

CBP Office of Administration

Facilities Management and Engineering

Border Patrol Tactical Infrastructure Program
IBWC Coordination Activities
April 24th, 2012

Meeting notes prepared by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



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Agenda



- Levee Crest/Road Maintenance MOA
- B.I.S. Friendship Circle
- PF225 B-4 Playa & Alamo Areas
- Gate at Monument 223
- Calexico West POE Improvements
- Nogales Tunnels Gates
- Mexican Levee/Road @ Silvercreek wash
- Douglas Fence Replacement
- Anapra Area-CBP/Corps Drainage Study
- PF225 K-1B Fence
- El Paso Vega Mowing
- Ft Hancock/Zac Dominguez Field Office Vehicle Gates
- Ft Hancock/Zac Dominguez Field Office Vehicle Gates
- Eagle Pass River Bank Reconstruction
- Laredo Boat Ramp-Phase 2
- Laredo Cane Removal Pilot
- PF225 O-1, O-2 & O-3
- Penitas Pump Station Levee Wall (PF225 O-4B)
- Hidalgo POE PH 2
- RGV Vehicle Gates-Phase 1
- Cameron County East Loop Project
- Additional Miscellaneous Items



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Levee Crest/Road Maintenance MOA



- CBP drafted MOA amendment to address levee crest maintenance in the El Paso sector.
- Final draft of MOA submitted to (b) (6) on June 1st for IBWC signature
- MOA is reportedly with (b) (6) for signature. No known issues (12/9 update: IBWC recently notified us that there are some concerns with the MOA being discussed internally within IWBC-specifics not known)
 - MOA needs to be executed before Corps will award a CBP Roads M&R contract
 - MOA being re-reviewed by IBWC's SMEs
- CBP re-sent draft MOA to IBWC on April 9th
- *IBWC routing MOA for final review and approval*



B.I.S. Friendship Circle & Surf Fence Replacement

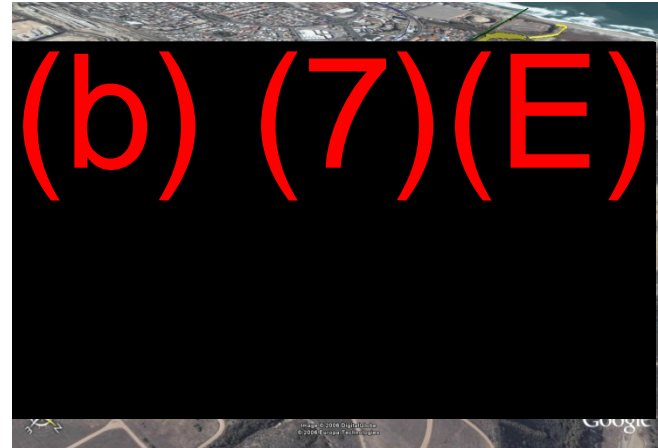
- Replacement of border fencing in proximity to Friendship Circle (b) (7)(E)
- Project has been broken into two phases. Phase 1 consists of the primary fence replacement, which is currently under construction
 - Fence replacement on land complete including Friendship Circle
 - *Fence installed per IBWC requirements*
 - Surf fence replacement underway and expected to be completed by March
 - *Work is essentially complete-punch list items being addressed*
- Phase 2 consists of enhancements to the Friendship Circle area in general
 - *Work continuing-no issues*



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B.I.S. Bunker Hill Road

- Construction of a new road (0.5 mi) and border lighting that will connect the west and east side of Bunker Hill with the existing B.I.S.
- Project to be constructed by a military training deployments
- CBP received IBWC “concurrence” letter on June 27th
- *Construction underway-no issues*



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PF225 B-4 Playa & Alamo Areas

- Mexico contends the ponding is from the American canal; CBP sent IBWC aerial photos on 11/08/11 which show the ponding is the result of overflow from the Mexican irrigation canal (see next 2 photos)
- CBP resent aerial photos on Nov 28th that show the surface water coming from the MX irrigation ditch
- PE (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) to discuss w/ CILA. CBP requested IBWC to observe the condition of the Mexican canal embankments to determine if a breach(es) is/are causing the flooding into the U.S.
- CBP forwarded geotechnical analysis to IBWC
- *At IBWC's request, CBP contacted their local rep on Feb 28th as surface water has re-appeared. IBWC met with Mexican representatives on Mar 1st. Ponding may be caused from both the Mexican irrigation canal and the All-American canal; rainfall event occurred just prior to Mar 1st so ponding may also be due to low lying area; Bureau of Reclamation investigating All-American canal*
- *BoR thinks a broken pipe at the All American canal might be a contributor to the ponding; pipe was fixed in April; need to see if ponding goes away now*



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Calexico West POE Expansion

- Mexico is installing a new box culvert in the New River immediately south of the border. GSA believes the culvert is undersized.
- IBWC has not yet “concurred” with Mexico’s proposed culvert extension
- Significant erosion has occurred along the banks of the new River immediately north of the border that is adversely impacting an existing bridge abutment and primary and chain link fencing
- PE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to meet with CILA at the POE to observed and discuss the issues
- No response from Mexico as to IBWC/CBP concerns
- *IBWC sent GSA letter describing their concerns and agreed to forward copy to CBP*



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Nogales Tunnels Gates



- Removal of the existing 3-foot retaining wall in the Grand tunnel and the installation of primary gates at the Grand and Morley tunnels
 - Project also involves tunnel access improvements
- RFP issued on November 18, 2011; contract was awarded on February 10, 2012; *current completion date August 16, 2012*
- IBWC to notify CILA of the impending construction activities w/in the tunnel
- *Construction proceeding-no significant issues*



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Mexican Road Constructed @ Silvercreek wash

- A levee/road constructed across a major drainage wash in proximity to the border (east of the City of Douglas) is causing flood waters to back-up into the U.S. and exacerbate erosion that is occurring in Silver Creek
- IBWC sent a letter to the property owner putting them on notice that they will be held accountable for damages to gov't property
- Property owner recently observed raising the height of the levee/road
- IBWC is conducting H&H modeling to determine what height of the gabion wall would be acceptable to them based on the maximum 6-inch backwater requirement
- *IBWC provided CBP with the results of their H&H modeling, which shows that the gabion wall must be removed or re-located further downstream so as to not adversely impact the U.S.; CBP concurs with IBWC's conclusions; IBWC planning to meet with CILA again to present H&H results*



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Douglas Fence Replacement

- Replacement of (b) (7)(E) miles of existing legacy border fencing (landing mat) in proximity to the City of Douglas (via 4 phases)
- *Construction of phases 1 and 2 completed*
- *Design of phase 4 recently submitted to IBWC for review*
- *IBWC had comments on drainage design for phase 3-Baker has addressed. IBWC concurrence letter for phase III forthcoming*
- IBWC to assist with resolution of border incursions once construction gets underway; *IBWC requested CBP provide contract award/construction schedule once available*
- Construction of the final phase of the Douglas Ditch improvements underway-no issues

(b) (7)(E)

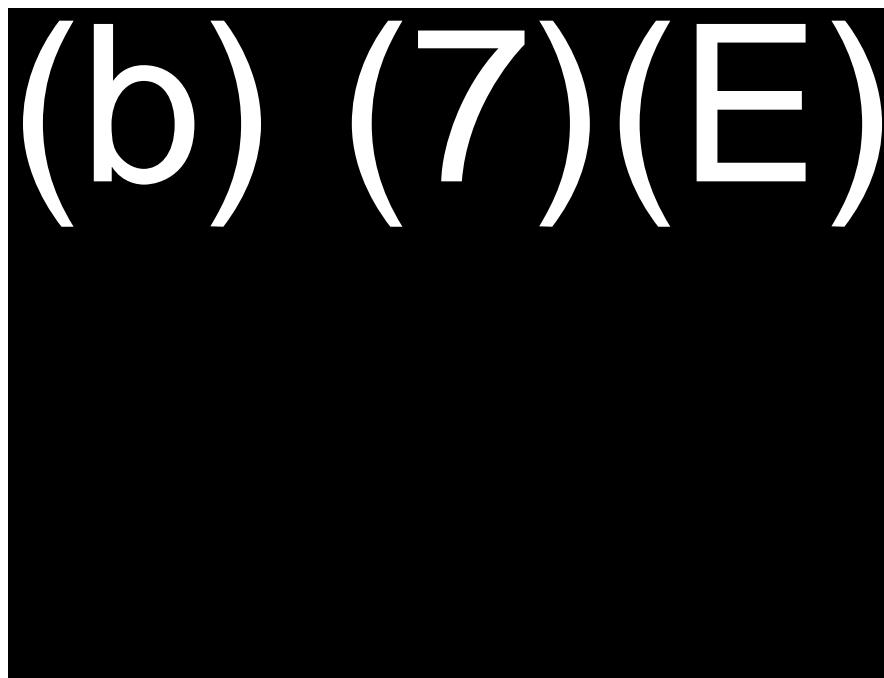


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Anapra Area-CBP/Corps Drainage Study



- CBP reviewed preliminary draft of report
- Corps/M. Baker updating report; once draft is completed, CBP would like IBWC to review
- Unique challenges in this area may require unique solutions
- Once the report is “preliminarily finalized” **(expected end of May)**, we would like to meet with IBWC in field to review the proposed solutions



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PF225 K-1B Fence



- IBWC advised that they plan to have an A/E under contract by the end of this FY to design the box culvert to replace the existing canal. Goal is to have the design complete by Sept 2012 and to award a construction contract in time to allow the work to occur in late 2012/early 2013
- RFP is ready to go out to bid; awaiting final real estate acquisitions
 - IBWC sent CBP concurrence letter on revised design; CBP concerned about IBWC's condition that we may have to relocate the fence to accommodate future box culvert (CBP designed fence to be removable per previous IBWC direction); CBP/Corps to make proposed trash racks as a bid option in case an agreement with City cannot be reached relative to debris removal
- CBP responded to PE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) concurrence letter on February 10th
- CBP reviewing URS 60% design for box culvert design-CBP is OK with 60% design; discussing internally the pros/cons of phasing our fence construction and moving southern portion of alignment to the levee after the box culverts are built
- According to IBWC, construction funding not yet received but it's in the President's 2013 budget. The box culvert was considered in the EA. FONSI being revised to reflect installation of the box culvert
- *IBWC agreed to discuss the potential use of the vega area for contractor staging; (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) identified as CBP point of contact; (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) agreed to provide a sample flood protection plan*



El Paso Canal Crossovers & Vega Ramps

- Project involves the construction of [REDACTED] canal crossovers and [REDACTED] new vehicle ramps into the floodway in the Border Patrol's Yselata and Fabens Stations areas of responsibility (PF225 segments K-2C, K-2D, K-3 and K-4 (future))
- Design is complete and has been approved by IBWC
- CBP in the process of completing real estate negotiations with EPCWID#1
 - Draft MOA and cover letter to District provided to IBWC
- A meeting with IBWC, Corps, DoJ and CBP was held on Jan 18th to discuss real estate issues associated with this project. Separate meeting notes were prepared and disseminated among the attendees
- IBWC notified Corps that they have questions pertaining to our surveys supporting documents; Corps is going to set up a meeting with their surveyor and IBWC to discuss-DoJ/Corps to meet this Thursday, March 22nd
- *Meeting with DoJ went well; IBWC concurs with CBP and DoJ with regards to what land the federal government owns*



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Wasteway #1 and #2 Culvert Replacements

- IBWC project involves the removal and replacement of wasteway structures under recently constructed primary pedestrian fence and vehicle gates
- CBP has reviewed 60% design drawings and has questions regarding proposed levee modifications
- CBP drafting MOA b/t IBWC and CBP to cover the temporary removal and replacement of the fence and gates and “temporary” border barriers to be installed when work is not occurring
- CBP requires the border barrier to be “intact” during non-construction hours
- *IBWC has included a requirement in the design drawings that temporary sheet piling be installed along the perimeter of the work areas to a height equivalent to the fence to provide security for the work area and keep the border barrier intact during construction*



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El Paso Vega Mowing



- Draft IAA submitted to IBWC in mid-Feb, 2011
- Public comments (including IBWC) received and addressed relative to the draft EA
- Conference call held on Sept 1st between IBWC, CBP and FWS to discuss FWS desire for a formal consultation
 - CBP to revise EA to acknowledge IBWC's avoidance/mitigation efforts
 - CBP to consider additional conservation activities
- On November 15, 2011 CBP received concurrence from Fish and Wildlife on the mowing action proposed in the EA. The concurrence from FWS was the last remaining item needed to finalize the Environmental Assessment
- CBP forwarded IBWC a copy of our executed FONSI
- Draft re-vegetation plan is in the process of being prepared
- Updated draft IAA to reflect EA and FONSI submitted to IBWC on Feb 1st
- *IBWC processing the IAA for this work*



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Ft Hancock/Zac Dominguez Field Office Vehicle Gates



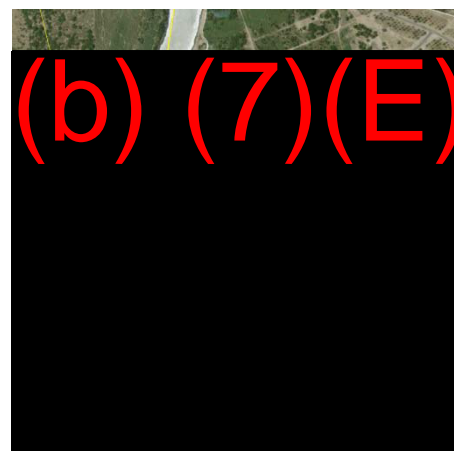
- The Corps is going to design the gate modifications “in-house”. *Design underway-should be completed by mid-May*
- IBWC is OK w/ CBP using the maintenance yard for staging and access.



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Eagle Pass River Bank Reconstruction

- CBP would like portions of the Rio Grande river bank washed out during last year's flooding repaired (Eagle Pass area)
- Significant river bank erosion and possibly main channel movement occurred as the result of last years flooding
- IBWC indicated that they plan to close the two ends of the new channel created during the flooding events. They do not plan to restore the river bank erosion.
- IBWC is planning to meet with the property owner on **May 30th** to discuss IBWC's proposed path forward; IBWC to notify us of meeting logistics so "local" CBP personnel may attend



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Laredo Phase I Cane Removal Pilot Project



- CBP submitted draft summary report relative to water quality samples collected during the herbicide applications to IBWC on August 26th
- PE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is going to transmit the analysis to Mexico for their review and concurrence
- Analysis was forwarded to CILA for their review and concurrence in late December. No response yet
- Still awaiting for response from Mexico – *no new news. CBP suggested IBWC send Mexico a letter stating that the report will be assumed accurate if no comments are received by a date TBD. IBWC agreed to do so.*



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(b) (7)(E) Boat Ramp-Phase 2

- CBP planning to install removable posts and cables, and “break away” light poles as part of Phase 2
- CBP submitted design documents to IBWC on June 28th for formal “concurrence”
- CBP provided written response to CILA’s design modification requests IBWC and CBP have agreed on which CILA comments will be addressed and those that cannot.
- Target RFP release date is end of April/early May
- *Project still on schedule. IBWC requested that their local field office be notified when the work is about to begin*



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PF225 O-1 thru O-3



- IBWC coordinating project “concurrence” with Mexico
- IBWC to coordinate meeting with CBP and Dept of State regarding these fence segments and the new Los Ebanos POE
 - Conference call occurred on Oct 20th
- IBWC indicated that Mexico had some technical questions regarding the hydraulic model, which they would be addressing on January 25th; IBWC continues to believe the model results are accurate
- IBWC concurrence letter relative to hydraulic modeling received on Feb 14th
- *CBP evaluating potential funding sources; IBWC advised that there was significant public opposition to the fence segments voiced at a recent town hall meeting hosted by Commissioner Drusina.*



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Penitas Pump Station Levee Wall (PF225 O-4B)



- Project involves the construction of new levee wall(s) and levee in proximity to the Pump Station
- CBP assisting IBWC with resolution of design issues
- CBP requests IBWC land survey info associated with the project ASAP as we need to acquire real estate from the Hidalgo Irrigation District #1 for the two vehicle gates we will be constructing
 - CBP requests update on the status of the real estate info-*no new news*
- IBWC is in the process of issuing a modification to the contractor to hire the engineer of record to assist in the identification of the best solution for changed site conditions
- *IBWC reviewing contractor's proposal for additional design services and hoped to award the contract by the end of the week*



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Hidalgo POE PH 2



- Project involves the construction of a new flood protection wall in proximity to the Hidalgo POE
- CBP and IBWC have executed an IAA for IBWC to incorporate bollards into the new flood wall
- CBP to provide bollards
- IAA to be revised to reflect new period of performance and funding of \$320K
- Revised IAA has been finalized
 - As of Nov 28th, the project is 56% complete and estimated to be completed by March 20, 2012
 - West end of the project should be completed by the **end of March-CBP to be invited to the punch-list meeting. IBWC anticipates work being completed on the east end by August/September. Need to confirm period of performance for the IAA**



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RGV Vehicle Gates-Phase 1



- CBP/Corps have hired Weston Solutions to design-build (b) (7)(E) in Cameron and Hidalgo Counties
- Weston's concept designs for the (b) (7)(E) configurations to be built as part of the project were provided to IBWC on Dec 4th and again on Dec 14th
- CBP submitted letter to IBWC confirming project is covered by April 2008 waiver
- "Concurrence" for the first (b) (7)(E) site specific designs (test gates) received on June 30th
- IBWC authorized CBP to use the O-20 fence staging area (IBWC's Ft Brown parcel) as the staging area for O19, B-4 Art League Vehicle Gate project
- In Hidalgo where the flood protection wall has been built, IBWC and CBP agreed to install electrical conduit parallel to the retaining wall ~2 ft off-set. Utility marking tape will be installed above the conduits and as-built drawings will be provided to IBWC once available
- Construction underway and proceeding smoothly
- **No issues**
- *CBP to meet with local IBWC field office to discuss potential impacts to proposed vehicle gates due to planned levee raising in Cameron County*



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Cameron County East Loop Project



- Cameron County is planning to a new highway (aka East Loop) to connect the Veterans International bridge with of the Port of Brownsville. The project is going to require the relocation of a portion of IBWC's levee system and CBP fencing
- CBP met with Cameron County on January 26, 2011 to learn more specifics regarding the project to include anticipated timing. IBWC and FWS participated in the meeting
- IBWC concurred with CBP's recommended changes to the proposed typical levee/fence cross-section, which have been forwarded to Cameron County
- *IBWC advised of a planned conference call with FHA regarding their draft EA and agreed to forward meeting invite*



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Additional Items



- IBWC asked if CBP could install primary pedestrian fence from the American Dam to our existing K-1B fence segment. CBP recommended that IBWC send their request to CBP's Acting Commissioner Aguilar
- *CBP adding IBWC to organization "pick-list" so IBWC can access our TI document library (construction drawings, as-builts, studies, etc.)*
- Amistad tower and associated infrastructure-we need to keep in service
 - *IBWC has agreed to allow video surveillance systems to be relocated to elevator building; CBP drafting MOA; should be forwarded to IBWC for review and comment shortly*
- *CBP would like to discuss "drag road" issues we are having in Fabens (fut. K-4 fence area); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) agreed to discuss with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)*
- *IBWC requested that CBP install a personnel gate in the K-1A segment of the fence to allow IBWC direct access a river gage station recently installed; CBP indicated they would evaluate*



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