



**U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection**

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20229

January 15, 2026

**Mr. Homero Balderas**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eagle Pass**  
100 South Monroe Street  
Eagle Pass, Texas 78852-5048

**Subject: Notice of Interest – Property Located Near Planned Border Barrier System  
Construction Projects**

Dear Mr. Balderas,

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) are currently planning border barrier system construction along the southwest border, including in Maverick County, Texas. We have tentatively identified that we may need to enter the following property for either construction or access purposes: DRT-EGS-2000, DRT-EGS-2000-1, DRT-EGS-2000-2, DRT-EGS-2000-3. County records indicate that you may be that property's owner. If you are not the property owner, please disregard this letter and let us know immediately.

We write to you to formally notify you of CBP's interest in discussing the following:

- Potential acquisition of portions of your property related to project construction or maintenance;
- Potential access needs across or adjacent to your property; and/or
- Any real estate or boundary considerations that may arise as project design advances.

This letter is **not a purchase, lease, or easement offer or agreement**, and it does not oblige you in any way to provide access to or acquisition of your property. This letter is intended solely as an initial notification of interest and to open communication with you as the potential property owner.

When CBP determines that it needs access to property, either temporary or permanent, it has three options:

**Option A:** Enter into a Right of Entry for Construction (ROE-C) agreement with the owner wherein CBP can access the property, complete surveys, appraise the property, and then complete construction. CBP would then separately negotiate a purchase or easement from the owner of any real property interests that it continues to need once construction is completed (including the land underneath whatever was constructed);

**Option B:** Not enter into an ROE-C, but negotiate a purchase or easement agreement with the landowner quickly enough that CBP's construction timelines are not impacted;  
or

**Option C:** If the landowner and CBP are unable to reach a negotiated purchase or easement agreement, referral to the U.S. Department of Justice to initiate the eminent domain/condemnation process.

Of these options, our preferred and ideal route is Option A, as it allows us to work collaboratively with you, complete construction as quickly as possible, and then pay you the fair market value of any property rights CBP determines it needs going forward. Enclosed is the ROE-C for your review and hopeful approval. If you agree, the ROE-C will allow CBP immediate access to the property so that we can complete necessary border barrier work. Once CBP has completed its surveys and determined what permanent or temporary property rights, if any, that it needs, we can then negotiate the purchase of those rights from you in accordance with The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act, 42 U.S.C. Ch. 61 and 49 C.F.R. Part 24, ("The Uniform Relocation Act") which sets the rules for real estate acquisitions by the Federal Government.

Should you agree to the ROE-C, CBP will pay you a one-time amount of \$5,000 so that it may immediately access your property and begin activities related to the border barrier project. **This amount is in addition to the fair market value of any real property rights CBP later determines that it needs to acquire from you** and is yours to keep even if CBP determines that it does not need your property for the border barrier project. The ROE-C does not grant CBP permanent access to your property, nor does it include the permanent transfer of any real property interests to CBP; it is just an agreement to provide CBP temporary access to the property so that it may conduct activities related to border barrier construction. Put differently, your land is still your land, you would just be giving CBP permission to enter onto your land and begin construction on border barrier infrastructure if necessary. Should CBP determine that it has a permanent need for any portion of your property, CBP will then need to separately acquire those property rights from you as required by The Uniform Relocation Act. **The ROE-C does not in any way waive your right to seek the fair market value of any permanent property interests CBP may need to acquire from you.**

It is always CBP's preference to obtain the necessary real estate for border barrier projects through voluntary agreements. However, please be advised that if we are unable to reach a voluntary agreement through negotiation within a reasonable time, CBP and/or its executing agency may proceed to refer the matter to DOJ to acquire any necessary property interest(s) through the exercise of eminent domain, in accordance with the Declaration of Taking Act (40 U.S.C. §§ 3113 and 3114).

For further information regarding the project, please refer to the following web address: [Smart Wall Map | U.S. Customs and Border Protection](https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/along-us-borders/smart-wall-map) (https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/along-us-borders/smart-wall-map). Please review the ROE-C and associated information, and, if acceptable, sign and return it within five (5) business days. Alternatively, we can provide a digital copy via email for electronic signature.

CBP has collaborated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on real estate efforts to support the work effort described above. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the information provided in this letter, we are available to schedule a meeting to provide additional details, address your concerns, and explore next steps. Should you have any questions please contact Robert Fredericksen, USACE Realty Specialist, 817-886-6413 or e-mail robert.j.fredericksen@usace.army.mil.

We appreciate your time and consideration as CBP works to execute border barrier system construction projects to secure our nation's borders.

Sincerely,



Paul Enriquez  
Director – Infrastructure Portfolio  
Program Management Office Directorate  
U.S. Border Patrol  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Enclosure

CM: 9589 0710 5270 2540 5804 52  
RM