



AGENDA

A RIVER OF COMMERCE RUNS THROUGH IT

(Subject to Change)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

<p>6:00 pm</p>	<p><i>TROLLEY TRANSPORTATION LEAVES CLARION HOTEL</i></p>
<p>6:15 pm</p>	<p><i>GATHERING AT THE CONCHO RIVER</i> <i>OPENING RECEPTION AT <u>Bill Aylor Sr. Memorial RiverStage</u></i> on the banks of the Concho River at 16 E. Avenue A</p>
<p>7:00 pm</p>	<p><i>DINNER BY FIDDLE FIRE</i></p> <p>Fiddle Fire is a catering business in San Angelo, Texas, that has evolved around the historical preservation of a 1906 Peter Schuttler wagon and the traditional fiddling style of its trail boss, Dorothy Douthit.</p>
<p>8:30 pm</p>	<p><i>SAN ANGELO, TEXAS VIDEO PRESENTATION</i></p> <p>Narration by Gus Clemens President/Owner Clemens & Associates Advertising</p> <p><i>LASER SHOW</i></p> <p>Laser Spectacles, Inc.</p>
<p>9:00 pm</p>	<p><i>TROLLEY TRANSPORTATION RETURNS TO CLARION HOTEL</i></p>

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

7:30 am – 5:00 pm	<i>REGISTRATION</i> McNease Convention Center 501 Rio Concho Drive San Angelo, TX
8:00 am	<i>BREAKFAST</i>
8:30 am	<i>WELCOME TO SAN ANGELO, TX</i> John Bertsch Chairman, Ports-to-Plains Alliance Michael Reeves President, Ports-to-Plains Alliance
9:00 am	<i>COMMERCE CONNECTING NORTH AMERICA TO YOUR CITY</i> Matthew Rooney Director, Economic Growth George W. Bush Presidential Center NAFTA is drawing fire in campaign rhetoric this year, but what are the economic realities and benefits of this 22 year old trade agreement for the Ports-to-Plains region? Matthew Rooney shares his insights, coming from a career as a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. State Department, including a stint as Deputy Assistant Secretary responsible for relations with Canada and Mexico and for regional economic policy. As Director of the Office of Economic Policy, he led interagency and international negotiations in 2008 that produced the Secretary's <i>Pathways to Prosperity in the Americas</i> initiative, designed to engage with our Free Trade Agreement partners on strategies for ensuring that the benefits of globalization are broadly shared in our societies.
9:30 am	<i>HEALTH CARE FEEDS INTO NORTH AMERICA'S RIVER OF COMMERCE</i> Dr. Tedd Mitchell President, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center A shortage of doctors and other health care providers is a challenge for rural communities. Many economic developers think about infrastructure and workforce when recruiting new employers, but what about the availability of quality health care for those you are looking to attract to your community? Dr. Mitchell gives an update on Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center's efforts to bring better health care to rural communities and how you can improve this valuable resource for your area.
10:00 am	<i>NETWORKING BREAK</i>

<p>10:30 am</p>	<p><i>LEGISLATIVE PERSPECTIVES ON THE RIVER OF COMMERCE... TIME TO FULFILL THOSE PROMISES</i></p> <p>State Representative Dustin Burrows Texas House District 83</p> <p>Timothy Parker District Engineer, New Mexico Department of Transportation</p> <p>The Ports-to-Plains Alliance Corridor travels through many jurisdictions across three countries. One consistent challenge that every one of those jurisdictions face is funding needed transportation projects. This panel will discuss how legislators are working to provide adequate funding, as well as how the state departments of transportation are working to maximize the funding they do receive.</p>
<p>11:15 am</p>	<p><i>IMPORTANCE OF RURAL FREIGHT CORRIDORS IN THE RIVER OF COMMERCE... CONNECTING TO MARKETS</i></p> <p>Jack Schenendorf, of Counsel Covington & Burling Washington DC</p> <p>Congress finally passed a long-term transportation bill last year with broad bipartisan support and a strong focus on moving freight. One of the bill's key programs for Ports-to-Plains is the Critical Rural Freight Corridors program. Learn more about the plan's provisions and how it can benefit Ports-to-Plains.</p>
<p>12:00 pm</p>	<p><i>RECRUITING INDUSTRY TO OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES ALONG THE RIVER</i></p> <p>Steven Jast President, ROI Research on Investment</p> <p>Ports-to-Plains Alliance is working with our members to maximize the benefits of membership and cooperatively market economic development opportunities of the entire region. Steven Jast discusses key elements into what companies look for in site selection, how to target industries with the most potential for your community and the benefits of working with the Ports-to-Plains Alliance Economic Development Coalition. Mr. Jast began his career in site selection analysis, before starting ROI Research on Investment and growing the business from two employees to more than 70 with offices across the U.S. and Canada. ROI Research on Investment assists economic developers with program design, lead generation and market intelligence among other services.</p>
<p>1:30 pm</p>	<p><i>TRUCKING DRIVES THE RIVER'S FLOW... CREATING JOB OPPORTUNITIES</i></p> <p>Mike Root General Manager- U.S. Operations Caron Transportation Systems, USA</p> <p>Trucks move the economy. Although many modes of transportation are critical to the supply chain, at some point pretty much every product ends up on a truck. Trucking firms play a key role, not only in distributing products, but in creating jobs locally. Caron Transportation is uniquely qualified to discuss issues affecting trucking in the Ports-to-Plains Alliance Corridor. The company is headquartered in Sherwood Park, Alberta on the northern end of the corridor, but has terminals and operations throughout the entire region including its newest terminal in San Angelo.</p>

2:00 pm	<p><i>THE RIVER REQUIRES MULTIMODAL CONNECTIONS... RAIL 101</i></p> <p>Federico Diaz Page Executive Vice President, Texas Pacifico Railroad</p> <p>What role does rail play in the economy of the region? How do the opportunities and challenges differ from the work the Alliance does in advocating for highway investments?</p>
2:30 pm	<p><i>NETWORKING BREAK</i></p>
3:30 pm	<p><i>THE RIVER RUNS THROUGH NORTH AMERICA... BALANCE OF TRADE AND SECURITY</i></p> <p>José Cruz Hernández Mexico Country Manager, Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems</p> <p>David Kettles Director U.S. Relations, International & Intergovernmental Relations, Government of Alberta</p> <p>The border and trade with our neighbors have certainly garnered plenty of attention during the U.S. elections, but what are the realities as opposed to the rhetoric? Border safety and the efficient flow of goods are not mutually exclusive. And many jobs in all of our communities depend on trade. This panel will address the issues for businesses that rely on efficiently and securely crossing both the northern and southern border, and what we can do to improve conditions.</p>
5:45 pm	<p><i>TROLLEY TRANSPORTATION FROM CLARION HOTEL</i></p>
6:00 pm	<p><i>STEP BACK INTO THE 1800's RECEPTION</i></p> <p>Miss Hatties 26 E Concho Ave, San Angelo, TX</p> <p>Miss Hattie's Restaurant & Cathouse Lounge has been one of San Angelo's most beloved restaurants since 1998. The building that Miss Hattie's Restaurant is in was built during the economic boom of the 1880's and is one of the first permanent structures in San Angelo. The building itself is located in the historic block of East Concho Street in downtown San Angelo. Miss Hattie's business was the hospitality business.</p>
	<p><i>BRING YOUR POKER FACE!</i> <i>CASINO NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT</i></p> <p>Prizes for winners of table games</p>
8:00 pm – 10:15 pm	<p><i>TROLLEY TRANSPORTATION RETURNS TO CLARION HOTEL</i> <i>TROLLEY WILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD</i></p>

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

8:00 am	<i>BREAKFAST</i>
9:00 am	<i>CONFLUENCE OF RIVERS OF COMMERCE</i> <i>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</i> <i>I-69, I-14 AND I-27</i> Judge John Thompson Chairman, Gulf Coast Strategic Highway Coalition, Former Chairman, Alliance For I-69 The last two interstates designated in the United States are I-69 and just last year I-14. What impacts will these have on Ports-to-Plains and our efforts to extend I-27? How can we work together? What lessons can we learn? Judge John Thompson is a leader in both of these initiatives and shares his insights.
9:45 am	<i>THE RIVER OF COMMERCE IN A STATE ECONOMY... IMPORTANCE OF INFRASTRUCTURE</i> <i>James Bass</i> <i>TxDOT Executive Director</i>
10:30 am	<i>NETWORKING BREAK</i>
11:00 am	<i>PARTNERS ALONG THE RIVER</i> Eastern Alberta Trade Corridor Jay Slep, Chair Theodore Roosevelt Expressway Cal Klewin, Executive Director Heartland Expressway Deb Cottier, Heartland Expressway Board of Directors Ports-to-Plains Richard "Buzz" David, Economic and Business Development
11:45 am	<i>CONFERENCE CONCLUDES</i>