

Border Wall Program Update

November 2018



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection



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Border Protection

Agenda

- Program Overview
- FY17 Projects
- FY18 Projects



Need for Infrastructure

- RGV Sector is the busiest sector in the nation; FYTD accounts for over 40% of the illegal immigrant apprehensions and over 43% of the seized marijuana in the southwest border.
- The majority of RGV's activity is occurring in areas with limited infrastructure, limited access and mobility, and limited technology.
- Prior to RGV becoming the busiest sector in 2014, high levels of illegal entries shifted from San Diego to El Paso to Tucson and then to Yuma as infrastructure was deployed to each of those sectors.
 - [The Shift Video](#)
 - [Walls Work](#)
- Other Tools



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Type of Barrier

Levee Wall



Bollard Pedestrian Wall



Bollard Pedestrian Wall



Bollard Vehicle Barrier



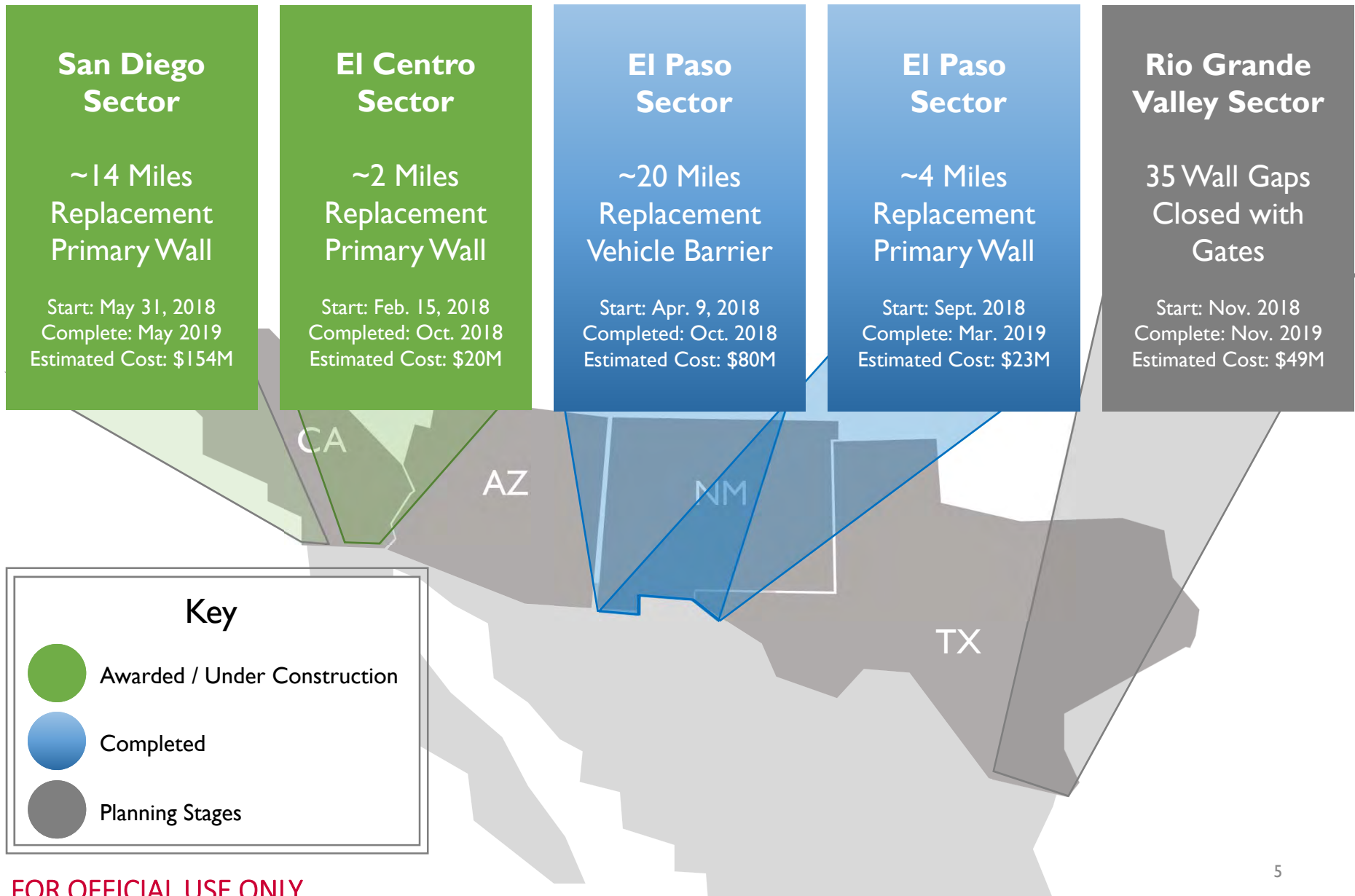
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FY17 Replacement Border Wall Program

~40 Miles and Gates, \$341M



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FY17 Border Wall Program Replacement Projects

- **San Diego Sector Replacement Primary Wall**

- Replace ~14 miles of 10' landing mat primary wall with 18' steel bollard wall with anti-climb steel plate in the Border Infrastructure System
- Started in May 2018 and is on-going; completion is anticipated in May 2019



- **El Paso Sector Replacement Primary Wall**

- Replace ~ 4 miles of chain link and expanded metal fence with 18' steel bollard wall with anti-climb steel plate in downtown El Paso, Texas; awarded on June 1.
- Started in September 2018 and is on-going; completion anticipated in April 2019





FY17 Border Wall Program Replacement Projects

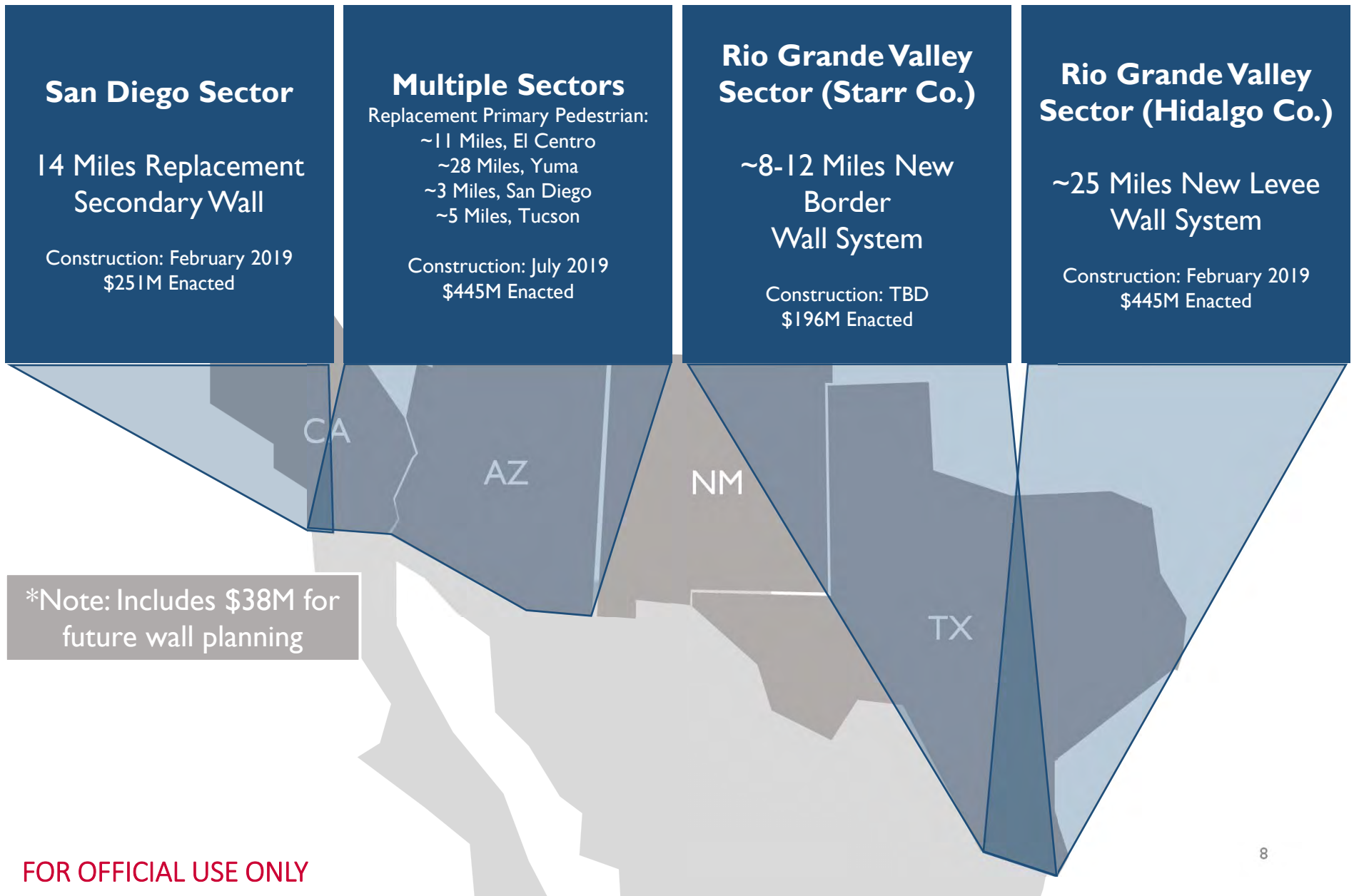
- 35 new gates in Cameron and Hidalgo Counties
- Three packages based on real estate
 - **Package 1**
 - 11 Gates in Cameron County, construction on schedule to start in mid-November
 - Environmental Stewardship Plan – Covered under 2008 ESP
 - **Package 2 & 3**
 - 4 Gates in Cameron County, 20 Gates in Hidalgo County. 100% design estimated for February 2019
 - Environmental Stewardship Plan – Anticipated completion, January 2019





FY18 Replacement Border Wall Program

\$1.375B *





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Questions

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FY18 Proposed Border Wall System

- **RGV – Levee / Border Wall System**

- Construct ~25 miles of levee wall and enforcement zone in the McAllen and Weslaco Station Areas of Responsibility (i.e. Fill-in “gaps” in existing levee wall in Hidalgo County).
- Construct ~8 to 12 miles of Border Wall (bollard wall) and Enforcement Zone in the Rio Grande City (RGC) & McAllen Station (MCS) area of responsibility.

- **Coordination**

- Conducted meeting on Santa Ana Refuge on April 27th, 2017.
- Conducted follow-up meeting with CBP, USBP, FWS, and DOI on July 6th, 2017.
- Conducted subsequent design meetings with FWS/The Refuge in August 2017.
- CBP sent coordination letters to stakeholders including BIA, FWS, DOI, NGOs, SHPO, and Native American Tribes on August 25th, 2017.
- DOI and FWS coordinated meeting to discuss design options for refuge and biological resources.
- DOI, EPA, and CBP site visits and coordinated meeting conducted in May 2018.
- New scoping letters sent to stakeholders in July 2018.



FY18 Proposed Border Wall System

- **California and Arizona – Primary Pedestrian Replacement Wall**
 - Replace ~ 48 miles of primary pedestrian wall
 - Expected start in April 2019
- **Coordination**
 - Conducted On site meetings in Yuma and Lukeville in September with Tribes and Federal agencies



Rio Grande Valley Waiver

- The Secretary of Homeland Security's waiver authority is set out in section 102(c) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, as amended ("IIRIRA").
- The waiver authority allows the Secretary to waive all legal requirements the Secretary deems necessary to the expeditious construction barriers and roads to deter illegal entry into the United States.
- The Secretary issued a waiver for two project areas in RGV on October 11th. The October 11th waiver covers approximately 14 miles of barriers.
- The waiver includes various environmental, natural resource, and land management laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA).



Environmental Planning

- CBP is committed to continued responsible environmental planning to:
 - Identify potential impacts and areas of concern
 - Establish best management practices for construction
 - Implement mitigation measures to avoid or to the greatest extent practicable, minimize impacts to the environment
- Environmental planning is informed by:
 - Existing environmental data
 - New biological, cultural, and natural resources field surveys
 - Consulting and coordinating with relevant stakeholders
- CBP is also seeking the impact on culture, commerce, and quality of life
- When the Secretary of DHS determines it is necessary to issue a waiver of environmental laws for the expeditious construction of border infrastructure, CBP will continue to observe environmental considerations before, during, and after the construction of the wall throughout the US/Mexico border.



Border Wall Stakeholder Engagement & Outreach

- CBP values the stakeholders' perspective and feedback and initiated outreach with federal, state, local, and tribal governments in August 2017. Outreach has been ongoing throughout the planning and execution of FY17 and FY18 border infrastructure construction projects.
- **Stakeholder Engagement & Outreach Examples**
 - Ongoing briefings with Congressional stakeholders coordinated with CBP's Office of Congressional Affairs and U.S. Border Patrol Sectors
 - Ad hoc briefings with State governments and representatives
 - Ongoing coordination with the Department of the Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife to identify and determine impacts to wildlife and their habitat
 - Project scoping letters to stakeholders requesting comments and input for FY18 border infrastructure construction projects in Hidalgo and Starr Counties
 - Routine briefings via USBP Border Community Liaison (BCL) meetings
 - Individual and group meetings with impacted landowners and project staff during the Right of Entry for Survey process
 - Public webinars for members of the public to ask questions to CBP staff

CBP is committed to providing opportunities for stakeholders and the public to provide input on potential environmental impacts and is planning additional stakeholder engagement and outreach opportunities.