



SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization

Serving our member governments and their constituents since 1972

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA GOVERNMENTS ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING THE CITY OF DOUGLAS EFFORTS TO MODERNIZE AND EXPAND THE CURRENT RAUL H. CASTRO PORT OF ENTRY, AND TO CONSTRUCT A NEW PORT OF ENTRY FACILITY TO ACCOMMODATE COMMERCIAL CARGO

WHEREAS, the size, historic significance, and location of the existing Douglas- Raul H. Castro Land Port of Entry (LPOE) render it unsuitable for significant expansion, cause frequent delays in cross border commerce, and hinder the ability of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers to safely and effectively fulfill their operational mandate; and

WHEREAS, inbound commercial traffic at the Douglas LPOE has increased over 25 percent over the past five years, exports, including oversized/overweight mining equipment, have increased 26 percent over the same period, and a recent ADOT analysis suggests truck volumes could continue to increase by more than 6% per year over the next 10 years which will further exacerbate the operational constraints at the existing site; and

WHEREAS, facilitating oversized cargo crossings at the Douglas LPOE requires a complete port shut down of several hours and the current LPOE configuration requires such shipments queue and travel through heavily urbanized areas on both sides of the border, thereby suppressing legitimate trade and travel; and

WHEREAS, the current Douglas LPOE location requires the frequent flow of hazardous chemicals through the urbanized areas of Douglas and Agua Prieta, and the current facility does not have the necessary facilities for spill containment or mitigation; and

WHEREAS, based upon General Services Administration studies, traffic growth is anticipated to continue to grow especially as relates to solar, thermoelectric power, and mining expansions in northeastern Sonora, Mexico, and the existing Douglas LPOE will not allow CBP to adequately meet its mission within the next five years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Douglas is desirous of a solution that will promote and enhance legitimate trade and travel between southeastern Arizona and Northeastern Sonora, and stimulate the economies on both sides of the U.S. /Mexico border; and

SEAGO Member Entities

Cochise County
Benson
Bisbee
Douglas
Huachuca City
Sierra Vista
Tombstone
Willcox
Graham County
Pima
Safford
San Carlos
Apache Tribe
Thatcher
Greenlee County
Clifton
Duncan
Santa Cruz County
Nogales
Patagonia

SEAGO Main Office

Administration
CDBG
Economic Dev.
Housing
Transportation

1403 W. Hwy 92
Bisbee, AZ 85603
520-432-5301
520-432-5858 Fax

Area Agency on Aging Office

300 Collins Road
Bisbee, AZ 85603
520-432-2528
520-432-9168 Fax

www.seago.org

WHEREAS, in order to enhance border security, allow CBP officers to safely and effectively fulfill their operational mandate, and expand economic opportunities for the City and the region, the City of Douglas continues to work with U.S. Customs and Border Protection in continued advocacy, positioning, and pursuit of alternatives for mutually viable methods of LPOE construction and financing, that will provide for the construction of a new commercial LPOE outside the urbanized area, and the repurposing of the existing LPOE.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

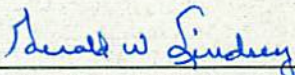
That in order to foster more efficient cross-border flows, promote the development of retail, manufacturing and tourism opportunities, and create an environment for regional and bi-national sustained job creation and increased tax-base, the Executive Board of SouthEastern Arizona Government Organization:

- 1) Recognizes the value that legitimate cross-border travel and trade brings to the SEAGO region,
- 2) Supports the bi-national collaboration and efforts of the City of Douglas and the City of Agua Prieta to reduce traffic congestion in the urbanized international corridor connecting Douglas and Agua Prieta, and
- 3) Urges the State of Arizona and the State of Sonora to select the modernization and expansion of the Douglas-Agua Prieta Ports of Entry as a priority project for both state governments

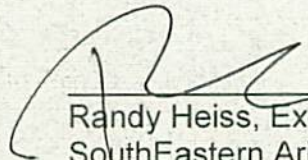
BE IT FURTHER RESLOVED:

That the Executive Board of SouthEastern Arizona Government Organization urges the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to include the Douglas LPOE as part of the agency's 5-year capital improvements program and request that the Arizona Federal Congressional delegation continue their advocacy and positioning efforts required for the advancement of this project.

Passed and adopted by the SEAGO Executive Board on this 20th day of May 2016.



Gerald "Sam" Lindsey, Chair
Executive Board



Randy Heiss, Executive Director
SouthEastern Arizona
Governments Organization