



February 24, 2026

Hon. John Cornyn
517 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 201510

Hon. Ted Cruz
167 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 201510

Dear Sen. Cornyn and Sen. Cruz:

We are writing on behalf of the Border Trade Alliance to express our strong support for the El Paso Chamber's request that additional time be provided to complete an economic impact study before any final decision is made to remove commercial traffic from the Bridge of the Americas Land Port of Entry (LPOE) as part of its planned modernization.

Among the arguments the BTA made in the attached letter to the General Services Administration in 2024, the Bridge of the Americas LPOE plays a critical role in supporting El Paso's economy, regional supply chains, and Texas's position as the nation's leading trading state. Modernization of this port of entry presents an opportunity to enhance border security, operational efficiency, and binational commerce. However, eliminating commercial traffic at this location would represent a significant structural change to cross-border trade flows in the region.

Although environmental impacts were evaluated through the National Environmental Policy Act process, a comprehensive economic impact analysis was not conducted as part of the Environmental Impact Statement. Consequently, the broader economic implications of removing commercial traffic have not been fully examined, including potential effects on jobs, logistics networks, congestion at other ports of entry, and Texas's long-term trade competitiveness.

The El Paso Chamber and its regional partners have committed to funding an independent, third-party economic impact study to provide an objective analysis of the potential consequences of this decision. We respectfully request sufficient time for this study to be completed and considered before any irreversible actions are taken that could undermine regional trade flows and result in inefficient use of taxpayer resources. We further respectfully request your engagement with GSA and Customs and Border Protection to ensure that final design or procurement actions are not advanced until this analysis is completed and fully considered.

Ensuring that modernization decisions are informed by both environmental and economic analysis will strengthen the integrity of the federal decision-making process and support sound, data-driven policy.

Thank you for your continued leadership on matters affecting Texas trade, border security and infrastructure, and economic development. We appreciate your attention to this important issue for the El Paso region and the State of Texas.

Continued

Sincerely,



Pete Sepulveda, Jr.
Chairman



Britton Mullen
President

Enclosure