

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD ANNOUNCES COMPROMISE ON PORTS-TO-PLAINS ROUTE FROM TEXAS TO COLORADO PRAISES EFFORT BY CDOT TO REACH COMPROMISE WITH NEW MEXICO

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) today announced that a consensus has been reached between Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas on the Ports-to-Plains route that will run from Laredo, Texas to Denver, Colorado.

“This is great news for Colorado,” Allard said of the compromise after being briefed by Colorado Department of Transportation Director Tom Norton. “We now have an agreement between all four states involved in the Ports-to-Plains trade corridor: Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. This important agreement will now allow us to proceed in a united front to develop this important trade route.”

In the Monday meeting put together by the Federal Highway Administration, Colorado and New Mexico officials agreed to add a Camino Real spur from Raton, New Mexico to Dumas, Texas. The official Ports-to-Plains route will be U.S. Highway 287. The compromise will be presented to each of the four states transportation commissions. After their official approval, the Federal Highway Administration then will send a route recommendation to Congress.

“We very much appreciated Senator Allard’s leadership on this important Colorado transportation issue,” said CDOT Director Norton. “His active involvement on this issue was extremely important in helping us achieve this agreement with our neighboring states.

Allard two weeks ago sent a letter to New Mexico U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman stating his opposition to his legislation (S. 1118) that would have pre-determined I-25 as the Ports-to-Plains route. He said in the letter that he wanted to allow the local officials in Colorado to determine their route. On July 26, they choose the U.S. Highway 287 route.

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