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RESOLUTION NO. 19-1332

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF DOUGLAS, COCHISE COUNTY, ARIZONA
AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A NON-BINDING
RESOLUTION FOR THE TWO-PORT SOLUTION AT THE
RAUL H. CASTRO PORT OF ENTRY IN THE CITY OF
DOUGLAS, ARIZONA.**

WHEREAS, the City of Douglas is a border community and is heavily dependent on trade, tourism and investment from Mexico for its continued growth;

WHEREAS, the City of Douglas continuously ranks among the top safest cities in Arizona;

WHEREAS, in 2018, Arizona's trade in Mexico grew by 7.7% to over \$16.7 billion;

WHEREAS, in 2018, Douglas was the gateway for 28,000 trucks, 1.7 million cars, 848,000 pedestrians and a combined 3.97 million people in northbound traffic;

WHEREAS, in 2018, Douglas was the gateway for an estimated \$4 billion in trade between Arizona and Mexico, making it one of Arizona's principal gateways for trade;

WHEREAS, the Raul H. Castro Port of Entry that connects Douglas, Arizona and Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico is an outdated, overburdened and heavily congested facility;

WHEREAS, in a letter from August 24, 2018, the Commissioner of US Customs and Border Protection determined that the Raul H. Castro Port of Entry is "...undersized to accommodate current traffic and no longer meets the operational requirements of US Customs and Border Protection";

WHEREAS, the City of Douglas, and its principal stakeholder partners including the Douglas Regional Economic Development Corporation, the Douglas Industrial Development Authority and the Douglas International Port Authority, along with its key regional partners that include Cochise County, and the cities of Benson, Wilcox, Bisbee and Sierra Vista, have been advocating for a Two-Port Solution for Douglas' border crossing issues;

WHEREAS, the Two-Port Solution for the Raul H. Castro Port of Entry, entails the relocation of all commercial traffic out of the downtown area to a new port of entry to the west and dedicating the existing port strictly for non-commercial operations;

WHEREAS, the US General Services Administration, in partnership with US Customs and Border Protection, have determined that the long-term solution to the border crossing issues at Douglas is the Two-Port Solution;

WHEREAS, the proposed new port of entry to the west would be designed and built to embrace the principles of the Unified Cargo Processing (UCP) Program, that would house both US and Mexican customs officials in a single facility and would make it the first of its kind on the US-Mexico border;

WHEREAS, the City of Douglas has created a Port of Entry Technical Team that includes representatives from the General Services Administration, the Arizona Department of Transportation, Cochise County, the Douglas Regional Economic Development Corporation, the Douglas Industrial Development Authority and the Douglas International Port Authority and the principal utility service providers in the region; and

WHEREAS, the City of Douglas owns up to 320 acres of land that are adjacent to the James Ranch Road and the international border with Mexico;

1
2 **WHEREAS**, the land owned by the City of Douglas at James Ranch Road is the preferred location for
3 the construction of the new Port of Entry; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the City of Douglas is committed to advancing the Two-Port Solution as one of the
5 principal tools for economic development of the binational region, as a magnet for new investments and
6 job creation and for creating a border community that is second to none for its residents and businesses;

7 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas,**
8 **Arizona, as follows:**

9 **Section 1.** The City of Douglas is prepared to consider the donation of up to 80 acres of land, currently
10 owned by the City, to the US Federal Government in order to facilitate the location, design and
11 development of a new port of entry to the west of the City; and

12 **Section 2.** The City of Douglas, is committed to working with the Port of Entry Technical Team for the
13 overarching planning and development of the necessary infrastructure improvements required for the
14 safe, efficient and sustainable operation of the port of entry, including water, wastewater, electricity,
15 data-transfer capabilities and road connectivity to the State and Federal Highway System.

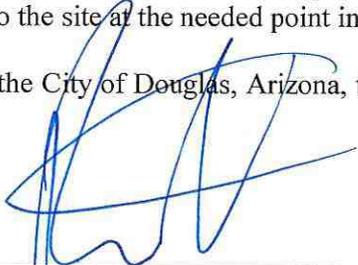
16 **Section 3.** The City of Douglas will continue to advocate with Arizona State leaders and the Arizona
17 Department of Transportation (ADOT) to get the roadway connectors to this project into the ADOT 5-
18 year plan.

19 **Section 4.** The City of Douglas will continue to partner with Cochise County who has indicated their
20 interest in taking the lead on master planning the site and surrounding area.

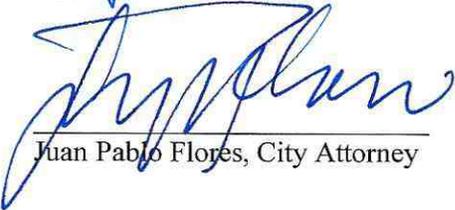
21 **Section 5.** The City of Douglas will continue to partner with neighboring cities, including officials from
22 Sierra Vista who have indicated support and desire to designate money within their city's General Fund
23 to assist with the funding of infrastructure.

24 **Section 6.** The City of Douglas will convene the utility partners in discussions and planning to ensure
25 the necessary hookups and service levels will be available to the site at the needed point in time

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas, Arizona, this 10th day of
April, 2019.


Robert Uribe, Mayor

Approved as to Form:


Juan Pablo Flores, City Attorney

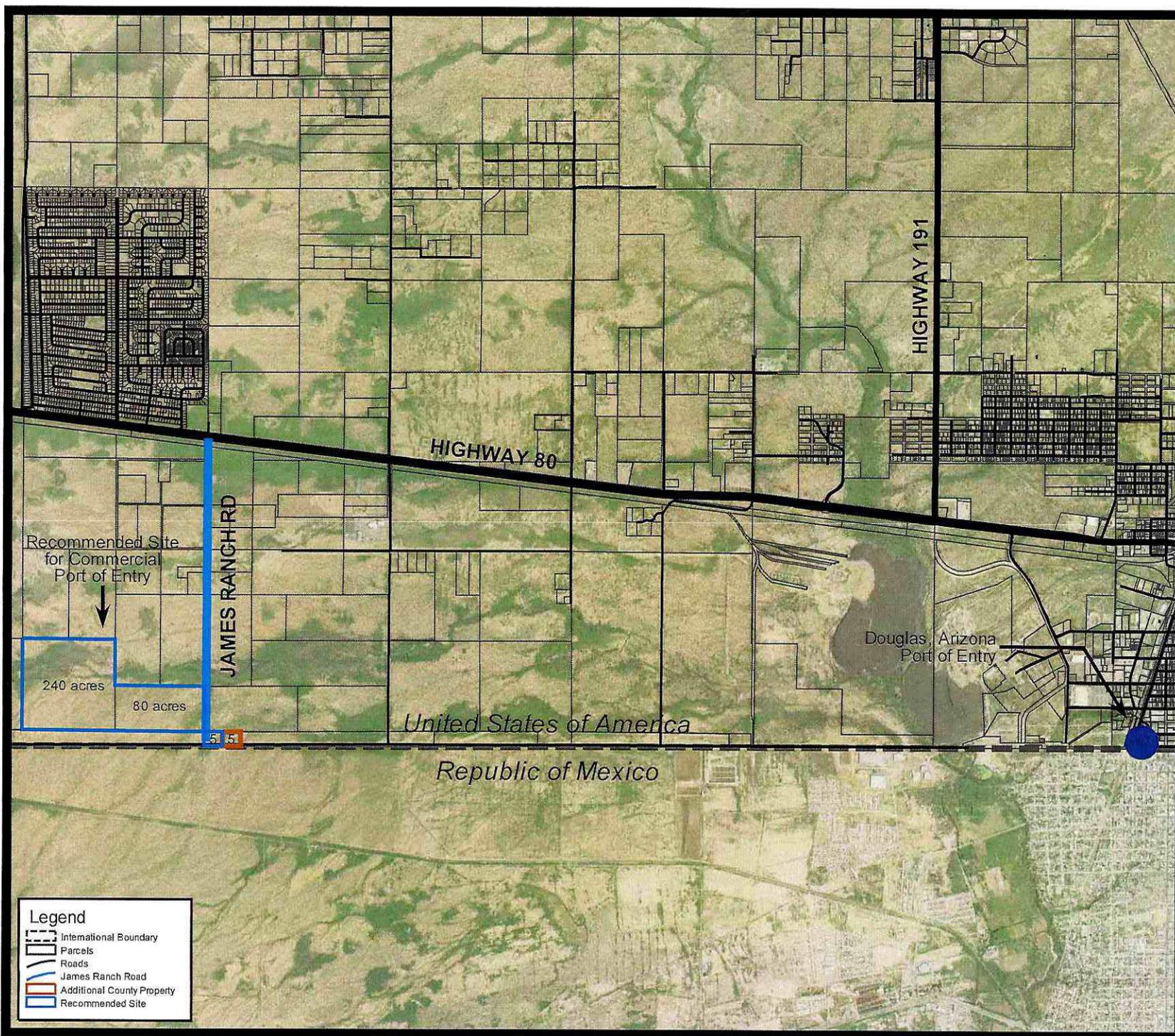
Attest:


Brenda Aguilar, City Clerk



James Ranch Rd

This map is a product of the Cochise County GIS Information Technology Dept.



Legend

- International Boundary
- Parcels
- Roads
- James Ranch Road
- Additional County Property
- Recommended Site

Joint Vision for the Future



Figure 5: Site Plan (Road and Land Donation)

