FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 3, 2025

El Paso Chamber Applauds $150 Million Allocation in Draft UTP for Borderland Expressway Phase 3

EL PASO, TX – The El Paso Chamber proudly celebrates the inclusion of $150 million in the Draft 2026 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) for the SS 320 Borderland Expressway Phase 3 – El Paso. This historic investment, designated under Category 12 (Strategic Priority), represents a significant step forward for mobility, trade, and economic development in our region.

In April 2025, the El Paso Chamber led a delegation of regional leaders to Austin to advocate before the Texas Transportation Commission in support of the project. The delegation included Texas State Senator César Blanco, El Paso County Commissioner Sergio Coronado, El Paso Chamber Board Chair Elizabeth O'Hara, and El Paso MPO Executive Director Eduardo Calvo, alongside Chamber President & CEO Ricardo Mora.

The Chamber recognizes the leadership of Senator Blanco, who in June 2025 convened regional stakeholders for a roundtable discussion with Texas Transportation Commissioners Alex Meade and Steven Alvis. That meeting further emphasized the importance of coordinated investment in transportation infrastructure.

"This state investment in the Borderland Expressway is a game-changer for El Paso's economy and business community. By easing congestion and expanding freight capacity, this project will strengthen our position as a hub for trade and economic growth," said **Senator César J. Blanco**. "I want to thank the Texas Transportation Commissioners, all of whom accepted my invitations to visit El Paso and see our unique infrastructure needs firsthand. Their visits helped secure this critical funding. I'm also grateful to the El Paso Chamber for mobilizing local leaders and ensuring our region's voice was heard in Austin. When we advocate together, we get results."

"This $150 million allocation is a testament to what can be accomplished when regional leaders advocate with a shared vision," said **Ricardo Mora**, El Paso Chamber President & CEO. "The Borderland Expressway will not only enhance mobility and connectivity in El Paso, but also serve as a vital artery for Texas and the nation's economy."

Elizabeth O'Hara, Board Chair of the El Paso Chamber, added, "This investment shows that our region's priorities are being heard at the highest levels. It's a win for commerce, for safety, and for El Pasoans who deserve more efficient infrastructure."

"Our strong regional leadership of the County, Cities, MPO, Chamber, and the El Paso Mobility Coalition is in constant collaboration and deliberation on how we can best maximize our own transportation plan," reinforced **El Paso County**

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Commissioner Sergio Coronado PCT. 4. "The El Paso region appreciates the continued partnership with TxDOT and the Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) in modernizing our transportation network."

"This investment in the Borderland Expressway reflects a major milestone in our region's efforts to improve freight mobility and regional connectivity," said **Eduardo Calvo**, Executive Director of the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization. "We are grateful to the Texas Transportation Commission for recognizing the significance of this project and look forward to continued collaboration to bring it across the finish line."

The Borderland Expressway is expected to significantly alleviate congestion, improve trade efficiency, and provide a new route for commercial and passenger vehicles in and around El Paso.

The El Paso Chamber will continue working with local, state, and federal partners to ensure sustained investment in the infrastructure needed to support economic competitiveness across the Borderplex region.

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About the El Paso Chamber

Since 1899, the El Paso Chamber has driven connection and innovation in El Paso. Guided by our core pillars for Economic Prosperity: Economic Development & Innovation, Public Policy and Government Relations, and Infrastructure and Transportation.

The El Paso Chamber is the unifying voice of the Borderplex business. Member-driven, the El Paso Chamber has been a part of every major business and social development in our region's history. Our brand is a catalyst for business success. As it did more than a century ago, the El Paso Chamber is dedicated to fostering job growth, economic expansion, and elevating quality of life.