosen over several other communities around the country as the location with the most advantages.

"There is a very large market in and around the Dumas area, with the primary target being that of irrigation along with oil and natural gas well applications. The encouragement and assistance of the Dumas EDC in making this business relationship possible is gratifying," said George A. Neukom, Jr., Director of PPC. "We look forward to playing a positive role in the area's economic development, in addition to the opportunity for job training and placement in conjunction with Amarillo College" said Ronnie J. Barber, President of PPC. [Read more](#)

### Ports-to-Plains Staff

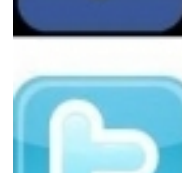
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