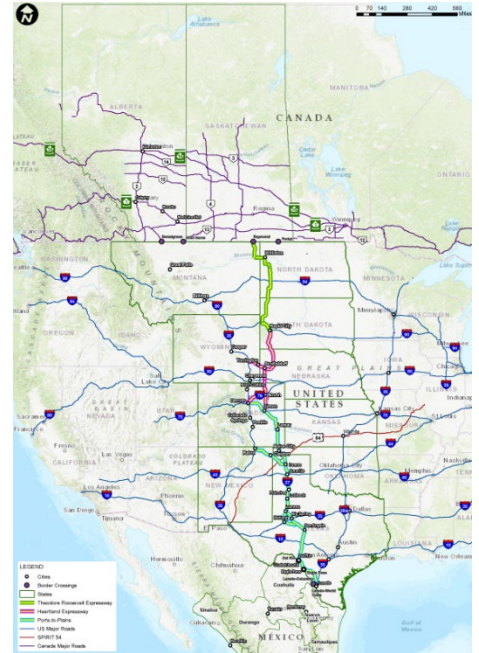




2023 Ports-to-Plains Alliance Progress Report

Throughout 2023, the Ports-to-Plains Alliance has worked towards answers to three questions. This report will provide progress on those questions.



Why Join?

This question addresses Marketing Successes.

- New Members: American StructurePoint, Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions, Inc., STV, Inc., Surveying & Mapping, LLC, Hunter Industries, LTD, Wright Asphalt Products Company, International Bank of Commerce, Texas Cattle Feeders Association, City of Raton, NM, and Cristoval Chamber of Commerce
- Significant increase in Media coverage



Why Support?

This question addresses Legislative Successes.

- **Passage of I-27 Numbering Act of 2023 – S.992** was supported in a bipartisan effort in the U.S. Senate by Senator Ted Cruz and co-sponsored by Senators John Cornyn (TX), Martin Heinrich (NM), and Ben Ray Lujan (NM) as well as in the U.S. House of Representatives by sponsored by Representatives Jodey Arrington (TX-19), Henry Cuellar (TX-28), August Pfluger (TX-11), Ronny Jackson (TX-13), Teresa Leger-Fernandez (NM-3), Troy Nehls (TX-22), and Lance Gooden (TX-5).
 - The I-27 Numbering Act (S. 992) officially numbers in the Future Interstate Highway in Texas and New Mexico segments of the Port to Plains Corridor as I-27.
 - The majority of the Corridor is I-27 with Sterling City to Midland to Lamesa as “I-27E”, Sterling City to Lamesa as “I-27W”, and will name the Dumas north spur as “I-27N” to the Texas border with Oklahoma.
- The U.S. Senate and the U.S. House have included Appropriations Requests in the FY2024 legislation.
 - Currently, **\$26.965 million of federal funding** is currently included in current legislation.
 - FY 2024 Congressionally Designated Project in the U.S. Senate with Member
 - Martin Heinrich (NM) has **\$1.6 million** for Ports-to-Plains Corridor Interstate Planning in current legislation.
 - Deb Fischer (NE) has **\$12.865 million** for the Heartland Expressway Four Lane Expansion - U.S. 26 between Minatare and U.S. 385 at Intersection L62A in current legislation.

- FY 2024 Community Projects in the U.S. House of Representatives
 - Jodey Arrington (TX) has **\$8 million** for Interstate Planning: U.S. 87 from Lubbock to Tahoka in current legislation.
 - Ronny Jackson (TX) has **\$2.0 million** for Interstate Planning for U.S. 287 from Dumas to Amarillo in current legislation.
 - Rep. August Pfluger (TX) has **\$2.5 million** for Construction: US 277 - Operational Improvements at San Angelo in current legislation.



Why Build?

This question addresses Construction Successes.

- New Interstate Highway in Texas on the Ports-to-Plains Corridor: Approval from American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) to designate an interstate extension from the southern terminus of I-27 in Texas and run approximately **4.2 miles** southward along the current U.S. Route 87.
- In North Dakota, the Department of Transportation let a **\$77.3 million** contract and construction is underway for four-lane highway extending 10.29 miles between the Long X Bridge and the Watford City Bypass on the Theodore Roosevelt Expressway.
- Texas 2024 Unified Transportation Plan (UTP), a ten-year plan, approved in 2023, included **60 projects on the Ports-to-Plains Corridor with an estimated cost of \$5.5 billion**. This included sixty active projects including 101 miles of added capacity at an estimated cost of \$1.6 billion, 11 interchange projects at an estimated cost of \$509 million, 14 miles of new location projects at an estimated cost of \$400 million, 8 Intersection/Operational & Safety Improvements at an estimated \$252 million, and 9 Rehab/Maintenance projects at an estimated \$187 million.
- Nebraska Department of Transportation beginning **preliminary engineering for four-lane expansion of 19 miles of U.S. 26 between Minatare and U.S. 385 at Intersection L62A** on the Heartland Expressway.
- In Colorado, the Department of Transportation completed **adding passing lanes on CO Highway 71 on the Heartland Expressway** in three locations along the roadway. At site one, a northbound passing lane were added. At site two, both northbound and southbound passing lanes were added. At site three, a southbound passing lane was added.
- Texas Department of Transportation recommended adding **U.S. 277/U.S. 83 on the Ports-to-Plains Corridor between Sonora and Laredo as one of five Key Rural and Statewide Connectivity Corridors**. This adds to U.S. 87 already one of the five between the Texas-New Mexico state line and San Angelo.
- In Oklahoma, the Department of Transportation continued its process of four-lane expansion the existing U.S. 287 on the Ports-to-Plains Corridor by reconstructing the existing roadway, purchasing right-of-way and moving utilities. Current work of grading, drainage, bridge and surface construction **9.3 miles north of Boise City at an estimated \$11 million and right-of-way and utilities 13.28 miles north of Boise City at an estimated cost of \$1.2 million**.
- **\$55 million Discretionary Grant** from USDOT to North Dakota Department of Transportation for Four-lane expansion of U.S. 85 from Long X Bridge to State Highway 200 on the Theodore Roosevelt Expressway
- Colorado Department of Transportation near completion of the **U.S. 287/Lamar Downtown concrete reconstruction at an estimated \$18 million** on the Ports-to-Plains Corridor