

## CALEXICO II Project Update

### **Phase II Calexico West Land Port of Entry Phase 2 - \$275 million**

The Calexico West Land Port of Entry (LPOE) is the third busiest land port in California, with 4 million northbound vehicles and 4.8 million pedestrians crossing each year. GSA proposes \$275 million to undertake the **last phase a two-phase construction project for the reconfiguration and expansion of the existing LPOE in downtown Calexico. Phase 2 includes a new pedestrian processing facility; administrative offices; five southbound privately owned vehicle (POV) inspection lanes with canopies and booths; six additional northbound POV inspection lanes; a parking structure and demolition of the existing main building.**

The expanded facilities will occupy both the existing inspection compound and the site of the former commercial inspection facility, decommissioned in 1996 when commercial traffic was redirected to the newly completed LPOE six miles east of downtown Calexico. The project will increase operation space, reduce traffic congestion, and create a safe environment for port employees and visitors.

I participated in a call led by Tim Walsh (Chief of Staff, Congressman Juan Vargas) and staffers for Senators Feinstein and Harris on 2/16 regarding status for the \$275 million funds needed to complete Phase II of the Calexico West POE.

### **Highlights for the 2017 Appropriations process:**

- Funds in limbo: all bills are on hold until 4/28/17.
- There are 2 possibilities: House and Senate will decide (regular appropriations process) OR the bill will go on "autopilot" and the GSA (General Services Administration) will decide.
- Juan Vargas' office requested support in the form of a letter writing campaign. They sent the letter draft to us. The campaign involves organizations such as ours and our stakeholders.
- Letter was signed by Pepe Larroque and Steve Williams and was sent on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

