August 26, 2020

RE: Tijuana River Border Wall System Project Request for Input

To Whom It May Concern:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is seeking your input concerning the construction of new border wall system across the Tijuana River in San Diego County, California. CBP is accepting comments until September 25, 2020.

To review this information in Spanish, Spanish-language materials are available online at www.cbp.gov/about/environmental-cultural-stewardship/nepa-documents/docs-review.

CBP will be constructing approximately 0.2 miles of new border wall system across the Tijuana River. The project will include a bridge with 30-foot tall steel bollards, a vertical lift gate, lighting, a 20-foot wide roadway and a maintenance walkway. A berm at least four feet tall will also be constructed approximately 150 feet downstream of the new border wall system for debris control. This project is covered by a waiver of environmental laws by the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security that was issued on February 8, 2019.

A map of the area is included in an attachment to this letter.

CBP previously sought public comments on the potential environmental impacts of border wall system in this area from December 18, 2018 to January 17, 2019. Feedback from both comment periods will be considered during the environmental review process.

CBP is seeking input on potential impacts to the environment, culture, commerce, and quality of life, including socioeconomic impacts. CBP is conducting environmental site surveys and assessments and is gathering data and input from state and local government agencies, federal agencies, tribal governments, and landowners that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in the projects. CBP will prepare environmental planning documents to evaluate potential impacts and make those documents available to the public.

How to Provide Comments

Comments and information will be accepted until Friday, September 25, 2020. Comments should include data or information that could help inform CBP’s analysis of potential impacts. Helpful comments are fact-based, include links to data or research, and provide specific information concerning potential impacts to biological, cultural, and natural resources. If known, your response should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements that CBP should consider.
Specifically, CBP is looking for answers to the following questions:

- Are you aware of threatened or endangered plant or animal species within the area of construction? If so, where?
- Are you aware of recreational activities that take place in the area of construction?
- Are you aware of possible impacts to businesses? Where are those businesses located?
- Are you aware of historical sites or areas of cultural significance located within the area of construction? If so, where?
- Do you foresee your day-to-day activities being impacted by the project?
- Are you aware of any studies, data or other information available that would aid in the analysis of environmental impacts in the project area?
- Do you have any recommendations for practices the construction contractor should follow to avoid or minimize impacts?

Comments can be emailed to CBP at SanDiegoComments@cbp.dhs.gov. Please include “Tijuana River Border Wall System Projects August 2020” in the subject of your email. Comments received in response to this letter, including names and addresses of those who comment, will become a part of the public record.

We appreciate your feedback and help with evaluating the potential impacts of these projects.

Sincerely,

Paul Enriquez
Acquisition, Real Estate and Environmental Director
Infrastructure Portfolio
Program Management Office Directorate
U.S. Border Patrol

Enclosure: Tijuana River Border Wall System Project Map