

Transportation: Driving Rural Development A Symposium

OCTOBER 13, 1999

Sponsored by
Federal Reserve Bank
of Dallas



Agenda

Wednesday, October 13, 1999

8:15 a.m. **Registration and
Continental Breakfast**

8:45 a.m. **Welcome**

8:50 a.m. **Role of Transportation
Infrastructure in Rural
Economic Development**

Robert Nichols

Member, Texas Transportation Commission

9:15 a.m. **The Texas, Mexico and Asia
Corridor Vision: One Region's
Strategy for Rural Economic
Development**

Moderator:

James Wilks

*Attorney, Texas, Mexico & Asia Corridor
Association*

Panel:

J. B. Cooper

*Director, Texas, Mexico & Asia Corridor
Association*

Ricky Fritz

*Scurry County Judge and President,
Texas, Mexico & Asia Corridor Association*

Paul McCann

*Agent, Texas, Mexico & Asia Corridor
Association*

Dennis Prewett

President, TNW Corp.

Jerry Stapp

*General Manager,
Big Country Electric Cooperative*

10:15 a.m. **Break**

10:30 a.m. **Transportation Economics for
NAFTA and Asian Trade:
Southern California Association
of Governments (SCAG)**

Moderator:

James Wilks

Panel:

Robert Bartlett

Mayor, Monrovia, California

Art Brown

Chairman, NAFTA Subcommittee, SCAG

David Dhillon

Mayor, El Centro, California

Mark Pisano

Executive Director, SCAG

11:15 a.m. **USDA's Business and Industry
Guaranteed Loan Program**

Russell Sardina

Vice President, Bank of America

11:45 a.m. **Texas Resources for
Rural Economic Development**

Susan Combs

Texas Agriculture Commissioner

12:15 p.m. **Lunch**

Luncheon Address

Robert D. McTeer, Jr.

*President and CEO, Federal Reserve Bank
of Dallas*

1:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

About the Speakers

Robert T. Bartlett

Mayor, Monrovia, California

Serving his sixth term as mayor, Bartlett has had a pivotal role in revitalizing the community through economic redevelopment. He also serves as director of economic development/redevelopment for the city of Rialto. Before that, he was director of national accounts, representing six regional carriers, for Viking Freight. Bartlett is a past president of the League of California Cities and SCAG. He is chairman of the National League of Cities' Transportation Infrastructure Steering Committee. He attended California State University at Los Angeles and is a graduate of Citrus College.

Arthur C. Brown

Chairman, NAFTA Subcommittee, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)

Brown has served continuously since 1990 as mayor, mayor pro tem or city council member of Buena Park, Calif. He also serves in numerous capacities for SCAG, including chairing the NAFTA Subcommittee and the Surface Transportation Committee. Other current activities include the Los Angeles San Diego Rail Corridor Agency, Orange County Council of Governments and West Orange County Cities Association. He attended Cerritos and Cypress colleges and is a graduate of the FBI Academy.

Susan Combs

Commissioner, Texas Department of Agriculture

A fourth-generation rancher, Combs was sworn into office in 1999 as Texas agriculture commissioner. A former assistant district attorney in Dallas, she served in the Texas Legislature from 1993 to 1996, where she wrote private property rights legislation and was a member of the House committees on Natural Resources and Criminal Jurisprudence. She serves on the boards of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association and the Texas Wildlife Association. She also has a cow-calf operation on her family's ranch in Brewster County. Combs is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin School of Law.



J. B. Cooper

Director, Texas, Mexico & Asia Corridor Association

Cooper, a farmer in Roscoe, Texas, serves as a director for the Texas, Mexico & Asia Corridor Association, a new economic development group located in a six-county area of West Texas. He is also chairman of the Nolan County Industrial Development Association. Cooper has served on numerous boards of agricultural cooperative and farm organizations and was a committee member of several state and national agricultural organizations and advisory boards. He served on the Dallas Fed board of directors from 1990 to 1996 and on its Small Business and Agriculture Advisory Council for six years prior to that. He is a graduate of Texas Tech University.

David S. Dhillon

Mayor, El Centro, California

A marketing consultant, Dhillon is serving his third term as mayor of El Centro, Calif. He is also a member of the city's Redevelopment Agency. Dhillon was the director for Catholic Charities of Imperial Valley for eight years. He is affiliated with numerous organizations, including SCAG Regional Council, Private Industry Council and NAFTA/Salton Sea Authority Statewide Committees. Dhillon has a bachelor's degree from San Diego State University.

Ricky Fritz

Scurry County Judge and President, Texas, Mexico & Asia Corridor Association

A Scurry County judge since 1995, Fritz was recently reelected to a second term. He was executive director of the Snyder Chamber of Commerce before running for office. Fritz serves as president of the Texas, Mexico & Asia Corridor Association and is active in numerous community organizations, including the West Central Texas Council of Governments, West Central Texas Regional Housing Finance Corp., Scurry County Area Foundation and West Central Texas Workforce Development Board. He attended Texas Tech University.

Paul C. McCann

Agent, Texas, Mexico & Asia Corridor Association

McCann is the regional agent for the Texas, Mexico & Asia Corridor Association as well as the agent for Tex-Pro Port, an agricultural import/export company. He has more than 25 years of experience in international banking, investment and corporate marketing and sits on several corporate boards. McCann was responsible for creation of the Merchant Banking Association, which has become a major trade organization for the industry. He has a bachelor's degree and an M.B.A. from Babson College in Wellesley, Mass.

Robert D. McTeer, Jr.

President and CEO, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

McTeer became president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas in 1991. He came to the Dallas Fed from the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond and its Baltimore Branch. McTeer has taught economics courses at several universities, including Johns Hopkins University. He is the immediate past president of the Association of Private Enterprise Education, a national association of holders of university chairs of free enterprise and economic educators. In addition to his role as president and CEO of the Dallas Fed, McTeer serves as a member of the Federal Reserve's principal monetary policymaking organization, the Federal Open Market Committee. He has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Georgia.

Robert Nichols

Member, Texas Transportation Commission

Nichols was appointed to the Texas Transportation Commission in 1997. The three-member commission formulates plans and policies for the location, construction and maintenance of state highways and public roads. Between 1975 and 1996, Nichols founded four plastics research and manufacturing companies in Jacksonville, Texas, and served as chief executive officer at each. The companies are still operating in Jacksonville. He was a member of the Jacksonville City Council from 1980 to 1984 and mayor from 1985 to 1989. He has served on the boards of several civic organizations and was named 1996 Businessman of the Year by the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce. Nichols has a bachelor's degree from Lamar University.

Mark A. Pisano

*Executive Director, Southern California
Association of Governments*

Pisano has been executive director of SCAG since 1976. As the nation's largest regional planning agency, SCAG provides an open forum for solving regionwide problems and developing comprehensive plans. Pisano previously served as director of the Environmental Protection Agency's Water Quality Planning Division. He is a leader and active participant in various civic and professional organizations, including the National Academy of Public Administration, Resources for the Future, Southern California Economic Partnership and California Consortium for Transportation Research and Development. Pisano has bachelor's and master's degrees from Georgetown University.

Dennis L. Prewett

President, TNW Corp.

Prewett spent more than 20 years with Burlington Northern Railroad before becoming president of TNW Corp., parent company of Texas Northwestern Railway Co. and four short line railroads, in 1997. He was general director of unit trains and director of safety from 1995 to 1997 for Burlington Northern Santa Fe. From 1991 to 1995 he managed operations in Texas, including the intermodal facilities in Amarillo, Irving and Houston. He also managed capital justification and project spending for the Seattle International Gateway and was Burlington Northern terminal superintendent for Spokane, Wash., in the mid-1980s. He has a bachelor's degree from New Mexico Tech.

Russell G. Sardina

*Senior Vice President and National Relationship Manager,
Bank of America*

Sardina joined Bank of America in 1985. After completing the bank's commercial loan officer development program, he worked as a commercial loan officer and special credits account officer and performed credit reviews. He joined the bank's community development arm in 1991. He manages Bank of America's relationship with its government guaranty partners and oversees new product development. Sardina has a bachelor's degree from California State University in Sacramento.

Jerry Stapp

General Manager, Big Country Electric Cooperative

Stapp has more than 24 years of electrical engineering, management, pricing, sales and marketing experience in the electric utility industry. He is currently general manager of Big Country Electric Cooperative. Before that, he was a sales manager with Central and South West Services and marketing director, manager and distribution superintendent for West Texas Utilities Co., where he started his career in 1975. Stapp has a bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University.

James L. Wilks

Attorney, Texas, Mexico & Asia Corridor Association

A practicing attorney in Sweetwater, Wilks is serving as counsel to the Texas, Mexico & Asia Corridor Association. He is also president of Gibson Products Co. of Kerrville. He is a member of the Texas and American Bar Associations. He has a bachelor's degree from Abilene Christian College and a J.D. from the University of Houston College of Law.