Foreign Trade Zone No. 94 City of Laredo, Texas



Minor Boundary Modification Application for:

Specialized Customs Services

1015 Santos Tomas St.

Laredo, Texas 78045

OMB Control No. 0625-0139 Expiration Date: 03/31/2019

Application for Subzone or Usage-Driven Designation ("Minor Boundary Modification") Under the Alternative Site Framework (ASF)

Instruction Sheet

This collection of information contains Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) requirements approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the PRA unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 3.5 hours, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Persons wishing to comment on the burden estimate or any aspect of this collection of information, or offer suggestions for reducing this burden, should send their comments to the ITA Reports Clearance Officer, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

No zone, subzone, zone expansion/reorganization/modification, or production authority may be approved unless a completed application/notification/request has been received (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u; 15 CFR Part 400). The Foreign-Trade Zones Board has no authority to finance zone projects. Its approval is in the form of a grant of authority (license) for operating a facility under foreign-trade zone procedures. The basic requirements for foreign-trade zone applications are found in the regulations of the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (15 CFR Part 400), including Sections 400.21 through 400.25. Application formats are available on the FTZ Board web site:

http://www.trade.gov/ftz.

Corporations submitting applications must be qualified to apply under the laws of the state in which the zone is to be located. Applicants may submit drafts of their applications to the FTZ Staff, which can provide comments and technical assistance in interpreting the Board's regulations.

Applicants should note that conduct of their proposed activity under FTZ procedures would result in an additional, ongoing information-collection burden associated with the Annual Report from Foreign-Trade Zones (OMB Control No. 0625-0109).

FTZ Staff March 2013

Foreign-Trade Zones Board U.S. Department of Commerce 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 21013 Washington, D.C. 20230 (202) 482-2862

Alternative Site Framework

APPLICATION FOR SUBZONE OR USAGE-DRIVEN DESIGNATION ("MINOR BOUNDARY MODIFICATION")

NOTE: This format is only for a Minor Boundary Modification (MBM) to propose a "Subzone" or "Usage-Driven" site(s) under the Alternative Site Framework (ASF).

INSTRUCTIONS

General: This format consists of a small number of questions to answer and, for ease of use, is provided as a MS Word document. The actual submitted request may take the form of a letter from the grantee requesting approval and answering each question listed below. Alternatively, the request may include a cover letter from the grantee identifying the specific Subzone/Usage-Driven site for which it is requesting approval and then a separate document answering the questions below. Leave each question in place (including its number) and provide your response directly below each question.

Subzone versus Usage-Driven Designation: Under the FTZ Board's regulations (§400.24(c)), a grantee can request designation of a site(s) as a subzone that qualifies for usage-driven status, where warranted by the circumstances and so long as the subzone activity remains subject to the activation limit for the zone in question. As with usage-driven sites, subzone sites designated under this process will be subject to the standard three-year sunset provision.

Sites versus Parcels: A "site" is comprised of one or more generally contiguous parcels of land organized and functioning as an integrated unit, such as all or part of an industrial park or airport facility. If parcels do not meet that definition, they must be treated as separate sites.

Submitted Request Must Be Complete: Submitted MBM requests must be complete – with the sole allowable exception of any comments from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), if necessary. Incomplete submitted requests or documents submitted separately will be returned to the sender. The FTZ Staff cannot assemble complete requests from individual elements submitted separately.

Number of Copies: Please submit the original and <u>one electronic copy</u> of the complete request (Adobe PDF format preferred; you may use MS Word format if you are unable to submit PDF). The electronic copy must include a color map(s) and scans of all signed letters.

Timing: Under the FTZ Board's regulations, the ordinary timeframe to process MBM requests is within 30 days of the FTZ Staff having received a complete request. Timing will depend on receipt of CBP's comments on the request.

Alternative Site Framework

APPLICATION FOR SUBZONE OR USAGE-DRIVEN DESIGNATION ("MINOR BOUNDARY MODIFICATION")

QUESTIONS

1.	Please mark the appropriate space below to indicate whether you are requesting "Subzone" or "Usage-Driven" designation for the proposed site(s):
	SubzoneXUsage-Driven
2.	List the address of the site(s), including the jurisdiction in which the site(s) falls (town, city county). -1015 Santo Tomas St. Laredo, TX 78045 Lot No. 3, Block 1 Webb County. The acres are within the approved area for Foreign Trade Zone No.94 City of Laredo, Webb County.
3.	Explain how the proposed site(s) is within the grantee's approved ASF service area. -The Grantee's ASF approved service area is Webb County. The proposed site is within Webb County.
4.	State the proposed acreage of the site(s). -2.02 Acres

- 5. Indicate the company for which the site(s) will be designated.
 - -The designated site will be for Specialized Customs Services.
- 6. Provide a summary of the company's planned activities.
 - Storage and distribution.
- 7. Indicate the current zoning and the existing and planned buildings (including square footage) for the site(s). (Note: Sites (or areas within a site) with inappropriate zoning such as agricultural, retail, or residential are not eligible for FTZ status and should not be proposed in any MBM request.)
 - The current zoning of the site is M-1. M-1 zoning is for manufacturing/distribution and Customs operation. Right now we have designated area in Lot 2 with 16,500 sqft. Currently, Specialized Customs Services Inc. has Lot No. 2 (see aerial picture) designated as FTZ. The proposed new FTZ designation of Lot No. 3 will allow the transfer of merchandise to new site.
- 8. Confirm that FTZ designation or the use of FTZ procedures is not a requirement or a precondition for future activity or construction at the site(s).

-No the FTZ designation is not a precondition for future activity or construction at the site.

9. List the owner(s). (If a site(s) is not owned by the grantee or the company planning to use the site(s) – as named in response to Question 5 above – then provide a "Right to Use" attachment with documentation demonstrating the right to use the site(s). Such evidence could be a signed letter from the proposed operator on its letterhead attesting to its right to use the property or a letter of concurrence from the owner of the proposed site(s).)

Zafiro Warehouse, Inc. owns the proposed site. Please see the attached letter confirming our right to use this property.

ATTACHMENTS

Attach the documents listed below (Items 10 and 11, plus Item 12 if applicable) directly behind the text of your request.

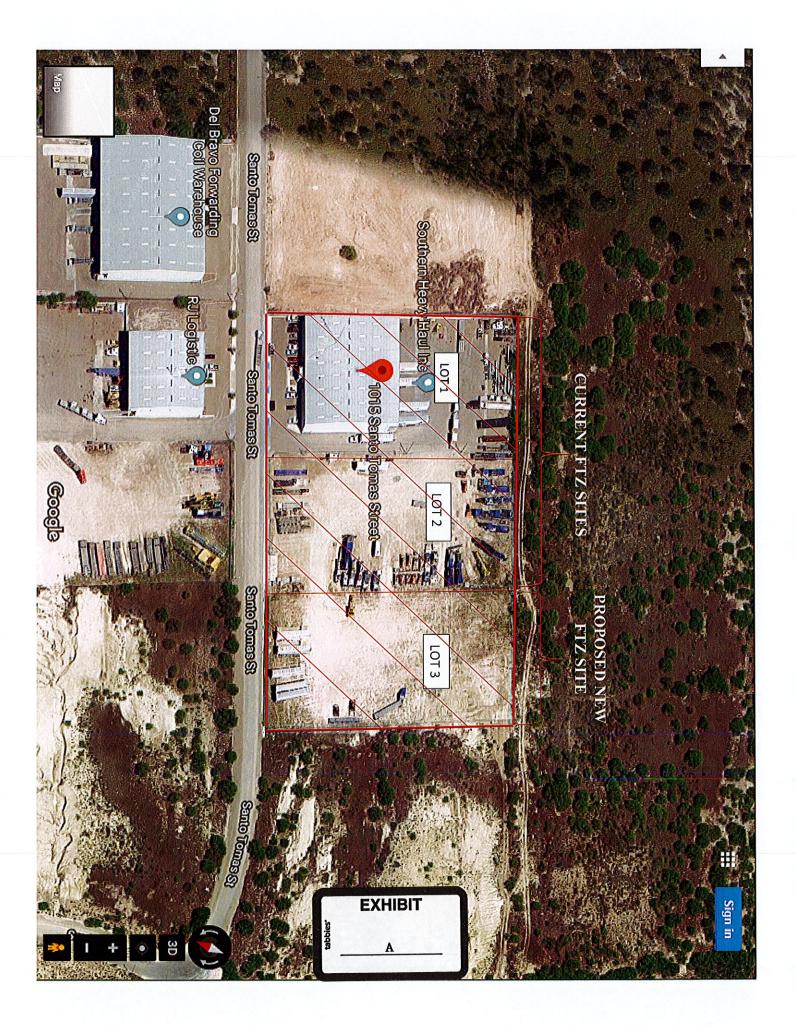
10. A clear and detailed site map showing existing and planned structures. The site boundaries must be outlined clearly <u>in red</u>. Note that if streets or similar landmarks are not legible on the site map, you will also need to provide a detailed street map with the proposed site's boundaries <u>in red</u>. Any map should be no larger than letter-sized (8 1/2" x 11") and clearly labeled, with legends provided for any markings.

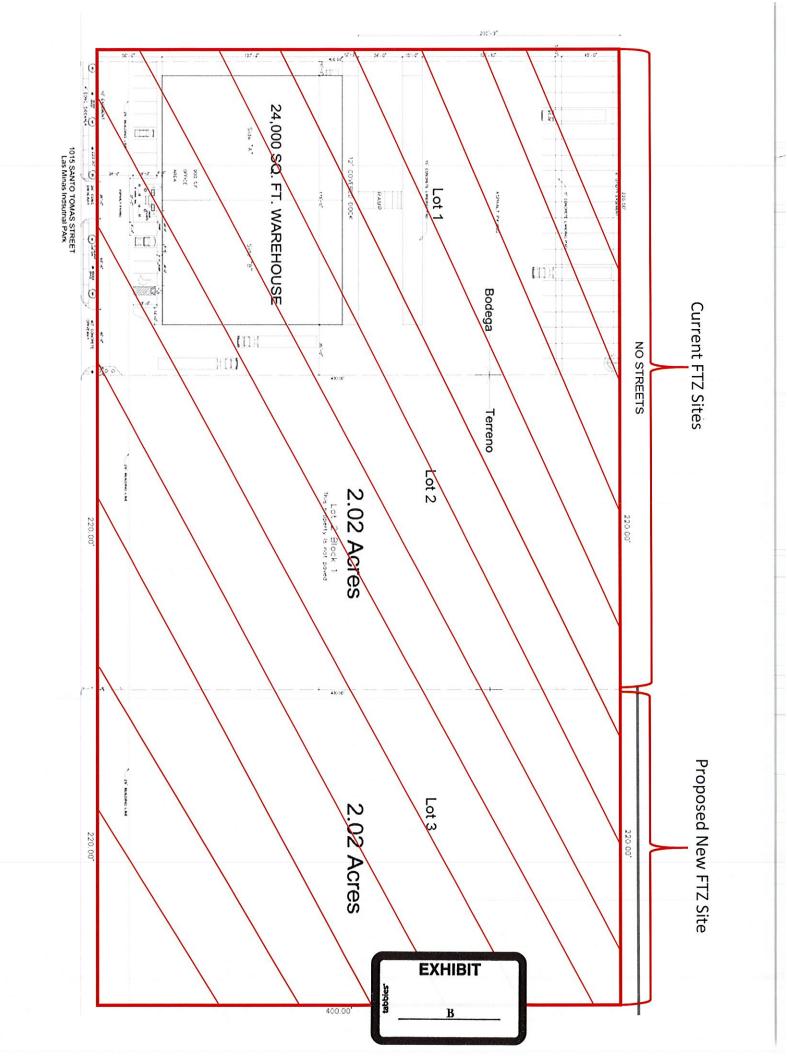
Exhibit A Exhibit B

11. Comments from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP): The grantee generally should provide comments from CBP with the submitted request. Alternatively, the grantee may provide a copy of the request to CBP at the time the request is submitted to the FTZ Board, in which case the grantee should also communicate with CBP regarding the 20-day timeframe in the FTZ Board's regulations for CBP to provide comments to the FTZ Board.

Exhibit 4

- 12. If your state (such as TX, KY, AZ) has one or more taxes for which collections will be affected by the proposed FTZ designation of the new site(s), please attach all of the following:
 - A. An explanation of the specific local taxes that will be affected;
 - B. A stand-alone letter that:
 - Lists all of the affected parties;
 - Includes a statement below the list certifying that this is a complete list of all parties that would be affected by this particular request; and,
 - Is signed by an official of the grantee organization.
 - C. Correspondence from all of the affected parties (such as a local school board) indicating their concurrence (or non-objection) regarding the proposed FTZ designation.
 - City of Laredo (Exhibit 1)
 - Webb County (Exhibit 2)
 - Laredo Community College
 - Road & Bridge
 - United Independent School District (Exhibit 3)
 - Correspondence of affected parties (Exhibit 5)







07/10/2018

Mario Maldonado FOREIGN-TRADE ZONE Operations Manager City of Laredo, TX

Mr. Maldonado

We are hereby respectfully requesting to add a site(Lot 3 Blk 1) as we currently have 3 Lots on site 16 with 16,500 sqft. The proposed lies within Webb County at 1015 Santo Tomas St. Laredo, TX 78045. We have attached a site plan of the proposed area for your convenience.

Should you have any questions feel free to contact me.

Regards,

FTZ OPERATOR

Norman Pluma

Specialized Customs Services, Inc.



07/10/2018

Mario Maldonado FOREIGN-TRADE ZONE Operations Manager City of Laredo, TX

Mr. Maldonado

This letter is to serve as evidence that our company Specialized Customs Services, INC has permission and the right to utilize all space and facilities located at the proposed FTZ location at 1015 Santo Tomas St, Laredo, TX 78045. This permission has been granted to our company through a lease agreement with the landlord of the property Zafiro Warehouse, Inc & the Tenant TEI Specialized Trailer Leasing, Inc. Commencing on the 1st day of March, 2018 and ending on the 30th of March of 2019.

Should you have any questions feel free to contact me.

Regards,

FTZ OPERATOR

Specialized Customs Services, Inc.



CITY OF LAREDO

Office of the City Manager

October 4, 2018

Mr. Andrew McGilvray
Executive Secretary
Foreign-Trade Zones Board
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW, Room 2111
Washington, D.C. 20230

Re:

Minor Boundary Modification Foreign-Trade Zone No. 94 Specialized Customs Services

Dear Mr. McGilvray:

We hereby request expedited consideration of the following request for minor boundary modification under the FTZ No. 94 ASF approved application. The request is for a minor boundary modification of Foreign-Trade Zone No. 94-Site I for Specialized Customs Services located at 1015 Santo Tomas St., Laredo TX 78045.

The Foreign-Trade Zones Board granted authority to establish, operate and maintain Foreign-Trade Zone No. 94 at Laredo, Texas, by Board Order No. 235, issued November 22, 1983. The City of Laredo, Texas, Grantee Foreign-Trade Zone No. 94 had its application to be reorganized under the Alternate Site Framework approved by the Foreign Trade Zone Board through Board Order 1852 on August 29, 2012.

The City is aware of the effects this operation may have on the taxes generated within the City of Laredo. The benefits that Foreign-Trade Zone operations bring to the City outweigh any potential loss of tax revenue as has been the case with the 30+ Foreign Trade Zone operators within the City limits.

In this regard, we respectfully request that the Executive Secretary administratively authorize this minor boundary modification for Specialized Customs located at 1015 Santos Tomas St., Webb County, Laredo, Texas.

Foreign-Trade Zone status is requested for this proposed site in order to increase trade opportunities for the existing international trade operations being conducted within the facility. The tenant and customers of the existing facility are eager to take advantage of the benefits the foreign-trade zone program has to offer for purposes of distribution, both into and from Mexico.

All activities within the proposed foreign-trade zone site will be controlled by the zone operator, Specialized Customs Services.

It should be noted that this request for a minor boundary modification is necessary to facilitate foreign-trade zone services in this area. The City of Laredo is cognizant that its zone project must be flexible in developing foreign trade zone locations which are of economic importance to the community and promote new jobs. As the City of Laredo continues to be the leader in the international trade sector of import/export activity and as the volume of truck and rail transportation increases within the City, this proposed FTZ designation will complement the major improvements on the Mines Road which will distribute the traffic congestion from the central city in direct proximity to the World Trade Bridge.

The proposed minor boundary modification does not incorporate the authorization for manufacturing activity under zone procedures. A letter of concurrence from the U.S. Customs Service is attached in the application packet supporting Customs and Border Protection favorable stance for the proposed minor boundary modification to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board.

If you have any questions concerning this request or if additional information is required for expedited consideration, please do not hesitate to call Mrs. Elsy D. Borgstedte, Assistant Airport Director, at the Laredo International Airport at (956) 795-2000.

Sincerely

Horacio A. De Leon Jr.

City Manager

xc: Mario I. Maldonado Jr., Executive Director of Transportation Elsy D. Borgstedte, Assistant Airport Director

Norman Pluma, FTZ Operator, Specialized Customs Services

Joseph Misenhelter, Jr. CBP Port Director



CITY OF LAREDO

LAREDO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

October 4, 2018

Mr. Andrew McGilvray
Executive Secretary
Foreign-Trade Zones Board
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW, Room 2111
Washington, D.C. 20230

Re:

Minor Boundary Modification Foreign-Trade Zone No. 94 Specialized Customs Services

Dear Mr. McGilvray:

As Grantee of Foreign Trade Zone #94, I hereby request your consideration of a minor boundary modification for Specialized Customs Services, located within the city limits of Laredo, Texas.

A following is a list of the affected taxing jurisdications for the property under consideration located at 1015 Santo Tomas St. Laredo, TX 78045.

City of Laredo (Exhibit 1)
Webb County (Exhibit 2)
Laredo Community College
Road & Bridge
United Independent School District (Exhibit 3)

I hereby certify that the above are a complete list of the taxing jurisdictions that may be affected by this request for Specialized Customs Services.

Kindest regards,

Man Milder

Mario I. Maldonado Jr.

Executive Director of Transportation



Roberto J. Santos Superintendent

October 5, 2018

Mr. Andrew McGilvray
Executive Secretary
Foreign-Trade Zones Board
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW, Room 2111
Washington, DC 20230

RE: Foreign-Trade Zone No. 94, Request for Minor Boundary Modification

Dear Mr. McGilvray:

United Independent School District understands that Specialized Customs Services is requesting a Minor Boundary Modification of Foreign-Trade Zone No. 94 in Laredo, Texas. The property of 1015 Santo Tomas St., Laredo, Texas 78045 is located within the United Independent School District's taxing jurisdiction.

The United Independent School District recognizes the increasing importance of international trade in our community and supports this request. We are aware that imported inventory and inventory held in the Foreign-Trade Zone for export will be exempt from local ad valorem taxes when the modification is approved.

Sincerely,

Eduardo Zuniga, CPA Associate Superintendent

Student Support Services

Eduardo Zuniga, CPA
Associate Superintendent for Student Support Services
201 Lindenwood Drive Laredo, Texas 78045 Phone (956)473-6474 Fax (956)473-6476