

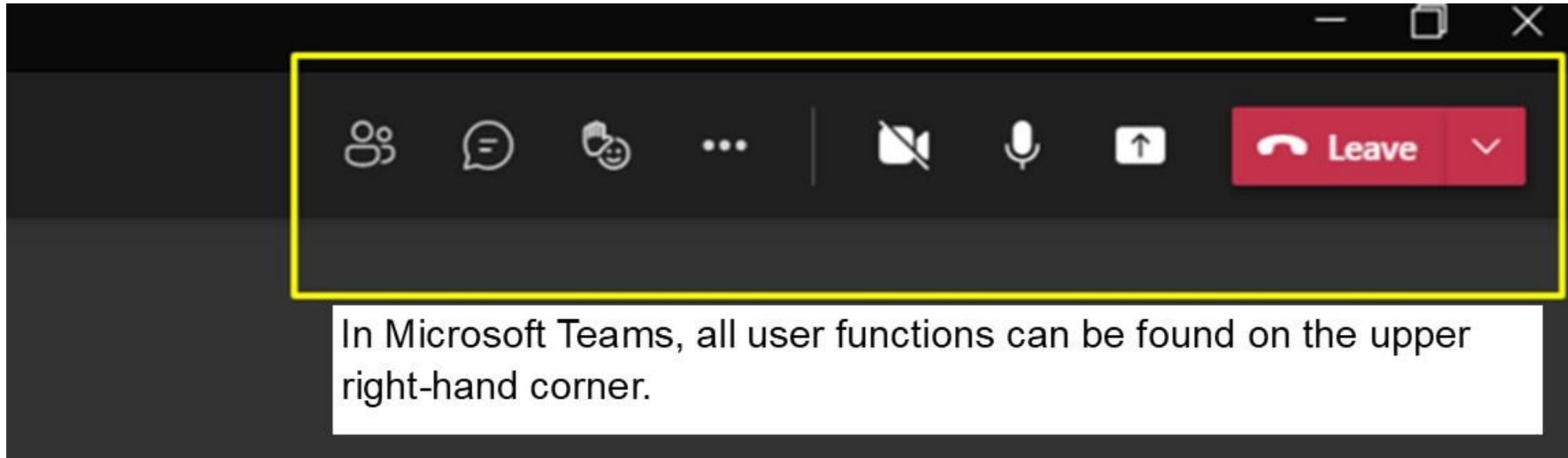
# TEMPORARY PEDESTRIAN PROCESS FACILITY AT CALEXICO WEST PORT OF ENTRY IN CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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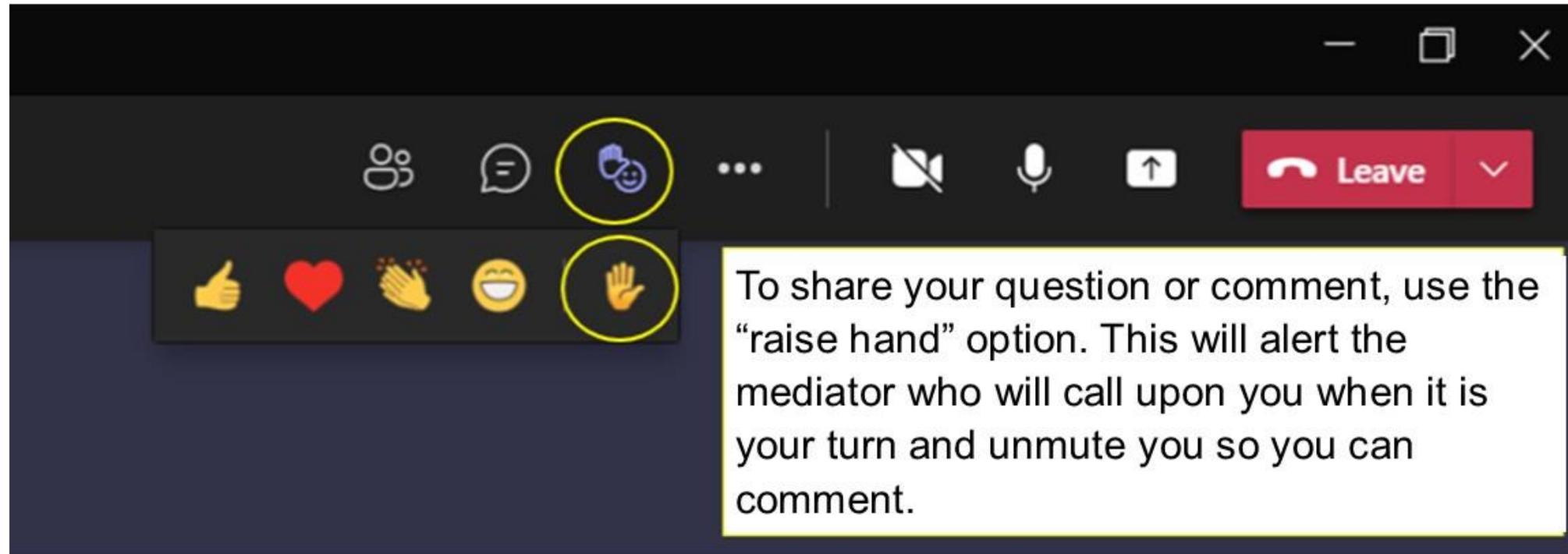
Virtual Public Meeting, October 24, 2022

# Accessing Teams “Raise Hand” and “Chat” functions for Q&A session



In Microsoft Teams, all user functions can be found on the upper right-hand corner.

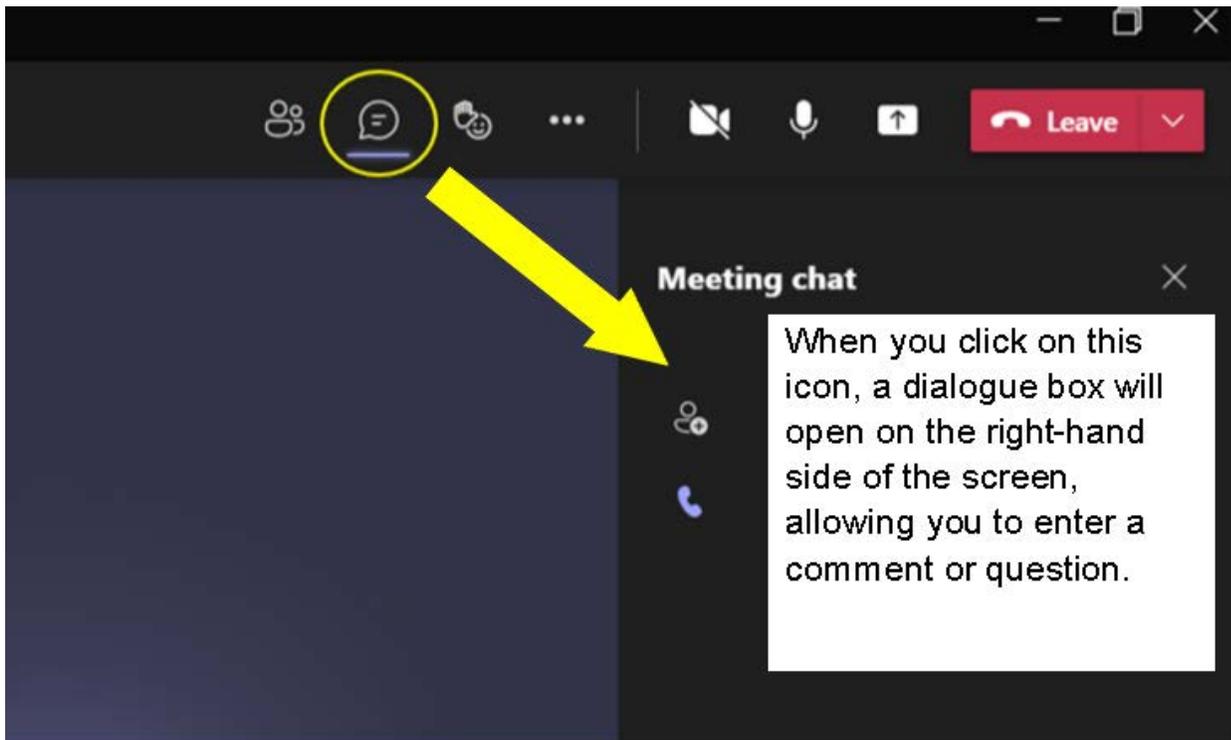
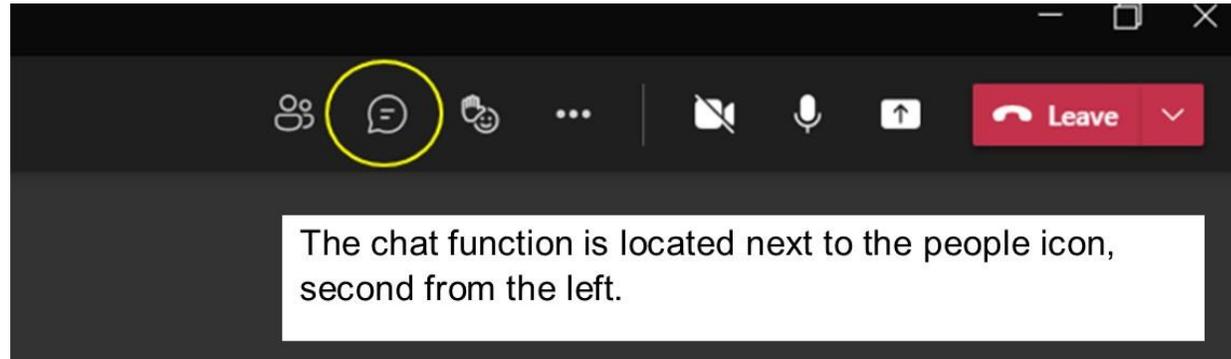
# How to use “Raise Hand” function during Q&A session



The screenshot shows the Zoom meeting control bar. The 'Raise Hand' icon, which depicts a hand with a blue speech bubble, is circled in yellow. Below the main control bar, a secondary row of reaction icons is visible, with the 'Raise Hand' icon also circled in yellow. A white tooltip box with a yellow border is positioned over the circled icon, containing the following text:

To share your question or comment, use the “raise hand” option. This will alert the mediator who will call upon you when it is your turn and unmute you so you can comment.

# How to use “Chat” function



# Meeting Agenda

- Introduction to Public Building Services of GSA
- Environmental Assessment Objectives
- Proposed Action
- Alternatives
- Impacts on Resources Fully Analyzed
- Best Management Practices
- How to submit comments
- Q&A session
- Closing

# Introduction to Public Building Services (PBS) of GSA

- Serves other civilian federal agencies, who use GSA programs to provide workspace, furnishings at best value to the American taxpayer
- Acquire space through new construction, leasing, maintaining federal properties nationwide
- Own, lease more than 8,800 assets
- Maintain more than 370 million square feet of workspace for 1.1 million federal employees
- Preserve more than 500 historic properties

# Environmental Assessment Objectives Under NEPA

- Provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI);
- Comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969
- Provides interested public, agencies opportunity early in planning process to:
  - Provide input
  - Identify issues
  - Offer solutions
- GSA is lead agency for this EA

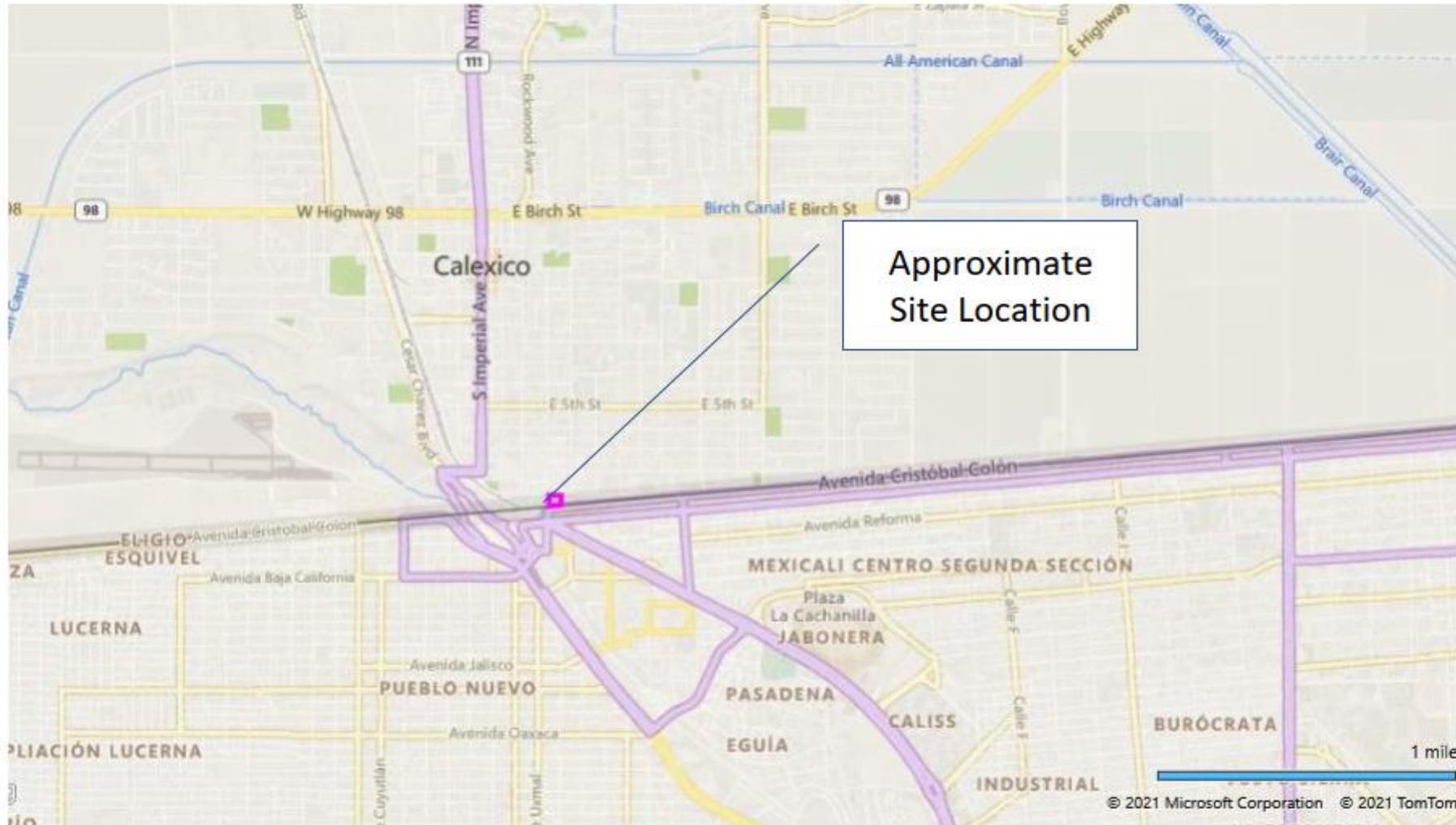
# Environmental Assessment Objectives Under NEPA

- GSA has determined that an Environmental Assessment (EA) would need to be prepared to evaluate the significance of potential impacts resulting from proposed project
- Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations provide guidance on the preparation of EA and define significance

# Environmental Assessment Process Overview



# Calexico West Land Port of Entry Temporary Pedestrian Process Facility





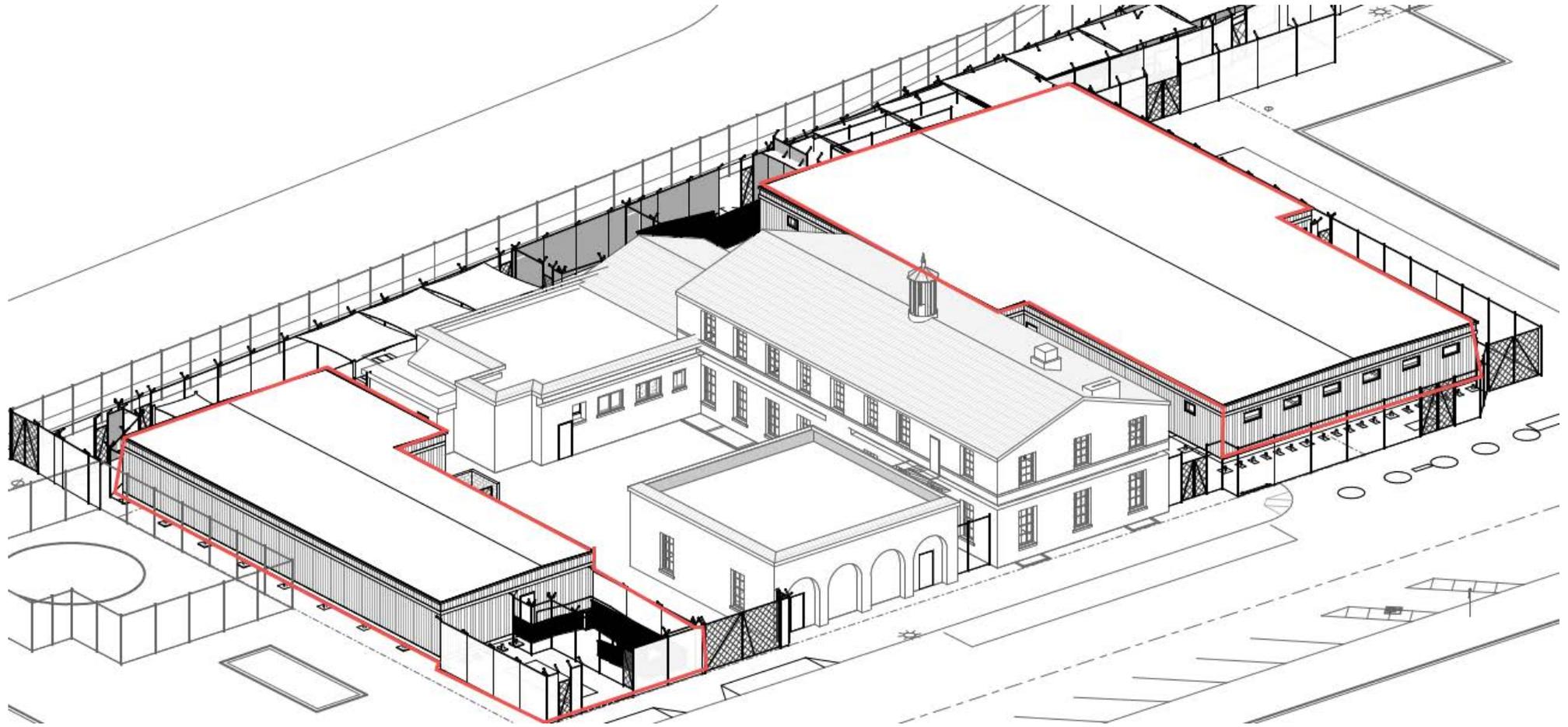
# Calexico West LPOE Temporary Pedestrian Process Facility Project

- Purpose and Need
  - While current facility/existing structures are demolished and a new structure constructed, a temporary facility is needed to act as a pedestrian processing facility to be used by the United States Customs and Border Protection and partner agencies in Calexico, California
- Objective
  - Ensure continued services for those crossing between the United States of America and Mexico while new facility is installed

# Proposed Project

- Proposed temporary facility located adjacent to Historic Customs House at 340 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street
- Temporary, premanufactured modular building facility anticipated to be located on Heffernan Road
  - South of East 1<sup>st</sup> Street
  - West of Historic Customs House
- Facility requires temporary acquisition of Heffernan Road to south of East 1<sup>st</sup> Street
- Includes installation of one-story, pre-manufactured modular building
- Structure will be used for the purpose of pedestrian processing at the Land Port of Entry
- Two facilities will be approximately 8,804 square feet

# Proposed Building Rendering



# Proposed Project

- Interior of building includes:
  - Wait areas
  - Administrative offices
  - Interview rooms
  - Property storage
  - Inspection areas
  - Processing areas
  - Restrooms

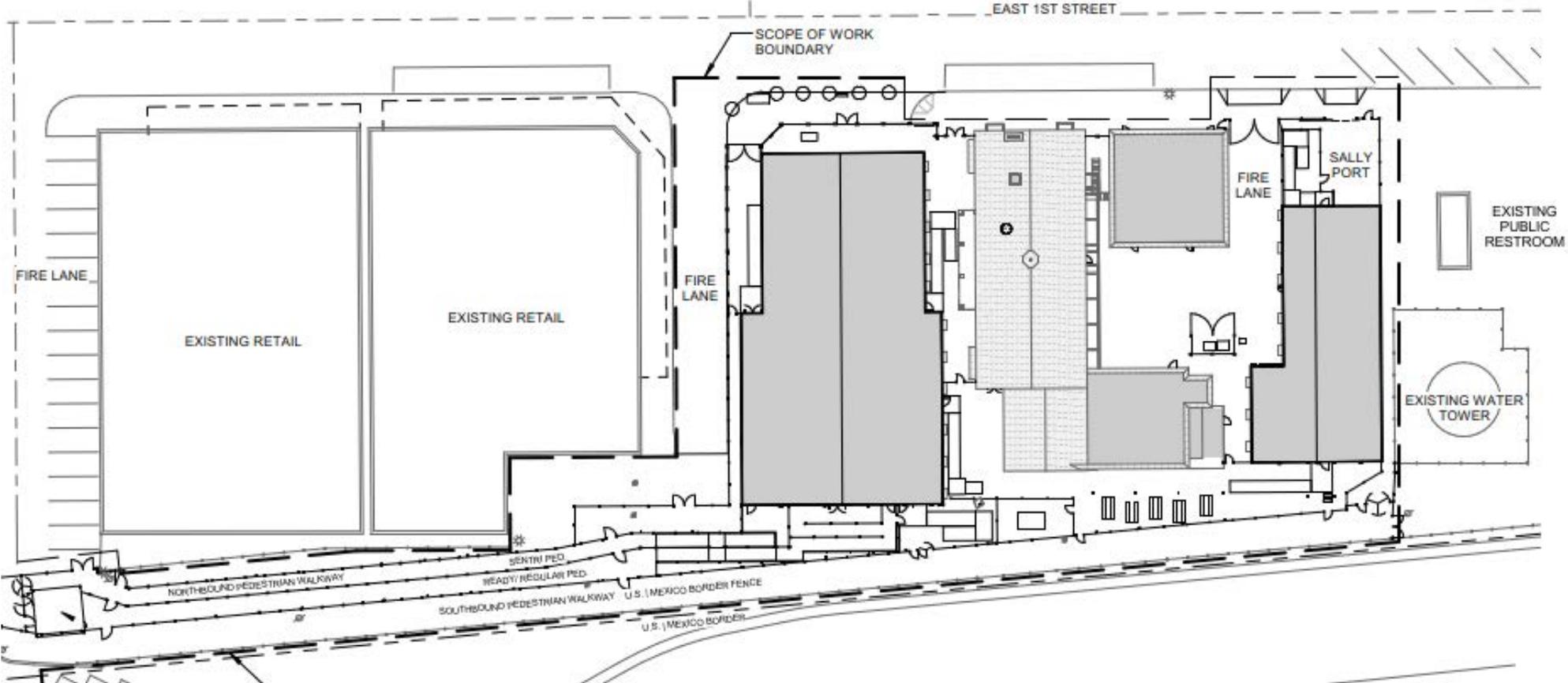
# Preferred Alternative

- Construction of new one-story pre-manufactured modular building for pedestrian primary, benefit, and secondary processing. Work includes pre-manufactured ramps.
- Temporary acquisition of 7,040 square feet of Heffernan Avenue, between East 1<sup>st</sup> Street and the border boundary between the United States and Mexico.
- Renovation of existing two story over basement building to house administration offices for CBP and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agencies. No change in occupancy, use, and floor area. The existing building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Construction of new secured covered pedestrian walkway for northbound and southbound travels at border crossing. Work includes pre-manufactured ramps.

# Preferred Alternative Continued

- Construction of new concrete masonry unit trash enclosure.
- Construction of new shade structures for pedestrian walkways and open spaces.
- Site work includes grading improvements, new paving, new utilities and new fencing & gates.
- Off-site work includes driveway/curb cut at public right of way on 1st street.
- No change in personnel staffing

# Preferred Action Alternative Proposed Site Plan



# “No Action” Alternative

- Assumes temporary facility would not be built
- Operations in current facility would continue under current conditions

# Potential Effects Of Preferred Alternative

## Land Resource

- Short-term, direct, and adverse impact is anticipated since Heffernan Avenues use will be modified from transportation to facility.
- Impact is less than significant.

## Water Resources

- Short-term, direct adverse impacts are anticipated on surface water resources
- During construction, soils will be disturbed, increasing erosion potential
- Impacts are less than significant.

## Air Quality

- Short-term, direct adverse impacts due to the increase emissions from heavy equipment used during the construction.
- Impacts are less than significant.

## Cultural Resources

- No impact anticipated based upon response received from the California State Historic Preservation Office.

# Potential Effects Of Preferred Alternative Continued

## Socio-Economic / Environmental Justice

- Short-term, indirect, beneficial impact as a result of renovation activities via incidental spending by renovation workers / craftsmen and the purchase of locally available materials.
- Impacts are less than significant.

## Traffic

- Short-term, direct, adverse impacts due to the temporary acquisition of Heffernan Avenue to traffic departing the commercial building to the west and use by transit company.
- Impacts are less than significant.

## Noise

- Short-term, direct, adverse impacts due to the noise associated with construction equipment.
- Impacts are less than significant.

## Climate Change

- Short-term, direct adverse impacts due to the increase emissions from heavy equipment used during the construction.
- Impacts are less than significant.

# Best Management Practices

- Air quality:
  - Use appropriate dust suppression methods
  - Shut off equipment when not in use
  - Visually monitor all construction activities regularly
- Cultural:
  - If artifacts are identified, work should cease and California SHPO office contacted
- Noise:
  - All equipment fitted with noise reducing features
  - Construction activities limited to daytime hours
    - Summer hours: 7 am – 9 pm
    - Winter hours: 8 am – 6 pm
- Climate Change:
  - Implementation of BMPs to reduce emissions:
    - Proper engine maintenance
    - Limited idle time

# How to Submit Public Comments

- Public comments, questions accepted via:
  - Email: [osmahn.kadri@gsa.gov](mailto:osmahn.kadri@gsa.gov)
  - Mail:
    - Attn: Ms. Bianca Rivera
    - 355 South Euclid Avenue, Suite 107
    - Tucson, AZ 85719
- Deadline: **November 7, 2022**
- Public notification regarding project will continue:
  - In *Calexico Chronicle*
  - On project website: <https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/regions/welcome-to-the-pacific-rim-region-9/land-ports-of-entry/calexico-west-land-port-of-entry/calexico-west-lpoe-environmental-review>

# Q&A session

- After meeting, email [osmahn.kadri@gsa.gov](mailto:osmahn.kadri@gsa.gov) with questions, comments