



U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection

# News Release

U.S. General Services Administration  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

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## **GSA, CBP Announce Start of Otay Mesa Port Expansion Project**

*Construction of Commercial Vehicle, Pedestrian-Processing Improvements Starts June 1, 2020*

**SAN DIEGO** -- Today, the U.S. General Services Administration and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security - Customs and Border Protection announced the start of construction to modernize the Otay Mesa Land Port of Entry (LPOE), California's busiest commercial truck border crossing. The Otay Mesa LPOE is one of three ports of entry in the San Diego-Tijuana metropolitan region, and the modernized facility will expand processing capacity for trucks and pedestrians traveling between San Diego and the Otay Centenario borough of Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico.

This \$137.2 million modernization and expansion project will deliver infrastructure to support CBP and other federal agency mission requirements while expanding northbound commercial truck inspection areas and pedestrian processing capacity. Upon completion in Spring 2023, these improvements include a modernized pedestrian inspection facility that doubles processing capacity from six to 12 lanes, and an expanded commercial inspection facility which increases the number of commercial inspection booths from 10 to 16. Additional improvements at the 51-acre project site include:

- Construction of a commercial annex building
- Construction of surface parking for visitors and a parking structure for employees
- Relocation of Secure Electronic Network for Travelers Rapid Inspection (SENTRI) Enrollment Center
- Northbound pedestrian bridge extension to improve access to the recently constructed Regional Transit Center
- Development of a U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) funded plant inspection station to meet USDA's mission to inspect plants imported into the United States
- Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration bus safety inspection facility

During Fiscal Year 2019, the Otay Mesa LPOE processed \$18 billion worth of exports, \$34 billion worth of imports, and processed one million trucks, 6.6 million vehicles and 3.6 million pedestrian travelers. This GSA construction project will increase CBP's commercial vehicle and pedestrian-processing mission by expanding into an adjacent 10-acre site to improve commercial vehicle circulation, establishing a dedicated return-to-Mexico truck lane, and

accommodate vehicle processing operations for the Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

**U.S. General Services Administration:**

"GSA's land ports of entry program is intended to enhance economic opportunity and and improve the cross border experience through the construction of safe, efficient, secure facilities," said GSA Pacific Rim Administrator Tom Scott. "GSA strives to construct facilities which support current operations, but are flexible to meet CBP's long-term mission requirements."

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

"The new infrastructure for commercial and pedestrian processing improvements will enhance operations and safety at Otay Mesa port of entry for both the traveling public and CBP employees," said CBP's Pete Flores, Director of Field Operations, San Diego Field Office. "These improvements will allow CBP to continue protecting our nation's borders while facilitating the trade and flow of commerce between the United States and Mexico."

**San Diego Mayor:**

"San Diego's ports of entry are among the busiest in the world with millions of people and billions of dollars in commerce crossing the border every year," said San Diego Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer. "We welcome the federal government's investment in our border infrastructure as we've seen firsthand the positive impact of the recently completed expansion of the San Ysidro Land Port of Entry. Now we're looking to grow this economic engine even more by increasing processing capacity at the Otay Mesa Port of Entry."

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**U.S. General Services Administration**

The mission of GSA is to deliver value and savings in real estate, acquisition, technology, and other mission-support services across government.

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

CBP's Office of Field Operations is the primary organization within Homeland Security tasked with an anti-terrorism mission at our nation's ports. CBP officers screen all people, vehicles, and goods entering the United States while facilitating the flow of legitimate trade and travel. Their mission also includes carrying out border-related duties, including narcotics interdiction, enforcing immigration and trade laws, and protecting the nation's food supply and agriculture industry from pests and diseases.