

# Border Issues- Prosperity in an International Oil & Gas Region

Future of the Region South Texas

# Position Statement #1

- FORSTX strongly recommends that the State of Texas and the Texas Legislature address the need for the long-term development of the South Texas Border Region by allocating sufficient resources/tax revenues to local governments in the region to deal with ongoing and projected infrastructure, workforce, health and economic security related needs.

# Position Statement #2

- FORSTX recommends that the Texas Legislature and relevant State agencies, in conjunction with key stakeholders in the Border Region develop a comprehensive long-range strategy to improve its infrastructure to meet current and projected needs.

# Position Statement #3

- FORSTX recommends that the Texas Legislature and the Governor's Office take steps to put in place a bi-national mechanism to coordinate with the Mexican State and Federal government to develop the Texas/Mexico Border Region.

# Position Statement #4

- FORSTX recommend that this mechanism be created to observe and propose specific opportunities for collaboration with Mexico. This bi-national mechanism should be composed of representatives from South Texas borders and northern Mexico. Specific activities would be but not limited to:
  - Report on traffic patterns that constrain expansion
  - Workforce development for bi-national leadership
  - Intermodal agreements as pertaining to the development of energy markets (sister cities)
  - Appropriate academic resources to support and fund institutions of higher education in the Texas Border Region for bi-national administrative leadership roles to guarantee workforce and economic development

# Position Statement #5

- FORSTX recommends the State of Texas in conjunction with local governments engage in the expansion of the South Texas and Border Region as an Industrial HUB due to the accessibility of inexpensive natural gas in South Texas. South Texas will provide the ideal stage for explosive economic growth that will continue to ensure the leadership of Texas, home to the largest inland ports and seaports in the Western Hemisphere and leader of economic growth. We recommend that the development of rural areas should receive special attention to ensure quality of life infrastructure.

# Questions?

