



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20229

August 5, 2020

Chairman Bernard Barcena, Jr.
Lipan Apache Tribe of Texas
PO Box 5218
McAllen, TX 78502
VIA EMAIL: bbarcena@lipanapache.org

SUBJECT: Additional Bollard Wall and Gates in El Paso, Texas

Dear Chairman Barcena, Jr.:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) proposes to design and construct new border wall system in El Paso, Texas. The proposed action includes the construction of an additional 0.09 miles of 18-foot bollard wall and associated gates in El Paso, Texas, to support U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) operations.

Currently, a gap exists between where the border wall ends, southwest of the Leon Wasteway Spillway, and the existing wire mesh fence begins (see enclosed Maps). The proposed action would close the gap between the border wall and legacy fence while providing access through three gates that would improve security for the El Paso area. Due to the proximity to homes and businesses, illegal crossings are difficult to detect in this area.

The Proposed Action is an undertaking subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The Proposed Action does not have the potential to affect historic properties. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) totals 275,945 square feet (6.33 acres). Proposed construction would occur in previously disturbed areas, and previously undiscovered archaeological or cultural resources are unlikely to be present.

In accordance with the NHPA, CBP would like to initiate government-to-government consultation regarding the addition of bollard wall and gates in the USBP El Paso Sector. CBP requests your input in identifying any issues or areas of concern you feel should be addressed in the environmental analysis. Additionally, please let us know if you believe this undertaking might adversely affect any historic properties of religious and cultural significance to tribes.

CBP will be conducting an analysis of the proposed action pursuant to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) 4321 et seq. CBP is soliciting your input and comments concerning the potential impacts of the proposed action, including potential impacts to the environment, culture, commerce, and quality of life. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Shelly Barnes at Michelle.L.Barnes@cbp.dhs.gov. Please include "El Paso Border Wall and Gates" in the subject of your email. Comments are respectfully requested

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by Friday, September 4, 2020.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Enriquez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

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

Enclosure: Overview Map of Proposed Action