



April 6, 2009

The Honorable Janet Napolitano
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

RE: Thank you!

Dear Secretary Napolitano,

On behalf of the Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority (the Port Authority) I write to express our gratitude and appreciation for all your support in helping to secure the commitment from the Obama Administration to fund the construction phase of the Nogales West (Mariposa) Reconfiguration Project.

Your work in support of this project first as Governor of the State of Arizona and now as the Secretary of Homeland Security has played a critical role in advancing this project. Although there are many stakeholders that played a significant role in advancing this project and ensuring that decision makers gave this project the attention and priority it deserved, you never gave up on it.

With the funding committed we are hoping to begin moving dirt as early as July of this year. But there is still much work to be done before the project becomes a reality. We are working with the General Services Administration (GSA) to ensure that the Environmental Assessment is completed before the end of the month, the land acquisition required to expand the foot print happens on a timely basis, and the necessary improvements on the Mexican side are planned and executed accordingly.

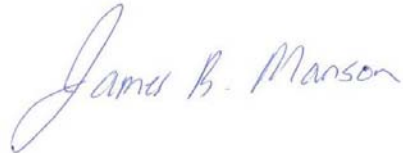
To that end the Port Authority is leading a delegation to Mexico City for a series of high level technical meetings on the final design of the project. Additionally, we are working with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to make the necessary improvements to Mariposa Road and the interconnection with Interstate 19 (I-19) in a concurrent and timely basis with the reconfiguration of the Mariposa port of entry.

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Although a specific date has not been selected, we would anticipate a ground breaking ceremony sometime in July. We will coordinate with your staff with the hopes that you will be able to join us for this momentous event. We look forward to the opportunity of thanking you in person.

Secretary Napolitano, please be assured that we recognize your efforts for this very important project, a project that will have an impact not only on the Nogales-Santa Cruz region but also on the binational region and our nation. Again, thank you!

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James B. Manson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

James B. Manson
Chairman

cc: Board of Directors