



NASCO 2025

CONTINENTAL REUNION

FORT WORTH



April 2-4, 2025 | Renaissance Worthington Hotel | Fort Worth, Texas



It is my distinct pleasure to welcome the 2025 NASCO Continental Reunion to Fort Worth, Texas. We hope that all of you will take the time to explore Fort Worth and enjoy the unique mix of cultural activities found only in the Modern West.

As Mayor, it is with great pride that we share with you about our city – a city of cowboys, culture, and community. In one visit, you can enjoy an enormous range of experiences – from art to animals, and from fashion to family fun. Enjoy the award-winning Fort Worth Zoo, visit our newest and grandest stadium, Dickies Arena, watch auto racing at Texas Motor Speedway, or enjoy a relaxing night of shopping and dining in the luxurious Shops at Clearfork. The choice is yours!



While you are in Fort Worth, we hope you get a chance to visit:

- Our downtown area, a nationally-noted model of successful urban renaissance filled with restaurants, museums, art galleries, theaters, and an abundance of retail shopping. The Sundance Square area of downtown is a must-see for everyone visiting the city.
- The Cultural District, recognized as the “museum capital of the Southwest,” is home to truly world-class museums. We are proud to be home to the Texas Cowgirl Hall of Fame, an outstanding Equestrian Center, one of the country’s top-ranked zoos, and a multitude of beautiful parks, trails, and gardens.
- Northside’s Historic Stockyards, a delightful journey into the city’s western heritage. You are sure to enjoy the area’s many shops and restaurants while finding a real-life cowboy or two outfitted with horses on the cattle drive of the Fort Worth Herd of longhorns!

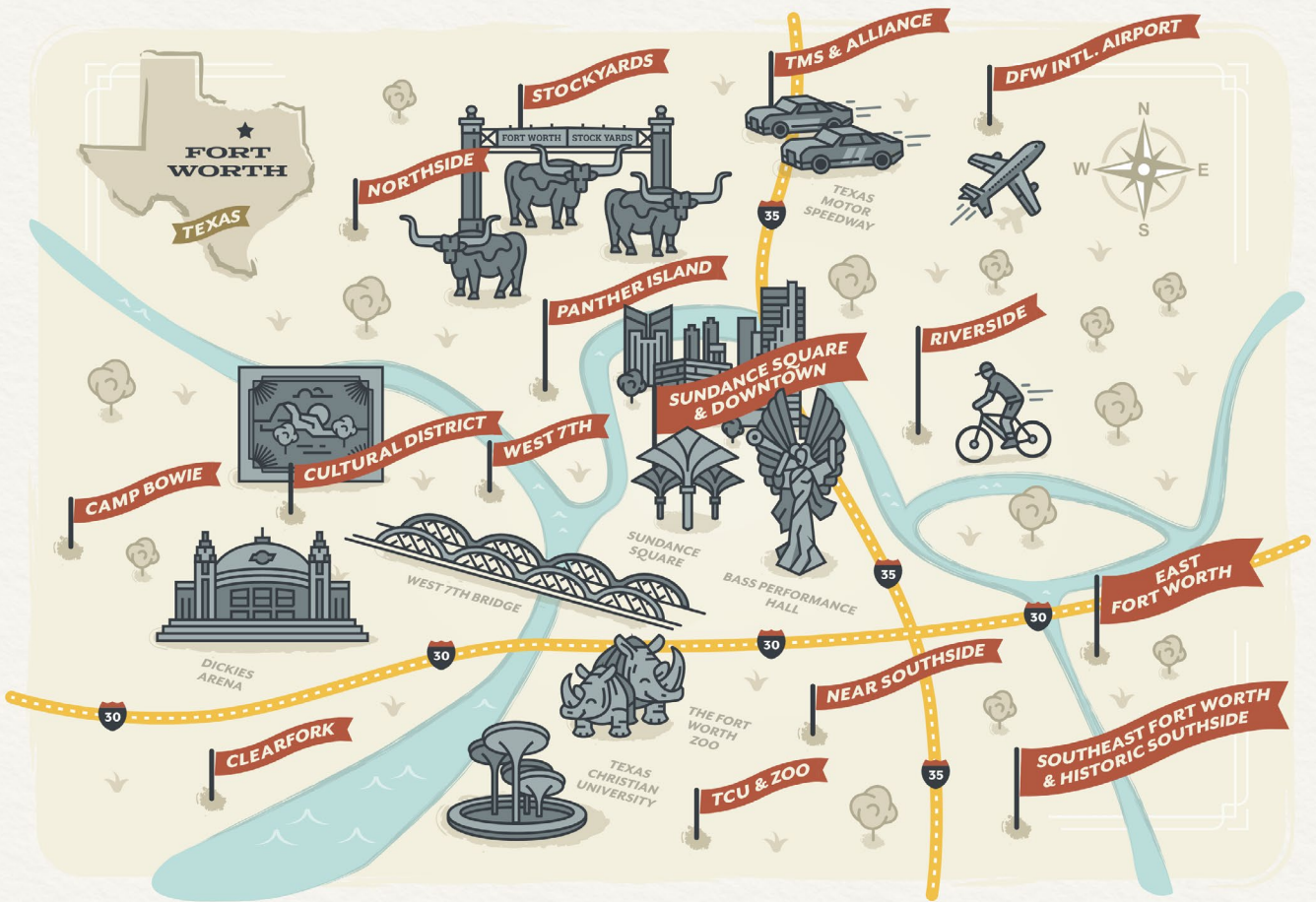
One of our most valuable assets is our people. Visitors often cite the Fort Worth-friendly spirit of our residents and businesses as the top reason they plan a return visit. We hope you enjoy your time in Cowtown and make plenty of friends in our unique and memorable take on the Modern West.

Sincerely,

Mattie Parker
Mayor

MATTIE PARKER, MAYOR

Map of Fort Worth, TX



via www.fortworth.com



NASCO 2025
CONTINENTAL REUNION
FORT WORTH



Hats off to our **NASCO 2025** Reunion Sponsors

GOLD RUSH



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RANCH BOSS



WEDNESDAY | APRIL 2

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

NASCO Board of Directors Meeting

Hosted by BNSF Railway (by invitation only)

AllianceTexas Tour (priority to BOD & sponsors)

5:00 - 6:00 PM

Registration Desk Open | *Rio Grande Ballroom*

Stop by, check-in and get your name badge!

5:30 - 7:30 PM

Rooftop Reunion Rendezvous | *Rooftop Cinema Club, Mezzanine Terrace*

Welcome Reception at the Worthington Hotel

Come enjoy the views & savory bites!

THURSDAY | APRIL 3

7:30 - 8:30 AM

Continental Breakfast & Networking | *Rio Grande Ballroom*

8:30 - 9:00 AM

Welcome | Bienvenue | Bienvenidos

Welcome to Fort Worth x What is NASCO

- | **Tiffany Melvin**, President, NASCO
- | **Susan Harper**, Consul General of Canada in Dallas
- | **Francisco de la Torre**, Consul General of Mexico in Dallas

9:00 - 9:45 AM

The Spirit of Texas: Innovation, Culture and Growth

- | **The Honorable Jim Ross**, Mayor, City of Arlington
- | **The Honorable Manny Ramirez**, Tarrant County Commissioner
- | **Mike Berry**, President, Hillwood, A Perot Company

9:45 - 10:15 AM

Framing the Future: Navigating Infrastructure Policy & Urban Economics

- | **Adie Tomer**, Senior Fellow, Brookings Metro Institute

10:15 - 10:30 AM

Brief Break

10:30 - 11:45 PM

Beyond Borders, Beyond Politics: Exploring Global Instability, North American Elections, Security, and Their Impact on Trade Partnerships

- | **Moderator:** Tiffany Melvin, President, NASCO

Speakers:

- | **David Eaton**, NASCO Chairman, CPKC Railway
- | **Dan Ujcz**, Senior Counsel, Thompson Hine
- | **Gerry Schwebel**, Executive Vice President, IBC Bank
- | **Andrea van Vugt**, Chief Operating Officer, Wellington Advocacy
- | **Luis Rodriguez**, Managing Partner, Monarch Global Mexico
- | **Mark Entwistle**, Managing Director, Privus Capital, and Senior Fellow at Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto

11:45 - 12:15 AM

Reimagining North American Economic Integration

In an era where tariffs threaten three decades of North American economic integration, Dr. Covarrubias will examine the immediate market uncertainty costs and the long-term strategic implications for our deeply interconnected economies. Drawing from research on employment impacts across 15 states and innovative solutions like the Binational Customs Agency concept, he will outline a forward-looking vision that addresses security concerns while enhancing regional competitiveness. He will also discuss how emerging AI technologies can transform cross-border operations, creating more resilient supply chains and modernizing customs processes to meet 21st-century challenges.

- | **Dr. Daniel Covarrubias**, Director, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development, Texas A&M International University

12:15 - 12:30 AM

North American Workforce Initiative Update

| **Wes Jurey**, Workforce Development Strategist, Manufacturing Skill Standards Council

12:30 - 2:00 PM

Luncheon: Texas and the Future of Work: Economic Trends Shaping Business in a Changing World

As Texas continues to lead in job growth and economic expansion, multinational companies face evolving workforce challenges and opportunities. This discussion will focus on the forces shaping the Texas labor market, the impact of demographic shifts, AI-driven automation, and what's planned for Texas' talent pipeline. How will Texas companies navigate workforce shortages, global competition, and shifting economic trends? This discussion will dive deep into the data and provide a forward-looking perspective on the economic future of Texas and beyond.

| **Moderator:** Merrill Davis, Vice President, Communications, Texas 2036

Speakers:

| **Aaron Demerson**, President & CEO, Texas Economic Development Corporation

| **John Hryhorchuk**, Senior Vice President of Policy, Texas 2036

| **Pia Orrenius**, Vice President & Senior Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

Highlight: The San Luis Potosi Trade Corridor: A Strategic Connection Uniting Canada, the U.S. and Mexico

| **Michele Porrino**, Executive Director, WTC Industrial SLP

2:00 - 3:00 PM

Seamless Synergy: The Building Blocks of an Integrated Supply Chain

In today's rapidly evolving global economy, a well-integrated supply chain is essential for efficiency, resilience, and competitiveness. This panel brings together industry leaders and experts to explore the critical components of a seamless supply chain, from cross-border collaboration and digitalization to infrastructure and workforce development.

| **Moderator:** Alberto Velasco, Vice President International, Economic Development Winnipeg

Speakers:

| **Carlos Llanes**, CEO, Spartan Carrier Group

| **Alma Acevedo**, CEO, Global Tooling Specialties

| **Ramon Concha**, Partner, Cacheaux, Cavazos and Newton

| **Lusine Atayan**, Director of Logistics & Distribution, Mary Kay

3:00 - 4:00 PM

Powering Progress: A North American Industry Perspective on Multi-Modal Transportation

As supply chains grow more complex, the integration of rail, road, air, and maritime transportation is essential for efficiency and resilience. This panel brings together industry leaders to discuss the challenges and innovations shaping multi-modal logistics across North America. From infrastructure investments to technology-driven solutions, discover how collaboration and strategic planning are driving the future of transportation.

| **Moderator:** Ken Allen, Former NASCO Chairman and President of Bridgestone Agriculture

Speakers:

| **Luis Bazan**, Bridge Director, Pharr International Bridge

| **French Thompson**, General Director, Public Infrastructure and Investments, BNSF Railway

| **Veronica Gonzalez**, Director of North America Surface Transportation, Mexico, C.H. Robinson

| **Sergio Guajardo**, Undersecretary of Sustainable Development, Competitiveness and Foreign Trade, Government of Tamaulipas

4:00 - 5:00 PM

Rules Rewritten: How Policy is Reshaping North America

| **Moderator:** Jason Craig, Director of Government Affairs, C.H. Robinson

Speakers:

| **Sarah Goldfeder**, Executive Director of Government Relations and Corporate Affairs, General Motors Canada

| **Dylan Clement**, Director of International Policy, National Association of Manufacturers

| **Elaine Nettle**, Executive Director, Coalition for Americas Gateways and Trade Corridors

6:00 PM

Time to saddle up! | Worthington Lobby

Bus departs at 6:00pm for Stockyards

6:30 - 9:30 PM

Boot Scootin' Boogie in the Stockyards | Tannahill's Tavern

Hosted by Hillwood, A Perot Company

Dinner fit for a rancher - with a side of surprises!

***Western attire encouraged**

9 / 9:30 PM

Wrangle the crew and head back to hotel

FRIDAY | APRIL 4

7:30 - 8:30 AM

Hot Breakfast & Networking | Rio Grande Ballroom

Hosted by: The Government of Canada

8:30 - 9:00 AM

Finding Opportunities in Crisis: Borders and the Impact of Modernized Trilateral Trade

| **Laura Dawson**, Executive Director, Future Borders Coalition

9:00 - 10:00 AM

USMCA at the Crossroads: Enhancing Commerce and Competitiveness Across Borders

Exploring Opportunities and Challenges Leading Up to the 2026 Review

| **Moderator:** Laura Dawson, Executive Director, Future Borders Coalition

Speakers:

| **John Dickerman**, Vice President, U.S., Business Council of Canada

| **Glenn Hamer**, President & CEO, Texas Association of Business

| **Cesar Remis**, Managing Director, Trade Envoy

10:00 - 10:30 AM

CPKC creates capacity, drives prosperity and strengthens security for North American Trade

| **Coby Bullard**, Senior Vice President, CPKC

10:30 - 11:00 AM

Break

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Future in Motion: Innovating Transportation and Technology

As technology rapidly transforms the transportation industry, innovation is driving efficiency, sustainability, and new economic opportunities. This panel will bring together experts to explore the latest advancements in smart infrastructure, autonomous vehicles, electrification, and digital supply chains.

| **Moderator:** Ian Kinne, Director of Logistics Innovation, Hillwood

Speakers:

| **ReenAnn Rutter**, Senior Manager, Policy and Public Affairs, Waabi

| **Darran Anderson**, Director of Strategy and Innovation, Texas Department of Transportation

| **Milton de la Paz**, Vice President, Airline Relations and Cargo Business Development, DFW Airport

12:00 - 12:15 PM

Immigration in North America

| **Laura Collins**, Director, Bush Institute - SMU Economic Growth Initiative

12:15 - 1:00 PM

Gearing Up for Glory: How the DFW Host Community is Bringing the 2026 World Cup to Life

From cultural celebrations to logistical preparations, Dallas-Fort Worth is stepping onto the global stage for the 2026 World Cup. This session explores how the region is uniting businesses, local leaders, and fans to create an unforgettable experience—both on and off the field.

| **Moderator:** Gus Garcia, Economic Development Director, City of Arlington, Texas

Speakers:

| **Noelle LeVeaux**, Chief Marketing Officer, FIFA 2026 World Cup DFW Host Team

| **Francisco de la Torre**, Consul General of Mexico in Dallas

| **Mike Spiewak**, Vice President of Exhibits, Perot Museum of Nature and Science

1:00 - 2:30 PM

“Come to the Table” Closing Luncheon

An invitation to come enjoy the hospitality of Saskatchewan for the 2026 NASCO Continental Reunion

NASCO Reunion Concludes



Howdy Y'all

POWERING GROWTH



ALLIANCE TEXAS

AllianceTexas is a 27,000-acre, master-planned development by Hillwood that encompasses industrial, logistics, corporate office, retail, aviation, housing communities and more.

Over the past 35 years, AllianceTexas has been an economic engine for North Texas with **590 companies**, generating more than **66,000 jobs** and an estimated **\$130 billion** in regional economic impact.

ALLIANCETEXAS.COM

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 **HILLWOOD**
A PEROT COMPANY®

Why is Winnipeg the best place to invest?



Central location

North America's geographic centre with one of the continent's largest trimodal inland ports.



Clean and affordable energy

Winnipeg offers clean, renewable energy with some of the lowest electricity rates in North America.



Diverse economy

Highly diverse, stable and collaborative economy.



Cost advantage

Low operating costs and competitive tax credits.



Highly skilled workforce

Access to skilled local, national and international talent.



Supportive business community

High value on networking and professional relationships fosters a collaborative environment.



Great quality of life

High standard of living with affordable housing, low cost of living and a vibrant cultural scene.



Worldwide connectivity

Access to various international networks including the World Trade Center network of 300+ centers in 80+ countries.



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The Manitoba Delegation:



WORLD TRADE CENTRE*
WINNIPEG



**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
WINNIPEG**



**CENTREPORT™
CANADA**



Come to the Table



May 5 - 7, 2026

2026 NASCO Continental Reunion

Regina, Saskatchewan

