



## **Herrell Pushes for Santa Teresa Port of Entry Development**

WASHINGTON — Congresswoman Yvette Herrell (R-NM) continues to work for economic development and jobs in New Mexico's Second District, requesting that Acting Commissioner for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Troy Miller dedicate additional resources to development and modernization of the Santa Teresa Port of Entry.

"I am asking CBP and the General Services Administration to prioritize Santa Teresa for port modernization, because it is a vital and growing economic hub that benefits families and businesses in New Mexico and across our great country," said Rep. Herrell. "Modernization means more jobs, shorter wait-times, and commercial investment in the region. I will never stop fighting for economic opportunity for the people of New Mexico."

The Santa Teresa Port of Entry ranks seventh in the nation and first in New Mexico for Import/Export Traffic at the U.S./Mexico border. According to the New Mexico Border Industrial Association, New Mexico has led the nation in growth of exports to Mexico since 2014, increasing 412 percent since 2010. This trade, largely facilitated by the Santa Teresa Port of Entry, is key to economic development in New Mexico and the nation at large.

As reported by the [Las Cruces Sun News](#):

- The Santa Teresa Port of Entry saw total trade increase from \$25,991,412,062 in 2018 to \$30,504,770,356 in 2019 — an increase of 17.4%.

- Exports from the Santa Teresa port increased from \$11,656,560,053 in 2018 to \$14,098,528,777 in 2019 — an increase of 20.9%.
  - The Las Cruces metropolitan area accounts for about 40 percent of the state's exports. Albuquerque provides about 21 percent.
  - In 2019, New Mexico exported about \$2.39 billion in goods to Mexico.
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## **Lea County Secures Airport Funding Following Herrell Support**

WASHINGTON — Congresswoman Yvette Herrell (R-NM) requested in February that the United States Department of Transportation approve a grant application for the Lea County Regional Airport (HOB) in Hobbs, New Mexico. The Small Community Air Service Development Program has now granted Lea County \$800,000 to support air service to Denver, which was suspended due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

"Covid slowdowns and shutdowns hit local industry and airlines alike, and I am proud to help secure this much-needed booster shot for New Mexico's businesses and travelers," said Rep. Herrell. "HOB airport is an essential hub for our economy, and I will continue to fight for infrastructure in Lea County and every part of our great state."

**[Rep. Herrell's letter can be found here.](#)**

The HOB air service is a vital and active part of the Southeastern New Mexico economy. It has proven to be a viable, regional transportation gateway serving all of the Permian Basin for both business and leisure travel. In February 2020, the Houston-Hobbs route operated at its highest February load factor ever of 77 percent. In the third quarter of 2019, this route was the third most profitable spoke out of 105 destinations served from UA's Houston hub as measured by stage-length adjusted total revenue per available seat mile. The Denver service started in October of 2019 and was off to a strong start. In 2019 alone, over 54,000 passengers utilized the service. The economic impact to the region is estimated at over \$25 million per year.