TEXAS FREIGHT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Linking Freight Transportation and Economic Competitiveness

April 2-3, 2014 | Houston, Texas
Welcome to Harris County and the 2014 Texas Freight Leadership Summit, “Linking Freight Transportation and Economic Competitiveness!” As Chair of the Texas Freight Advisory Committee, I understand the importance of freight transportation to our economic health.

This summit is one aspect of our ongoing work to create a statewide Texas Freight Mobility Plan. I am pleased this event is being held in Harris County which has long been regarded as a robust center of international trade and home to one of the world’s busiest ports. Our region provides a vital gateway for trade linking North America with international markets around the globe. Thank you to the many hard working TxDOT employees, Texas Freight Advisory Committee members and attendees for being here today and participating on such an important transportation issue.

Sincerely,

Ed Emmett
Harris County Judge
Chair, Texas Freight Advisory Committee
**AGENDA**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2014**

2:30–4:30PM  Tour – Port of Houston Authority (registration required)
6:00–8:00PM  Welcome and Networking Reception, Hyatt Regency

**THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2014**

7:30–8:00AM  Registration
8:00–8:30AM  Breakfast and Welcome
Marc D. Williams, Director of Planning, Texas Department of Transportation
Jeff Mosley, Commissioner, Texas Transportation Commission
8:30–9:00AM  Keynote Breakfast
David Aguilar, Partner, Global Security and Intelligence Strategies

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2014**

9:00–10:30AM  Panel One: Efficient Freight Movement as the Key Driver of Texas’ Economic Vitality and Competitiveness
The strength of the Texas economy is integrally linked to the strength of its transportation system. Panelists will discuss why an efficient and cost effective freight transportation system is important to Texas businesses and for strengthening the state’s economy and global competitiveness.
Moderator: Amir Mirabi, Director, Small Business, Governor’s Office of Economic Development
Speakers:
Carlton Schwab, President/CEO, Texas Economic Development Council
Bob Pertierra, Senior VP and Chief Economic Development Officer, Greater Houston Partnership
David Marquez, Executive Director, Bexar County Economic Development

10:30–10:45AM  Networking Break

10:45–12:15PM  Panel Two: The Role of Transportation in Maintaining Texas’ Advantage in Manufacturing, Retail and Energy Sectors
The ability of the state to compete and thrive in the global economy depends on the strength of the State’s freight transportation system. The transportation system provides access to markets, access to jobs, delivery of raw materials, and shipment of finished goods. Panelists will discuss why transportation is important to their business sectors and their strategic vision to help guide transportation decisions and investments to maintain Texas’ advantage.
Moderator: Ron Beeson, Global Logistics Manager - Global Supply Chain, The Lubrizol Corporation
Speakers:
K. Alan Russell, President and CEO, The Tecma Group of Companies
Mike Graham, Senior Vice President Supply Chain & Logistics, H-E-B
Bernard L. Weinstein, Ph.D., Associate Director, Maguire Energy Institute, SMU

**THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2014**

12:15–1:30PM  Keynote Luncheon
Michelle Livingstone, Vice President Transportation, The Home Depot

1:30–1:45PM  Networking Break

1:45–2:00PM  General Remarks
The Honorable Sylvia R. Garcia, Texas State Senate – Houston, Texas

2:00–3:30PM  Panel Three: Increasing Texas’ Global Trade, Economic Development and Commerce through a Robust Multimodal Transportation System
A robust and multimodal transportation system is the most important economic activity for businesses to thrive in Texas. Panelists will discuss the critical role a multimodal freight transportation system plays in facilitating economic development, global trade and the economic competitiveness of Texas.
Moderator: Brenda Mainwaring, Vice President Public Affairs South, Union Pacific Railroad
Speakers:
John LaRue, Executive Director, Port of Corpus Christi
Jim FitzGerald, Program Manager - Business Unit Operations, BNSF
Michael Webber, Founder, Webber Air Cargo
Patrick Maher, Director of Logistics Services, Gulf Winds International

3:30–3:45PM  Closing Remarks
Marc D. Williams, Texas Department of Transportation

**PROGRAM EMCEES:**
Tiffany Melvin – Executive Director, NASCO
Erik Steavens – Director of Rail Division, TxDOT
BREAKFAST KEYNOTE SPEAKER

David V. Aguilar, Partner, Global Security and Intelligence Strategies (GSIS)
Commissioner David V. Aguilar is a Partner at GSIS. Mr. Aguilar was appointed Acting Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) on December 30, 2011. As Commissioner, Mr. Aguilar led the United States government's largest law enforcement organization with a workforce of 60,000, including 43,000 uniformed law enforcement officers. He strategically planned, formulated, and executed a yearly budget of nearly 12 billion dollars and was responsible for the management of the largest civilian Law Enforcement Air Force in the world. Prior to being named Acting Commissioner, Mr. Aguilar had been CBP Deputy Commissioner since April 11, 2010. As acting Commissioner and as Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Homeland Security’s agency responsible for leading the world’s only unified integrated border management agency, Mr. Aguilar was responsible for securing the over 6,000 miles of land border between the ports of entry against the smuggling of illegal entrants into the United States, illicit goods, narcotics, and weapons for use against the population of the United States. Mr. Aguilar also served as Chief of the U.S. Border Patrol. During that time, he oversaw the largest expansion of the Border Patrol in its 88-year history, doubling its size to over 21,000 agents. Prior to becoming Chief of the Border Patrol, Mr. Aguilar was Chief Patrol Agent of the Tucson Sector, the largest and most active Border Patrol Sector in the nation. His leadership has earned him numerous awards, including the Presidential Rank Award in 2008, the President’s Meritorious Excellence Award in 2005, the Department of Homeland Security Distinguished Service Medal, the Washington Homeland Security Roundtable Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Institute for Defense and Government Advancement Lifetime Achievement Award.

At GSIS, Mr. Aguilar advises clients on a broad range of national homeland and international security matters including border operations, security management, global trade and commerce, supply chain management and security, critical infrastructure protection, risk management, viability assessments and strategic planning and implementation. Mr. Aguilar retired from government service on March 31, 2013 after a 35-year career with CBP. Mr. Aguilar holds an associate degree in accounting from the John F. Kennedy School of Government.

LUNCHEON KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Michelle Livingstone, Vice President, Transportation, The Home Depot
Ms. Livingstone is Vice President – Transportation for The Home Depot. She leads a highly talented team that oversees the movement of shipments into and within The Home Depot’s multi-channel supply chain, including inbound shipments from domestic vendors, all direct imports and exports, and customer deliveries of appliances and store merchandise.

Ms. Livingstone joined the Company in October 2007 with more than 25 years of transportation supply chain experience. Prior to joining The Home Depot, she served as the Senior Vice President of Transportation for C&S Wholesale Grocers, Vice President of Transportation for JCPenney, and the Senior Director of Transportation for Kraft Foods North America.

Ms. Livingstone is actively engaged in the industry. She serves as a director on the boards of the Intermodal Transportation Institute of University of Denver and the Coalition for Responsible Transportation. In addition, she is an active member in Retail Industry Leaders Association where she serves on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Logistics Steering Committee. She is also involved with the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce’s Transportation Committee and the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (CSCMP) on a local and national level. Ms. Livingstone was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Atlanta Children’s Shelter. She also serves in a leadership position for the Atlanta Chapter of the Network of Executive Women.

Ms. Livingstone earned her M.B.A. with high honors from Lake Forest Graduate School of Management. She holds a B.S. degree in Business, with a concentration in transportation, from Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.

PANEL ONE: Efficient Freight Movement as the Key Driver of Texas’ Economic Vitality and Competitiveness

Moderator

Amir Mirabi, Director, Small Business & Exports, Texas Small Business Advocate, Office of Governor Rick Perry
Mr. Mirabi serves as the state Small Business Advocate and Director of Small Business wherein his team focuses on a variety of small and medium enterprise (SME) concerns including workforce development, capital access and finance, exports, rural affairs and federal-state issues. A native of Houston, Mr. Mirabi’s academic, personal and career pursuits have taken him to over 40 countries in the Americas, Europe, Africa and Asia, where he has dealt with a variety of business, economic and political matters. His prior public policy work engagements have included the US House of Representatives, the Council on Foreign Relations and the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, DC.

Proficient in Persian, Spanish and French, Mr. Mirabi received a Bachelor’s of Arts with Honors from the University of Texas at Austin and a Master’s of Science with Distinction from the London School of Economics.

Carlton Schwab, President/CEO, Texas Economic Development Council
Mr. Schwab has been President/CEO of the Texas Economic Development Council (TEDC) since February 1, 1999. During that time, the 900-member TEDC has developed into a recognized leader in the professional development of its members and a powerful voice for economic development policy in the state of Texas.

Prior to his tenure at the TEDC, Mr. Schwab was Director of Development at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin (1996-1999). From 1989 to 1996, Mr. Schwab was a Director with Deloitte Touche offices in Austin and Chicago, specializing in corporate site location analysis and economic development strategic planning. He also served as Vice President of the Lubbock Board of City Development from 1986 to 1989.

Mr. Schwab holds a Master’s degree from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin (1983), and a Bachelor’s degree from Austin College in Sherman, Texas (1981).

Bob Pertierra, Senior VP and Chief Economic Development Officer, Greater Houston Partnership (GHP)
Mr. Pertierra serves as Senior Vice President and Chief Economic Development Officer at the Greater Houston Partnership. In this role, he leads GHP’s economic development efforts, providing assistance to companies considering expanding, relocating or investing in the greater Houston region. He also oversees GHP’s international trade and investment programs and its economic development marketing efforts; including the Opportunity Houston 2.0 $40 million fundraising campaign.

Mr. Pertierra most recently served as a Vice President at Metro Atlanta Chamber, where he focused on economic development activities in the supply chain and logistics, advanced manufacturing and energy/clean technology sectors.

Mr. Pertierra has a solid foundation of leadership with eight years as an officer in the United States Army including special operations and airborne operations with the 75th Ranger Regiment and the 82nd Airborne Division. He has a Bachelor’s degree in International Economics from Vanderbilt University, an MBA from Georgetown University, and a Master’s degree in International Logistics from the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering at Georgia Tech.
David Marquez, Executive Director, Bexar County Economic Development
Mr. Marquez serves as the Executive Director for Bexar County Economic Development. In this position, he directs the County’s efforts to develop and improve the local economy. This is achieved through domestic and international business development programs, the Tax Phase-In Incentive program, and various other initiatives. Mr. Marquez most often works as a team member with the other economic development agencies around the community.

Since 2000, Mr. Marquez has also been the County’s manager for the negotiation, construction and ongoing operations of the AT&T Center, home to the NBA Champion San Antonio Spurs, and to the annual San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo. The project also includes several other planning and development components for the area in and immediately surrounding the Arena site.

K. Alan Russell, President and CEO, The Tecma Group of Companies
Mr. Russell is CEO of the Tecma Group of Companies, one of the industry’s most recognized Mexico cross-border manufacturing companies.

Over the past three decades, Alan has grown the company’s employee base to over 4,000 individuals in 21 facilities in Mexico and El Paso.

Mr. Russell is Chairman of one of Mexico’s major Industrial Development Committees; he serves as the first American to hold this position. Additionally, he was appointed to the Texas Freight Advisory Committee.

Mr. Beeson serves as the Global Logistics Manager - Global Supply Chain at The Lubrizol Corporation since 1985. He has been a Board Member of the Gulf Coast Rail District since 2007. Mr. Beeson serves as the Logistics Transportation advisor to East Harris County Manufacturers Association and he is a member of the Texas Freight Advisory Committee.

Mr. Beeson holds Bachelor’s of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

Bernard L. Weinstein, Ph.D., Associate Director, Maguire Energy Institute, SMU
Dr. Weinstein is Associate Director of the Maguire Energy Institute and an Adjunct Professor of Business Economics in the Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. From 1989 to 2009 he was Director of the Center for Economic Development and Research at the University of North Texas, where he is now an Emeritus Professor of Applied Economics.

Dr. Weinstein has been a consultant to many companies, non-profit organizations and government agencies, and he testifies frequently before legislative, regulatory and judicial bodies. His clients have included AT&T, Texas Instruments, Reliant, Entergy, Devon Energy, Energy Futures Holdings, the Nuclear Energy Institute, the American Petroleum Institute, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the Cities of Dallas and San Antonio, and the Joint Economic Committee of the U.S. Congress. He is currently a fellow with the George W. Bush Institute and the John Goodwin Tower Center for Political Studies at SMU.

Mike Graham, Senior Vice President Supply Chain & Logistics, H-E-B
Mr. Graham joined H-E-B in 2007, and his responsibilities include: Forecast and Replenishment; Warehousing and Transportation; 4,000 partners; $500M inventory; 17 distribution centers; 600 trucks; 2,800 trailers; 55,000 deliveries per month; and $400M expenses per year.

Prior to joining H-E-B Mr. Graham served seven years with Tractor Supply, where he was the Vice President of Supply Chain and Logistics, and 12 years in Supply Chain and Logistics at Saturn and General Motors. Mr. Graham has a Bachelor's of Arts degree in Materials and Logistics Management from Michigan State University.

Jim FitzGerald, Program Manager - Business Unit Operations, BNSF
Mr. FitzGerald serves as the Program Manager for BNSF Railway. He is responsible for advancing business initiatives between BNSF, its customers and industry trade associations. Mr. FitzGerald began his railroad career with Penn Central Railroad in 1975 and joined Santa Fe Railway in 1979. He held various positions in railroad and intermodal terminal operations.

Mr. FitzGerald serves on the Board of Directors of the Waterfront Coalition, the Intermodal Association of
North America (IANA) Intermodal Interchange Executive Committee and the TRB Intermodal Freight Terminal Design and Operations Committee.

Mr. FitzGerald received a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and a Master’s of Business Administration from Golden Gate University, San Francisco, California and participated in executive education at Rice University.

Headquartered in Fort Worth, Texas, BNSF Railway Company operates one of the largest rail systems in North America, with more than 32,500 route miles in 28 states and two Canadian provinces.

Michael Webber, Founder, Webber Air Cargo
In late 2001, Mr. Webber started Webber Air Cargo, Inc., a consulting firm primarily serving cargo planning needs of airport operators and civil aviation authorities. Prior to starting the company, Mr. Webber was a consultant with LegiFisher and before that with TranSystems. Mr. Webber has completed multiple projects in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America, as well as cargo assignments for the four largest US international gateways and 12 of the top 20 US cargo airports.

Mr. Webber has co-authored a cargo training manual for IATA (International Air Transport Association) and is an on-call consultant for them. He also has managed cargo affairs for Airports Council International - North America, representing U.S. airports on the TSA's air cargo security working groups. Subsequently, Mr. Webber also participated in a major study of belly cargo screening at major U.S. international gateways, on behalf of TSA.

Patrick Maher, Director of Logistics Services, Gulf Winds International
Mr. Maher, Director of Logistics Services, joined Gulf Winds International in January 2008. Mr. Maher is responsible for the business development, strategic sourcing, procurement, traffic management, customer service and operations of Gulf Winds third party logistics service offering.

From 2004 to 2008, Mr. Maher served in various capacities for national truckload carrier Knight Transportation. Most recently he managed the business development and marketing of the Texas region, responsible for dry van truckload, dedicated cartage, intermodal, brokerage, and refrigerated trucking services. Mr. Maher earned a Bachelor’s degree in Finance from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA. While attending school, he worked full time for U.S. Congressman W.J. “Billy” Tauzin representing the 3rd Congressional District of Louisiana. Mr. Maher lives in Kingwood, Texas with his wife Jessica, and sons Grant, 4, and Connor, 2.
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