



# ***RIVER OF TRADE CORRIDOR COALITION***

RON NATINSKY, CHAIR  
Councilmember, Dallas, Texas

EDDIE FRANCIS  
CO-CHAIR  
Mayor  
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MARC MAXWELL  
CO-CHAIR  
City Manager  
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F.G. "BUDDY" VILLINES  
CO-CHAIR  
County Judge/Chief Executive Officer  
Pulaski County, Arkansas

## **Resolution for the River of Trade Corridor Coalition to Support Compliance with U.S. Department of Transportation Commercial Vehicle Rules and Regulations**

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**Description:** Resolution for the River of Trade Corridor Coalition to encourage enforcement of U.S. rules and regulations as it pertains to a pilot program permitting Mexican trucks beyond the established commercial zone.

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**WHEREAS,** The River of Trade Corridor Coalition includes over 300 members uniting cities, counties, transportation authorities, freight movement entities, and businesses along this significant goods movement trade corridor to protect, maximize, and expand commerce and the economic vitality of the corridor, while mitigating congestion, enhancing safety and facilitating a cleaner environment; and

**WHEREAS,** Mexico is the third largest trading partner of the United States with freight valued at \$126.5 billion that entered the U.S. from Mexico by truck in 2006 while \$93.0 billion worth of freight was exported to Mexico by truck; and

**WHEREAS,** The North American Free Trade Agreement pledged to grant access to all U.S. highways by the year 2000, and in February 2007, the Bush Administration announced a pilot program to allow approximately 1,000 trucks from 100 Mexican trucking companies to travel beyond the 20-mile commercial zone to anywhere in the U.S.

### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER OF TRADE CORRIDOR COALITION:**

**THAT** The River of Trade Corridor Coalition supports a program to allow Mexican trucking companies access to U.S. highways that compels an efficient, transparent and safe cross-border trucking process.

**THAT** The River of Trade Corridor Coalition encourages any program designed to allow Mexican trucks beyond the 20-mile commercial zone be guided by laws that provide adequate oversight, regulation and enforcement of all U.S. Department of Transportation rules .

**THAT** The River of Trade Corridor Coalition maintains that FMCSA/DOT inspections and safety audits for truck maintenance and driver testing should comply with U.S. regulations, including, but not limited to: regular drug and alcohol testing; maintenance of a valid commercial drivers license; driver ability to read and speak English; valid insurance; compliance with U.S. medical requirements; and compliance with U.S. hours of service rules.

**THAT** The River of Trade Corridor Coalition endorses a program that meets environmental and safety standards established in the U.S. to protect motorists, while also accommodating economic growth and the efficient movement of international trade goods.

**THAT** This resolution shall be circulated to interested parties including River of Trade Corridor Coalition members, ROTCC Congressional Caucus, ROTCC Legislative Caucus, as well as governors, state departments of transportation, metropolitan planning organizations, chambers of commerce, appropriate media and others along the nine state River of Trade Corridor and is so accordingly ordered.

CONSIDERED AND APPROVED BY THE RIVER OF TRADE CORRIDOR COALITION at the June 2007 ROTCC International Quarterly Meeting, this the 14th day of June, 2007.

ATTESTED BY:

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Ron Natinsky  
Chair, River of Trade Corridor Coalition  
Councilman, City of Dallas, TX