

September 12, 2022

## RE: Friendship Circle (San Diego County) Border Barrier Projects Request for Input

To Whom it May Concern:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) seeks your input about the repair of border barrier sections in western San Diego County, California.

CBP plans to replace approximately 0.6 miles of deteriorated primary and secondary barrier adjacent to Friendship Circle in San Diego Sector. The primary barrier, which included a monument gate, was not properly treated to withstand marine corrosion before it was installed. The secondary barrier was partially removed in preparation for the project prior to January 2021. While it has been temporarily repaired, it is not structurally sound, resulting in safety risks to Border Patrol agents, community members, and migrants. CBP's replacement barrier design is 30-foot high, four-inch diameter steel bollards fitted with five-foot anti-climb plates and installation of communications fiber.

The Department of Homeland Security announced it was moving forward with this project on May 27, 2022. However, on August 4, 2022, CBP announced it would pause executing the project until mid-November to further engage with community stakeholders.

CBP requests your feedback about potential impacts to the environment, culture, commerce, and quality of life, including socioeconomic effects. Project maps are enclosed, and Spanishlanguage materials are available at <a href="www.cbp.gov/about/environmental-management">www.cbp.gov/about/environmental-management</a>. CBP is accepting comments from the public until Wednesday, October 12, 2022.

After the public comment period closes, CBP will create and publicly post a stakeholder feedback report at cbp.gov.

## **Submitting Helpful Comments**

Helpful comments inform CBP's analysis of potential impacts. They are fact-based, include links to data or research, and provide specific information concerning potential impacts to biological, cultural, and natural resources.

Specifically, CBP is looking for answers to these questions:

- Are you aware of threatened or endangered plant or animal species within the construction area? If so, what species and where?
- Are you aware of recreational activities within the construction area? If so, what recreational activities and where?
- Are you aware of possible impacts to businesses? If so, where are those businesses?
- Are you aware of historical sites or areas of cultural significance located within the construction area? If so, what and where?
- Do you foresee the project impacting your day-to-day activities? If so, how?
- What studies, data, or other information would aid the analysis of project area environmental impacts?
- What practices should the construction contractor follow to avoid or minimize impacts?

## **How to Provide Comments**

Email your comments to CBP at <u>SanDiegoComments@cbp.dhs.gov</u>. Please include "Friendship Circle Border Barrier Projects" in the subject line. Comments and personal information received in response to this letter, including names and addresses, will become a part of the public record.

You may also provide comments, questions, or concerns by calling 1-800-542-2753 or by mail:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

U.S. Border Patrol Headquarters

1300 Pennsylvania Ave. 6.5E Mail Stop 1039

Washington, DC 20229-1100

ATTN: Paul Enriquez

As a reminder, CBP is accepting comments until October 12, 2022. We appreciate your assistance in evaluating the potential impacts of these projects.

Respectfully,

Paul Enriquez

Real Estate and Environmental

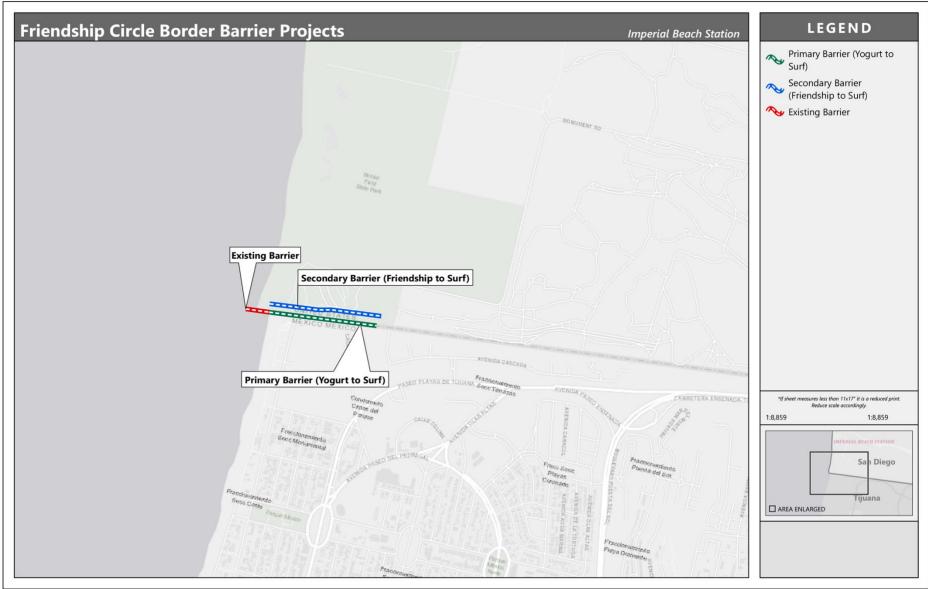
Infrastructure Portfolio Deputy Director

Leniguez

Program Management Office Directorate

U.S. Border Patrol

Enclosure: Friendship Circle Border Barrier Projects Map



Map Request 805 September 12, 2022