



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

Rio Grande Valley Sector: Border Wall System Construction Projects Overview and Public Input Submission

Webinar | Presentation

October 30, 2018



Housekeeping

- Today's webinar will be recorded.
- Webinar is listen-only through your computer speakers.
- Questions? Use the Q&A pod at the left of the screen to send questions. We will address as many as possible.
- If the presentation is too small on your screen, press the “full screen” button at the top right of the presentation pod.
- Troubleshooting Support: E-mail commentsenv@cbp.dhs.gov.

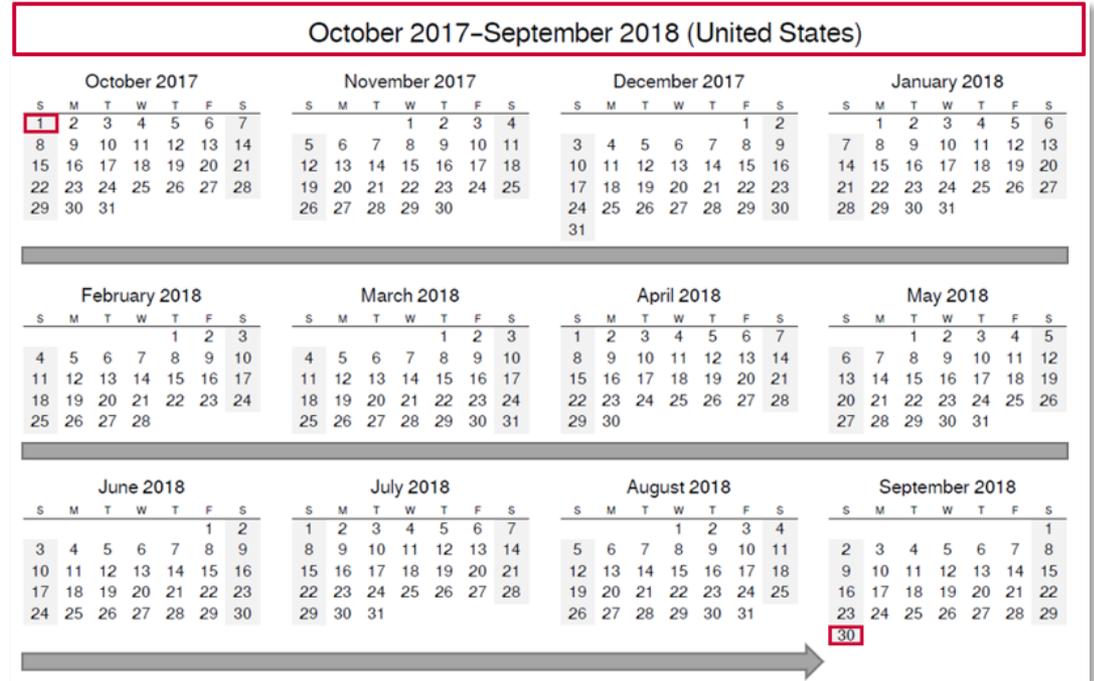


**Homeland
Security**



Webinar Objective

- The purpose of the webinar is to inform participants about:
 1. Rio Grande Valley projects
 2. Ways to contribute feedback
 3. Answer your questions



Homeland Security



Topics to be Covered

- U.S. Customs and Border Protection Mission
- Overview of Projects
- Secretary of Homeland Security's Waiver
- Public Input Overview
- Questions and Answers



**Homeland
Security**



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

- **CBP Mission:** The CBP Mission is to safeguard America's borders and prevent terrorists and terrorist weapons from entering the United States, while also facilitating the flow of legitimate trade and travel.
- In supporting CBP's mission, U.S. Border Patrol is charged with establishing and maintaining effective control of the borders of the United States.



Homeland
Security



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

- The Border Patrol accomplishes this mission through:
 - Physical barriers
 - Surveillance
 - Sensors
 - Aircraft sightings
 - Interpreting and following tracks
 - Traffic checkpoints



Homeland
Security



Project Overview

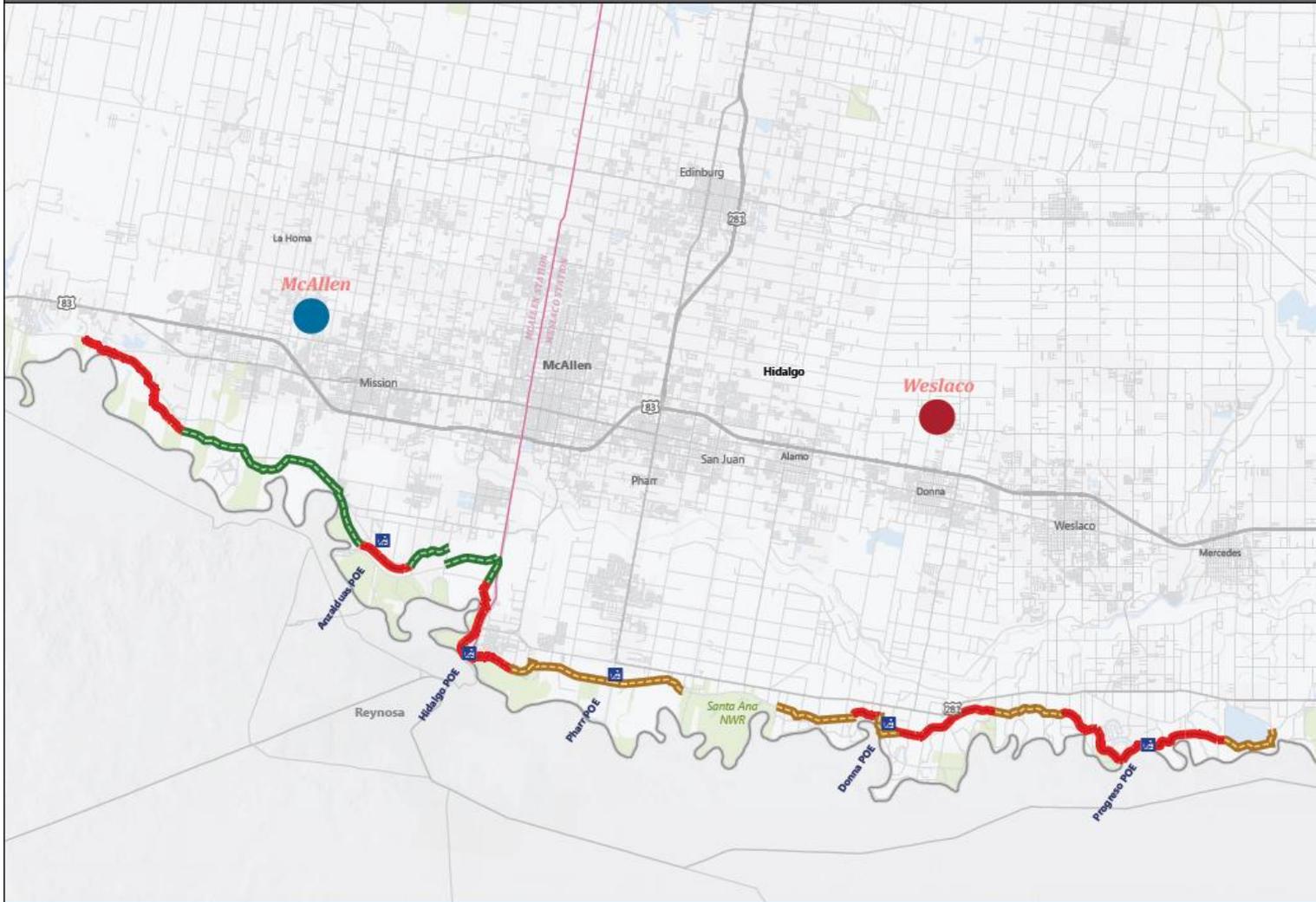
- Rio Grande Valley Sector has approximately 20 miles of existing levee wall system in Hidalgo County and approximately 34 miles of bollard wall system in Cameron County, built in 2008.
- CBP will design and construct:
 - Approximately 25 miles of levee/border wall system in Hidalgo County
 - Approximately eight miles of border wall system in Starr County with an option for an additional four (4) miles.



**Homeland
Security**



Levee/Border Wall System Hidalgo County



LEGEND

Levee/Border Wall System FY18 Projects

- Levee/Border Wall System FY18 - McAllen (MCS)
- Levee/Border Wall System FY18 - Weslaco (WSL)

Existing Pedestrian Fence

- Primary

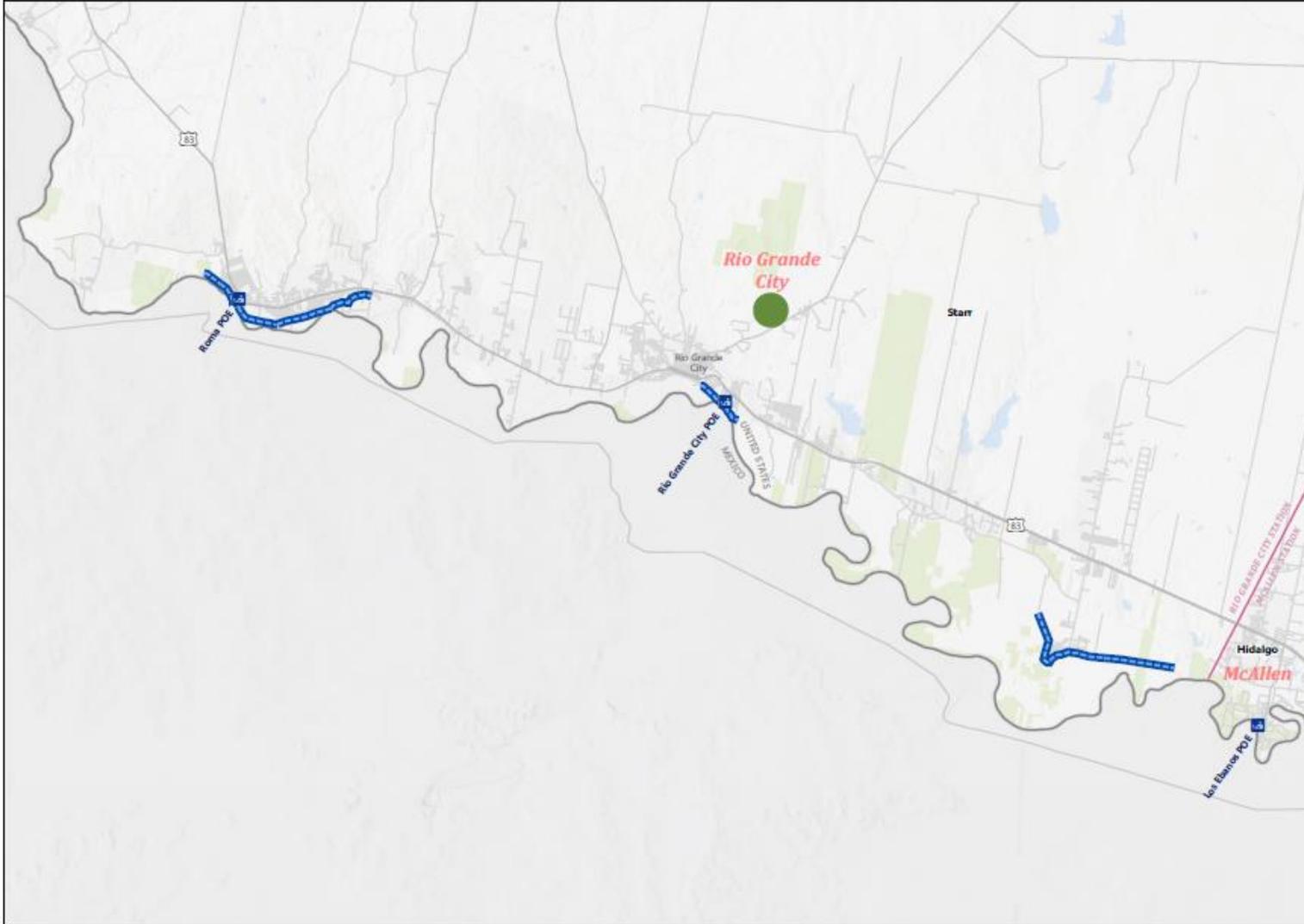
"If sheet measures less than 11x17" it is a reduced print.
 1 in = 3 mi Reduce scale accordingly. 1:190,080



Homeland Security



Border Wall System Starr County



LEGEND

Border Wall System FY18

 Border Wall System FY18

*If sheet measures less than 11x17" it is a reduced print.
1 in = 2.76 mi Reduce scale accordingly. 1:175,000



**Homeland
Security**



How Will the Project be Funded?

- CBP operates under an annual budget based on appropriations from Congress.

FY 2018

\$1.375 billion

Southwest border

- Among the \$1.3B, Congress specifically appropriated funds for the planning and construction of border infrastructure in the Rio Grande Valley.



**Homeland
Security**



Rio Grande Valley Waiver

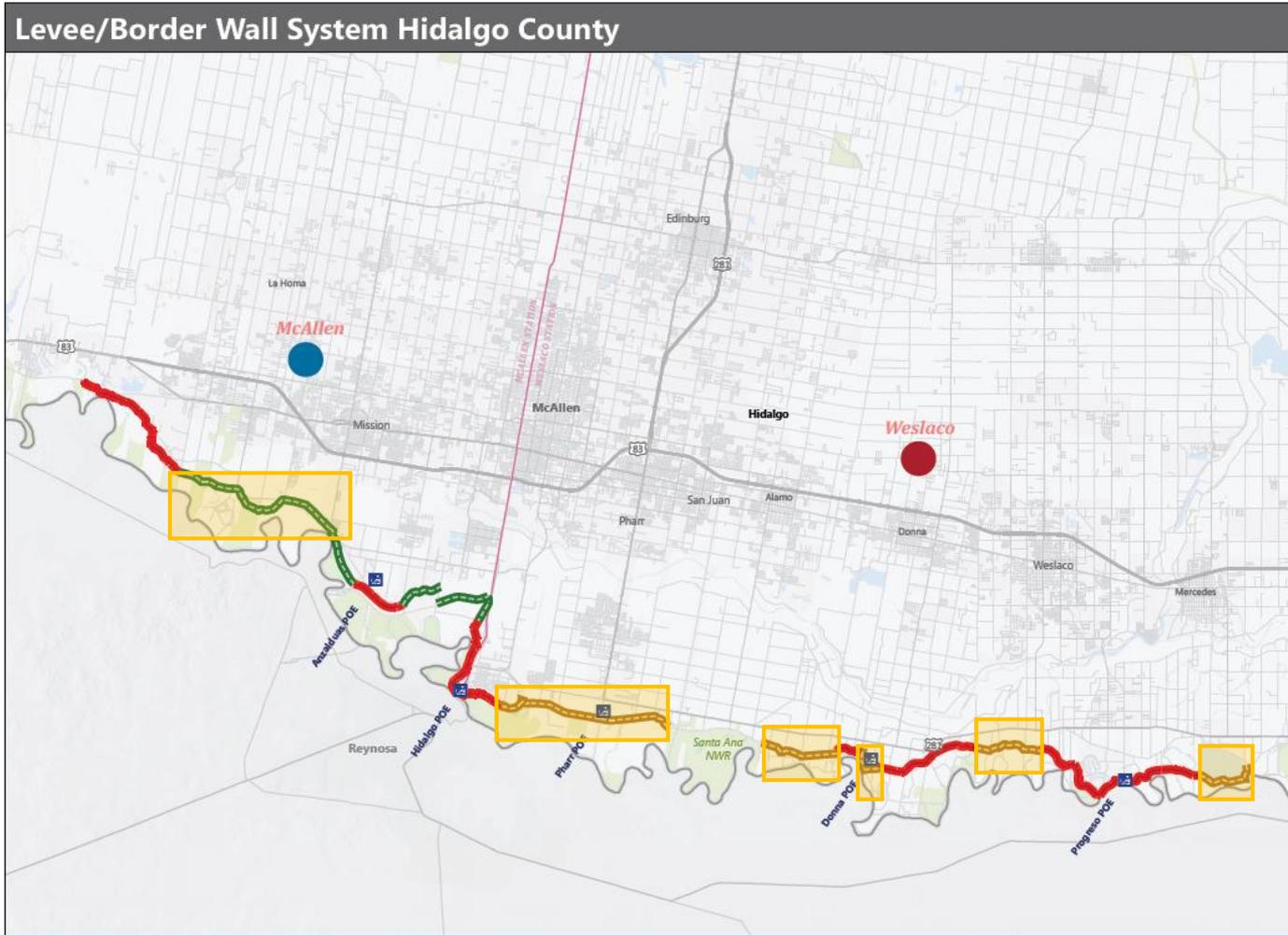
- The Secretary of Homeland Security's waiver authority is set out in Section 102(c) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, as amended ("IIRIRA").
- The waiver authority allows the Secretary to waive all legal requirements the Secretary deems necessary to the expeditious construction barriers and roads to deter illegal entry into the United States.
- The Secretary issued a waiver for two project areas in RGV on October 11th. The October 11th waiver covers approximately 14 miles of barriers.
- The waiver includes various environmental, natural resource, and land management laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA).



**Homeland
Security**



Rio Grande Valley Waiver



LEGEND

Levee/Border Wall System FY18 Projects

- Levee/Border Wall System FY18 - McAllen (MCS)
- Levee/Border Wall System FY18 - Weslaco (WSL)

Existing Pedestrian Fence

- Primary

Covered Under Waiver

*If sheet measures less than 11x17" it is a reduced print.
1 in = 3 mi Reduce scale accordingly: 1:190,080



Homeland Security



Environmental Planning

- CBP is committed to continued responsible environmental planning to:
 - Identify potential impacts and areas of concern
 - Establish best management practices for construction
 - Implement mitigation measures to avoid or to the greatest extent practicable, minimize impacts to the environment
- Environmental planning is informed by:
 - Existing environmental data
 - New biological, cultural, and natural resources field surveys
 - Consulting and coordinating with relevant stakeholders
- Additionally, CBP is also seeking the projects' input on culture, commerce, and quality of life



**Homeland
Security**



Public Input Overview

- Comments and input will be accepted until **November 6, 2018**.
- Comments should include data or information that could help inform CBP's analysis of potential impacts. Helpful comments are fact-based and include **links to data** or **research**, as well as specific information on the impacts to:

BIOLOGICAL
resources

CULTURAL
resources

NATURAL
resources

QUALITY of
LIFE

COMMERCE

Feel free to provide comments that cover any or all of the listed topics, including those which may not be captured herein.

- If known, include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements that CBP should consider during project siting, construction, and operation.



Homeland
Security



How Can the Public Submit Comments?

- Comments and questions can be submitted to CBP via e-mail and mail.

- E-mail**



A screenshot of an email composition form. On the left is a 'Send' button with a paper airplane icon. To its right are three input fields: 'To...' containing the email address commentseov@cbp.dhs.gov, 'Cc...' which is empty, and 'Subject' containing the text 'FY18 RGV Border Construction Projects'.

- Mail**



U.S. Customs and Border Protection
U.S. Border Patrol Headquarters
1300 Pennsylvania Ave. 6.5E Mail Stop 1039
Washington, DC 20229-1100

- Comments received will be part of the public record.



**Homeland
Security**



How Can the Public Stay Informed?

- If you would like to be added to the project e-mail:
- If at any time you would like to be removed from the list:
- Further information, including Spanish-language materials:
www.cbp.gov/about/environmental-cultural-stewardship/nepa-documents/docs-review



A screenshot of an email subscription form. The 'To...' field contains the email address commentseiv@cbp.dhs.gov. The 'Subject' field contains the text 'FY18 RGV Border Construction Projects'. Below the form, the word 'Subscribe' is displayed with a red arrow pointing to it from the right.



A screenshot of an email unsubscribe form. The 'To...' field contains the email address commentseiv@cbp.dhs.gov. The 'Subject' field contains the text 'FY18 RGV Border Construction Projects'. Below the form, the word 'Unsubscribe' is displayed with a red arrow pointing to it from the right.



Homeland
Security



Questions? We will try to answer them!

- Thank you for taking the time to attend today's webinar.
- We want to hear from you. We encourage and appreciate your input, including feedback on potential impacts to the environment, culture, commerce, and quality of life.
- Please submit questions via the Q&A pod. We will try to address as many questions as possible.
- Please check back for project updates at this link:
www.cbp.gov/about/environmental-cultural-stewardship/nepa-documents/docs-review.



**Homeland
Security**



Thank You!

- Updates and new information: www.cbp.gov/about/environmental-cultural-stewardship/nepa-documents/docs-review.



- Please take a moment to complete the optional evaluation.



**Homeland
Security**

