# CLIENT ADVISORY

May 2, 2019 Update

# **U.S. – Mexico Border Operations**

#### Dear Valued Customer,

As the U.S. administration debates potential changes at the U.S.–Mexico border in response to increased numbers of people crossing the border, supply chain professionals can keep up to date with the latest impacts below.

# **Port of Entry Operational News**

As the situation normalizes we will stop updates unless there are new developments or the situation changes. This will be our last update.

Updated wait times for commercial cargo can be found <u>here</u>. **Please note:** it is widely believed that the published wait times are inaccurate and significantly underestimate actual wait times, particularly later in the day.

# Otay Mesa/Calexico (New Update)

- Otay Mesa has 6 standard and 3 FAST lanes open of 10 total.
- Calexico has 2 standard and 1 FAST lanes open of 3 total.

#### Nogales (New Update)

- Wait times are around 2 hours for standard lanes and 1 hour for FAST lanes. We expect wait times to be higher today and Friday due to the holiday yesterday.
- There are currently 6 standard lanes and 2 FAST lanes open of 8 total.
- View the Nogales live camera <u>here</u>

#### El Paso (New Update)

- Wait times have improved this week, with the average wait time being around 4 hours.
- Ysleta has 4 standard and 2 FAST lanes open of 8 total.
- Bridge of the Americas has 4 standard and 2 FAST lanes open of 6 total.
- View the El Paso Live camera here

### Laredo (New Update)

- There was a state of affairs call this afternoon with ADFO Armando Taboada. They shared that crossing volumes have normalized despite staff limitations. Officers will return to all Ports of Entry, aside from Laredo, to provide further relief.
- World Trade Bridge currently has 9 standard and 3 FAST lanes open of 12 total.
- Colombia currently has 2 standard and 1 FAST lane open of 4 total.
- View the Laredo live camera <u>here</u>

Our information is compiled from a number of sources that to the best of our knowledge are accurate and correct. It is always the intent of our company to present accurate information. C.H. Robinson accepts no liability or responsibility for the information published herein.



McAllen/Pharr (New Update)

- Pharr will only allow private passenger vehicles to cross between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. in order to alleviate commercial traffic congestion.
- There are 2 standard lanes and 1 FAST lane open of 6 total.

FAST lanes refer to the Free and Secure Trade (FAST) program. It is a commercial clearance program for known low-risk shipments entering the United States from Canada and Mexico. Learn more about the program <u>here</u>.

#### **Policy News**

- President Trump renewed threats to close the U.S.-Mexico border last week.
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection <u>announced</u> last week that it is offering a five percent pay bump to agents willing to stay on the job another year.

#### What This Means

We are now over four weeks into what has been, essentially, a partial shutdown of the freight border between the U.S. and Mexico and seeing impacts across the supply chain.

We will keep a close eye on operational changes, such as the number of lanes open and reductions in wait times, which would indicate staffing changes.

We encourage you to work with your C.H. Robinson account management team to adopt strategies to mitigate the impacts of these delays on your supply chain, including mode shifting to air and rail, delaying or adjusting production schedules, and sourcing inventory from other locations when possible.

Thank you for being our Valued Customer. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your C.H. Robinson commercial representative for further information.

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Sincerely, C.H. Robinson

