



July 31, 2026

RE: Vehicle Barrier System Construction in Brewster, Terrell, and Val Verde Counties, Texas Request for Input

To Whom It May Concern:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, CBP, is planning to construct vehicle barrier system in Brewster, Terrell, and Val Verde Counties, Texas.

On July 27, 2026, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, DHS, issued a waiver covering certain laws, regulations, and other legal requirements to ensure the expeditious construction of the barriers and roads. Consistent with section 102 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act, IIRIRA, of 1996, as amended, 8 U.S.C. § 1103 note, CBP seeks your input on the project's potential impacts to the environment, cultural resources, quality of life and commerce, including socioeconomic impacts.

The planned actions include the:

- Construction and maintenance of 157 miles of vehicle barrier system in Brewster, Terrell, and Val Verde Counties, Texas. Barrier system includes a physical barrier, roads, and barrier system attributes. The barrier system for this project will utilize vehicle barrier rather than bollard-style pedestrian barrier. The vehicle barrier will feature steel posts supported by continuous steel rails, with alternating rail heights of approximately 4 and 6 feet, and rails spaced about 4 feet apart. Barrier system attributes may include, as appropriate to U.S. Border Patrol's operational needs, fiber optic cables, utility poles, power cables, surveillance cameras, access and patrol roads and utility shelters along the international border.

A map of the project areas and Spanish-language materials can be found on CBP's Environmental Management page in the Documents Open for Comment section at <https://www.cbp.gov/about/environmental-management>. Los materiales en español están disponibles en línea en <https://www.cbp.gov/about/environmental-management>.

CBP is currently engaged in project planning and invites you to participate in the public review and comment process. Helpful comments are fact-based, include links to data or research, and provide specific information concerning potential impacts on biological, cultural, and natural resources. If you are providing a comment about a specific area, please specify that in your comment.

CBP will be accepting comments until August 31, 2026. Comments can be emailed to CBP at BigBendComments@cbp.dhs.gov. Please include "Big Bend Vehicle Barrier System Construction" in the subject of your email. Comments received in response to this letter, including names and addresses of those who comment, will become part of the public record.

Comments may also be submitted to CBP by calling (833) 412-2056 or to the following address:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection
U.S. Border Patrol Headquarters
Program Management Office Directorate
1300 Pennsylvania Ave. 6.5E Mail Stop 1039
Washington, DC 20229-1100
ATTN: Michelle Barnes

We appreciate your feedback and assistance in the evaluation of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Enriquez".

Paul Enriquez
Infrastructure Portfolio Director
Program Management Office Directorate
U.S. Border Patrol

Enclosure:

Handout 1 – Vehicle Barrier System Construction in Brewster, Terrell, and Val Verde Counties,
Texas