



INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

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U.S. COMMISSIONER CHAD MCINTOSH MARKS BINATIONAL MILESTONE FOR WORLD TRADE BRIDGE EXPANSION IN LAREDO TEXAS

U.S. Commissioner Chad McIntosh of the U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) joined U.S. Congressman Henry Cuellar (TX-28) and Laredo Mayor Dr. Victor D. Treviño, for the signing of the conceptual designs for the expansion of the World Trade Bridge.

The signed conceptual plans represent formal binational approval under the boundary and water treaties that govern international crossings between the United States and Mexico. The expansion would widen the existing World Trade Bridge and add a new eight-lane structure for northbound commercial traffic, increasing the total number of lanes serving trade between Laredo and Nuevo Laredo.

Under President Trump's leadership, the Administration has pushed to move priority border infrastructure at Trump speed, and today's action reflects that focus on advancing practical improvements that support security, trade, and local communities.

"The World Trade Bridge is a critical artery for North American commerce, and today's signing confirms that the United States and Mexico are moving forward together on a thoughtful, coordinated expansion," Commissioner McIntosh said. "Our engineers on both sides of the river have spent years working through technical details so that this crossing can handle more traffic safely and reliably while respecting our treaty commitments."

The USIBWC expressed appreciation to congressional supporters who have championed investments in border infrastructure.

"Consistent, predictable funding for both construction and long-term maintenance is essential if we want to protect taxpayer investments in infrastructure," McIntosh said. "Members of Congress who understand that reality—including those who have backed bridge, dam safety, and water projects in this corridor—are helping ensure that facilities like the World Trade Bridge keep pace with demand and remain resilient for decades to come."

The World Trade Bridge expansion is being advanced by the City of Laredo in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The current proposal includes adding two southbound lanes to the existing bridge and constructing an approximately 1,479-foot-long additional bridge for northbound traffic parallel to the existing span, enhancing traffic flow and safety for commercial carriers and the communities that depend on them.

Under long-standing binational arrangements, both sections of the IBWC review and approve international bridge designs and related works that affect the international boundary and shared rivers. The Commission's binational engineering teams analyze hydrologic, hydraulic, and boundary impacts and ensure that new infrastructure is compatible with flood-control works and river management responsibilities in both countries.



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Binational approval of the conceptual designs clears the way for project sponsors to proceed with subsequent stages of environmental review, detailed design, and construction, subject to applicable U.S. and Mexican laws and regulations.

The World Trade Bridge, opened in 2000, is one of the principal commercial gateways on the U.S.–Mexico border, handling a substantial share of northbound and southbound truck traffic between the two countries. Modernizing and expanding the crossing is expected to reduce congestion, improve mobility for freight and regional traffic, and support economic growth in the Laredo–Nuevo Laredo region and beyond.

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