

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20229

November 1, 2022

RE: Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment Roads Improvement Project, Laredo, Texas, Laredo Sector, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security

To Whom it May Concern:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is pleased to provide the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI) for the proposed action to upgrade approximately 16 miles of existing roads in Webb County, Texas. CBP invites your review and comment.

The proposed action is to improve roads to Functional Class-2 (FC-2) all-weather roads. An FC-2 road is a two-lane 24-foot wide, unpaved, all-weather road consisting of a surface of imported aggregate material such as milled bituminous material or processed stone and gravel. The upgraded all-weather roads would improve mobility and accessibility for U.S. Border Patrol agents responding to illegal cross-border traffic. The proposed roads are located where the vanishing points for cross-border violators are seconds to minutes.

Per DHS Directive 023-01, Revision Number 01 (Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act), CBP requests your review and comment on the Draft EA. The Draft EA evaluates potential impacts on the environment from the Proposed Action, alternatives, and the No Action Alternative, including portions of the project that are located within a floodplain.

The Draft EA and Spanish-language materials can be found online at: <u>https://www.cbp.gov/about/environmental-management</u>. Los materiales en español están disponibles en línea en: <u>https://www.cbp.gov/about/environmental-management</u>.

Comments will be accepted until Thursday, December 1, 2022 by email at LaredoComments@cbp.dhs.gov or mailed to:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection U.S. Border Patrol Headquarters Program Management Office Directorate 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. 6.5E Mail Stop 1039 Washington, DC 20229-1100 ATTN: Michelle Barnes Page 2

Please reference "Laredo Roads Improvement" in your response.

We appreciate your feedback and assistance in the evaluation of this project.

Sincerely, Same

Michelle Barnes Environmental Planning Lead Infrastructure Portfolio Program Management Office Directorate U.S. Border Patrol