

# Imperial-Mexicali Binational Alliance (IMBA)



## MINUTES – 26<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

<b>DATE:</b>	July 14, 2016
<b>TIME:</b>	10 am to 12 pm
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Hotel Lucerna Salón “Los Candiles” Bvld. Benito Juárez 2151 Insurgentes Este, 21270 Mexicali, B.C., México
<b>MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY</b>	Sergio Tagliaprieta
<b>MEETING #</b>	26 <sup>th</sup>
<b># OF ATTENDEES</b>	33
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Fernanda Vera
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Please refer to the attached sign-in sheet.
<b>WELCOME &amp; INTRODUCTIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The meeting was called to order by Alliance’s Chair, Sergio Tagliaprieta. Self-introductions were made by all attendees.</li> </ul>
<b>SANDAG PRESENTATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Elisa Arias, Principal Regional Planner of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) presented on a new border study titled “A Fresh Look at Impacts of Border Delays at California-Baja California Land Ports of Entry Study”.</li> <li>➤ The study will build on previous studies that have addressed economic impact of border wait times and air quality as it relates to Ports of Entry (POEs).</li> <li>➤ The study will estimate the economic and air quality/climate impacts caused by border delays at California- Baja California POEs. The study will analyze Cross border personal travel (pedestrians, personal vehicles, and buses), also goods movement (commercial trucks) and Cross Border express.</li> <li>➤ The study partners are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)</li> <li>— California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Imperial County Transportation Commission (ICTC)</li> <li>➤ High-level Tasks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Conduct surveys/ interviews at California-Baja California POEs</li> <li>— Collect border wait time data Develop and implement (Economic outreach plan and Air quality/climate outreach plan)</li> <li>— Estimate border delay impacts (In terms of impact on the Economy and in terms of impact on air quality/climate)</li> <li>— Develop study recommendations</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Ms. Arias noted that first round of surveys would begin at the end of June 2016 and project is scheduled to be completed by September 2017. IMBA members were encouraged to visit the SANDAG Study web page.</li> </ul>
<p><b>BORDER INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES</b></p>	<p><b>Calexico West/Mexicali I POE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Virginia Mendoza presented on the Calexico West POE Expansion Phase 1 project to be completed in March 2018. She also mentioned adjacent projects to the POE that will be completed the City of Calexico and Caltrans. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Widening of Cesar Chavez Blvd. from 4 to 5 lanes</li> <li>— Widening of SR-98 from 4 to 6 lanes from VV Williams Ave. to Rockwood Ave</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Calexico East/Mexicali II POE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ms. Mendoza noted that 2 federal grants had been submitted requesting partial funding for the project, TIGER 8 and FASTLane Grants. The following is a summary of the project improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Widen bridge over the All American Canal</li> <li>— Add 3 new Commercial Inspection lanes (from 3 to 6)</li> <li>— Add 6 new northbound POV lanes (from 8 to 14)</li> <li>— Road Construction</li> <li>— Pedestrian pathway improvements including shades sidewalks and cell phone/ transit lot</li> <li>— Implement ITS &amp; air quality monitoring technologies</li> <li>— Toll collection administration and operations facility</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATES</b></p>	<p><b>CDI</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Mariana Chavez of Consejo de Desarrollo Industrial de Mexicali (CDI) and Tim Kelley of Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation (IVEDC) provided an overview of the economic development agenda as an effort to promote the region.</li> <li>➤ There were nine visits from different companies that were interested in learning how to do business in Mexico. The companies were from the following industry sectors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— 4 from aerospace</li> <li>— 3 from packaging and crating</li> <li>— 2 from electronic and consumer goods</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>IVEDC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Timothy E. Kelley, IVEDC President/CEO, shared about the recent event,</li> </ul>

	<p>the CaliBaja Bi-National Mega Region hosted World Forum for Foreign Direct Investment. The annual WORLD FORUM has been hosted in countries around the world, and this year for the first time took place in California. Mr. Kelley also commented that this event brought together 250+ corporate investors and site consultants from around the world to network with economic development agencies, and also the official conference of the Global FDI Association. IVEDC coordinated with Mexicali CDI in order to bring a delegation to tour Imperial Valley and visited the renewable energy locations such as geothermal, solar and wind production sites, and the aerospace advanced manufacturing in Mexicali.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Mr. Kelley also discussed the Americas Competitiveness Exchange on Innovation and Entrepreneurship, a program organized by the Inter-American Competitiveness Network (RIAC) through the US Government and the Organization of American States. This program aims to share knowledge and exchange best practices; identify opportunities for collaboration and enhance trade at the regional, national, and local levels. Mr. Kelley commented that 2016's edition, Imperial Valley along with San Diego and the Phoenix, Tucson and Yuma were host of this program, receiving over 50 key business leaders and policy makers of the Americas. Mr. Kelley commented that next year, the week-long tour will take place in Southern Ontario – part of Canada's economic heartland – from September 25th through October 1st, 2016. It will include visits to the cities of Toronto, Kitchener-Waterloo, Hamilton, and the Niagara Region, and will focus on six different clusters: Advanced Manufacturing; ICT; Clean Tech; Life Sciences; Agribusiness; and Financial Technologies.</li> </ul>
<p><b>COMITÉ DE VINCULACIÓN PRESENTATION</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Venedo Beltrán and Arturo Arballo co-presented on the “Productive Summer’s Program”. The Program aims to link educational programs and businesses. The intent of the program is to create competitive and dedicated communities that increase vocational education through strategic actions.</li> <li>➤ The programs discussed were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Technical Training</li> <li>— Education and Orientation</li> <li>— Linkage Programs</li> <li>— Technology Programs</li> <li>— Education “Attitude Changing Campaign”</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Mr. Arballo concluded by pointing out the importance of linking students with companies for the growth of human capital. Lastly, a student talked about her experience while “Veranos Productivos/Productive Summer’s Program”, she expressed the value it had made in her education and professional growth.</li> </ul>
<p><b>PRESENTATION ON MEXICO-U.S. INTERNSHIP PROGRAM</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Elsa Beljean, International Business Development, presented on the new partnership created by IVEDC and the German American Chamber of Commerce, California. The goal of the program is to increase educational exchange opportunities between Mexicali and the Imperial Valley due the importance of developing a strong and competitive regional workforce. The program offers Mexican students and recent graduates the opportunity to be exposed to the American business environment through an internship program in companies located in the Imperial Valley for a</li> </ul>

	<p>period up to 12 months. Mrs. Beljean encourages all guests to share this information with students and universities and to contact <a href="mailto:elsa@ivedc.com">elsa@ivedc.com</a> for more information.</p>
<p><b>ANNOUNCEMENTS &amp; PROJECT UPDATES</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ IMBA participants expressed interest in having a representative from Constellation Company present in an upcoming IMBA meeting.</li> <li>➤ There was interest to present on the Environmental Action plan of the State of Baja California's Environmental Protection Agency.</li> </ul>
<p><b>AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT TIME &amp; NEXT MEETING DATE</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The next meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2016 in the City of Mexicali.</li> </ul> <p><b>Agenda Items</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Goods Movement Study Part.</li> <li>➤ U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Calexico Urban Planning and Feasibility Study.</li> </ul>
<p><b>ADJOURNMENT</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.</li> </ul>