



# Dallas NAFTA Trade Corridor

## *Memorandum of Understanding*

- WHEREAS** The City of Dallas is committed to focusing on economic development in Dallas County; and
- WHEREAS** The City of Dallas wants to preserve and enhance the existing infrastructure in the area that serves as a traditional NAFTA trade route; and
- WHEREAS** The City of Dallas is prepared to pursue innovative ideas and partnerships to encourage economic growth in the area; and
- WHEREAS** The Port of Houston is the sixth largest port in the world, ranks first in the U.S. in foreign tonnage, and second in total tonnage; and
- WHEREAS** The Port of Houston is expecting tremendous annual increases for the foreseeable future in the number of containers handled by the Port; and
- WHEREAS** The Port of Houston Authority is concerned about increasing congestion on rail and surface transportation systems serving the Port; and
- WHEREAS** The Port of Houston Authority is supportive of an innovative partnership that will relieve congestion and allow for economic growth; and
- WHEREAS** A primary emphasis of the Intermodal Development Office of the Maritime Administration is to improve intermodal access to ports and conduct pilot projects to demonstrate improved techniques or technologies that will enhance intermodal transportation; and,
- WHEREAS** The Maritime Administration Office of Intermodal Development is supportive of an innovative partnership between the City of Dallas and the Port of Houston Authority to pursue the development of an agile port system in Dallas to improve efficiencies in transportation between the City of Dallas and the Port of Houston; and
- WHEREAS** The City of Dallas, the Port of Houston Authority, and the Maritime Administration Office of Intermodal Development are assembled to develop a strategy to implement the innovative idea of the Dallas Agile Port System.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THIS 29 DAY OF APRIL, 2005 BY THE UNDERSIGNED PARTIES:

- THAT The implementation of the Dallas Agile Port System will be guided by the Agile Port System Task Force, on which a representative of each of the undersigned parties will serve.
- THAT The Agile Port System Task Force shall not be limited to the undersigned parties.
- THAT No monetary contribution is required from the undersigned parties.
- THAT There should be regular contact among members of the Agile Port System Task Force, either through meetings or telephone conference calls.
- THAT The Agile Port System Task Force will work toward building on existing infrastructure in the area, including the railroads' existing and proposed intermodal terminals.
- THAT The Agile Port System Task Force is hereby initiated and called to work.

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IS AGREED TO BY THE FOLLOWING INVESTED PARTIES ON THIS, THE 29<sup>th</sup> DAY OF April, 2005.



Margaret D. Blum  
Associate Administrator for Port,  
Intermodal and Environmental Activities  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Maritime Administration



Sandy Greyson  
Dallas NAFTA Project Co-Chair  
Dallas Councilmember  
City of Dallas, Texas



Wade Battles  
Managing Director  
Port of Houston Authority



Bill Blaydes  
Dallas NAFTA Project Co-Chair  
Dallas Councilmember  
City of Dallas, Texas