



Washington's Birthday Celebration Association™

February 3, 2026

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

I am writing to formally request approval for the temporary closure of the bridge in support of the WBCA Abrazo Ceremony scheduled for Friday, February 21, 2026, from approximately 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

The Abrazo Ceremony is a long-standing and meaningful binational tradition that celebrates unity, cultural heritage, and the strong relationship between the communities of Laredo, Texas, and Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas. This event brings together students, educators, families, and community leaders for a symbolic embrace across the border, reinforcing the values of collaboration and mutual respect.

I previously submitted the official Bridge Closure Request Form, which was signed and approved in November. This letter is intended to formally accompany that request as it is presented for consideration by City Council on February 17.

We will continue to coordinate closely with all relevant city departments, law enforcement, and bridge authorities to ensure public safety, minimize disruption, and comply with all city requirements during the temporary closure.

Thank you for your continued support of this important educational and cultural event. Please feel free to contact me should you need any additional information or documentation.

Respectfully,

Mirthala Barragan
International Bridge Ceremony Chairperson
WBCA
956.473.9755