



PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE

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

NEWS RELEASES

Northern Ports-to-Plains Alliance Task Force Meeting

April 2, 2012
1:30pm to 5:00 pm
Billings, MT
222 N.32nd St.
Ground floor conference room of Granite Tower

The Ports-to-Plains Alliance, with its local, regional, national and international focus on rural transportation and economic development, continues to explore ways to involve more communities in that focus. It continues to find that the most successful communities work together to create situations that are regionally beneficial. By way of background, this effort had its roots in three items. First, the decision that Ports-to-Plains Alliance wishes to develop greater involvement in Montana at the local levels. Second, the development and growth of a Southern Task Force in West Texas and Mexico that has existed for a couple of years. Third is comments by local economic developers about seeing the need to establish more dialogues within this region. It seems that there are issues like those of border crossings that could be addressed with a larger cross border voice.

Overview Agenda

The Ports-to-Plains Alliance: An Overview

Joe Kiely, Vice President of Operations, Ports-to-Plains Alliance

Western Energy Corridor

Tom Kaiserski, Program Manager, Energy Promotion and Development Division, Montana Department of Commerce

Regional Updates

Eastern Alberta Corridor

Speaker: Rodger Cole, Eastern Alberta Corridor

Montana

Speaker: Al Jones, Chief of Scouts, aljonesbusinessgrowth.com

North Dakota

Cal Klewin, Executive Director, Theodore Roosevelt Expressway Association

Saskatchewan

Speaker: TBD

Bringing It Together

Complete Agenda

Whether you are from Montana, North Dakota, Alberta and Saskatchewan, if energy, agriculture, manufacturing, trade, border crossings or economic development is your interest, this discussion would be worth the time. If you have questions, contact Joe Kiely, Ports-to-Plains Alliance at joekiely@portstoplains.com or call 303-586-1787. Call Jacque Daly, Administrative Assistant, Ports-to-Plains Alliance at Jacque.Daly@portstoplains.com or call 806-775-3369.

Annual Washington DC Fly-in

April 16-20, 2012

Join the Alliance in visiting Congressional Members across the Ports-to-Plains Region. Experienced or novice, you are welcome to participate. Participant will arrive on Monday, April 16th. Tuesday will be highlighted by the Ports-to-Plains Alliance Board of Directors Meeting, but will include some Congressional visits. The majority of visits on Wednesday will be in House of Representative offices and Thursday in Senate offices. Friday will be the Energy Summit. See below for additional information on the Energy Summit. Plan to fly home on Friday afternoon or Saturday.

If you are interested in attending and wish to reserve rooms from the hotel block, contact Jacque Daly at (806) 775-3369 (Jacque.Daly@portstoplains.com).

2012 Texas Unified Transportation Program Revision Input Requested

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will host a statewide open-house style public meeting to solicit comments and input on revisions to the 2012 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) funding allocations, which covers fiscal years (FY) 2012 through 2021. The 2012 UTP is a comprehensive ten-year plan for the development and construction of transportation projects in Texas, including roadways, aviation, public transportation, waterways and coastal waters, and rail projects; and includes specific funding levels for each fiscal year.

The public meetings will be held at 6:00 PM (CST) on Thursday, March 22, 2012. Beginning promptly at 6:15 p.m., TxDOT staff will conduct a brief presentation on the purpose of and revisions to the 2012 UTP. Additional information will be available for public viewing and TxDOT representatives will be on-hand to discuss the development process and answer questions. Forms will be provided to receive written comments.

Meeting locations in the Ports-to-Plains Region are listed below. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

For additional information, please go to <http://e2.ma.click/wlv7b/wtp4jb/g1g6z> or call the toll-free information line at (800) 687-8108.

Written comments may be submitted on the UTP website at: <http://e2.ma.click/wlv7b/wtp4jb/wth6z>, using search engine keyword: 2012 UTP; by email at: FIN_UTP@txdot.gov; or by mail to: TxDOT Finance Division UTP, 150 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, 78704. Public comments will be received until April 23, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

Laredo
1817 Bob Bullock Loop
Laredo, Texas 78043

Amarillo
5715 Canyon Drive
Amarillo, Texas 79114

Lubbock
135 Slaton Road
Lubbock, Texas 79404-5201

Odessa
3901 East US Highway 80
Odessa, Texas 79761

San Angelo
4502 Knickerbocker Road
San Angelo, Texas 76904

TBD Colorado

The Ports-to-Plains Alliance encourages its members to participate in the TBD process across the state of Colorado. Transportation and its importance in moving Colorado's people and goods is a critical need, but often does not have the voice of other statewide needs. Transportation needs your voice as a participant. To be a participant, you must self-nominate yourself and then be selected. Below is more information about the process.

TBD Colorado is a nonpartisan, collaborative effort designed to create informed and constructive conversations among Coloradans about some of the biggest issues facing the state. TBD Colorado will begin hosting community meetings throughout Colorado in April and May. Several public summits will be held in June.

The goal of TBD Colorado's regional meetings is to provide opportunities for face-to-face conversation. This means their size is limited and not everyone who nominates themselves will be able to attend. We will strive to bring together a group representative of each region. Please keep in mind you may be able to attend the meetings as an observer on a space available basis. You can also download materials from the website to sponsor a meeting yourself in your own community, and to participate in the online dialogue which will begin in the coming months.

TBD Colorado will focus on important issues in the state including:

- Education – both P-12 and higher education
- Health
- Transportation
- State Budget
- State Workforce/Talent

For additional information and to self-nominate yourself go to <http://e2.ma.click/wlv7b/wtp4jb/cmi6z>. The deadline for self-nomination is March 26th so please act today.

Transportation Logistics for the Oil & Gas Industry: Houston, TX

The Ports-to-Plains Alliance is a supporting organization and will be presenting at this conference. Hope to see you there.

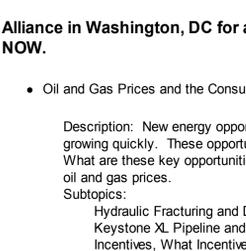
June 4-6, 2012

Many oil and gas companies are putting themselves in a much better position competitively by working closely with the trucking, barging and railroad industries, which in turn are increasingly providing solutions to get products moving early at the development stage of many emerging resource plays across North America. Only those market players with the most up-to-date information and strategies will be able to take full advantage of the myriad of business opportunities associated with transportation in the current oil and gas drilling boom. Smart trucking and rail companies see the synergies and are capitalizing on them – and so are the leading-edge E&P and midstream companies, in order to maximize production while cutting costs.

To ensure you stay ahead of the curve and gain a first-mover position, attend Infocast's Transportation Logistics for the Oil and Gas Industry. This unique, cutting-edge event will bring together the key stakeholders who can enable the necessary expansion of "pipelines on wheels".

Upcoming Ports-to-Plains Alliance Activities

- March 26-28 - [Modular Construction & Prefabrication North America](#), Calgary, AB
- April 2 - Northern Ports-to-Plains Alliance Task Force, Billings, MT
- April 16-20 - Washington DC Fly-in, Energy Mini-Summit, Board of Directors Meeting, Washington, DC
- June 4-6 - [Transportation Logistics for the Oil & Gas Industry: Houston, TX](#)
- July 19-20 - Ports-to-Plains Board of Directors Meeting, Limon, CO
- October 2-4 - Ports-to-Plains Alliance Annual Conference, Medicine Hat, AB



The Ports-to-Plains Alliance appreciates the bi-partisan effort of the United States Senate in passing a bill that maintains funding levels, streamlines regulations and prioritizes key programs.

Boehner's favored transportation bill is a five-year, \$260 billion measure that would pay for infrastructure projects with revenue from new domestic oil and gas drilling. His party has been divided on the measure, and Boehner has suggested he could move to the Senate bill if he can't win over his conference...

Staffers: House won't pass highway bill this month

Duncan hits road to address issues: State budget tops concerns for projects: Progress has been made in the Ports-to-Plains corridor

TRANSPORTATION

Senate approves \$109B highway bill, raising pressure on House

The Senate approved a \$109 billion transportation bill on Wednesday that would fund road and transit projects for the next two years.

The bipartisan 74-22 vote puts pressure on the Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) and the House to either pass a transportation bill of its own or take up the Senate-approved version of the measure ahead of a March 31 deadline for the expiration of current highway funding.

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Ports-to-Plains Alliance Energy Summit

Friday, April 20, 2012
9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Gold Room - 2168 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington D.C.

Energy is a major issue affecting every American, whether it is gas prices at the pump or utility bills. The energy industry is also a major employer throughout the Ports-to-Plains region. Our communities produce a diverse portfolio of energy sources from traditional sources such as oil and gas to renewable sources such as wind. Learn directly from those in the industry how energy issues affect our local jobs and economies.

INVITED AUDIENCE:
CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS
CONGRESSIONAL STAFF
PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE MEMBERS

RSVP:
(806) 775-3373
duffy.hinkle@portstoplains.com

AGENDA TOPICS:
OIL & GAS PRICES AND THE CONSUMER
ELECTRICITY AND THE ECONOMY
ENERGY AND TRANSPORTATION

ENERGY

Join the Ports-to-Plains

Alliance in Washington, DC for an Energy Summit on April 20, 2012. RSVP NOW.

- Oil and Gas Prices and the Consumer

Description: New energy opportunities for North America in the Ports-to-Plains region are growing quickly. These opportunities are largely dependent upon the decisions of regulators. What are these key opportunities and what affect will these opportunities have on consumer oil and gas prices.

Subtopics:
Hydraulic Fracturing and Domestic Opportunities
Keystone XL Pipeline and Energy Security
Incentives, What Incentives?

- Electricity and the Economy

Description: There is not a sector of the economy that is not affected by the cost and availability of electricity. Renewable energy is providing many of our rural communities in the Ports-to-Plains region an economic shot in the arm as well as creating a growing manufacturing sector across the region. At the same time coal provides the majority of electricity in the nation while creating rural jobs. How can we create an electric future that supports the economy and the consumer?

Subtopics:
Renewable Energy Production Tax Credits and Rural Communities
It is a long haul
Policy ... Policy ... Policy

- Energy and Transportation

Description: The Ports-to-Plains Alliance Corridors create the backbone transportation corridor for North America's Energy Corridor. With domestic energy production booming in the region, the stresses on the rural transportation system is also booming at a time when transportation funding is slowing. What are the opportunities to address economic opportunity with a transportation system that is safe and reliable?

Subtopics:
North America's Energy Corridor
Pilot Permitting Proposal
Opportunity connected to opportunity ... Transportation, Energy and the Economy

Senate sends message to Obama on Keystone

Road Damage from Eagle Ford Shale Big Rigs

Bipartisan US Senate bill would extend wind tax credits by two years



15th Annual Conference

October 2-4, 2012 ~ Medicine Hat, Alberta Canada



U.S. Senator
Kent Conrad
(ND)
Ports-to-Plains Alliance
Caucus Member

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
Rep. Rick Berg R-ND

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