

# Two Parts to Zoning

The basis of zoning is two parts; the first is to create physical impedance against illegal crossing which the current border fence attempts to do. The second part is one of intellectual impedance.

Over the last two decades, border enforcement has gone from using a chain link fence to stationing personnel along the border to both stationing personnel on the border with a much heavier and larger fence behind them.

There has been over time a physical impedance escalation due to an escalating attempt to overcome the physical barrier. An escalation of this physical impedance may suggest that all previous efforts were not sufficient and were overcome. This may further suggest that there may have not been a real look to a more “sustainable” solution.

The border fence may finally put that challenge to rest or will it? It is massive, heavy, and tall within the city and rural areas.

Within rural areas, there have been challenges to the fence and some illegal movement through it, but within the city that may have stopped considerably.

In the end, credit may be given to the fence to have reduced or eliminated illegal crossing along an urban environment. But what it cannot stop is the continued attempts to cross it anyway, and the constant probing of its weakness. Without the border patrol to roll up and down their patrolling corridor, the fence on its own would not be able to prevent crossing but would just be more difficult and time consuming.

Thus, there is credit for the fence being somewhat difficult to overcome but it requires constant border patrol presence to maintain its impermeability.

The zoning of the border also requires physical impedance. What may be different is that this physical impedance relies on larger physical structures which are on both sides of the border. It accomplishes this by extending the highest physical level thus extending the area visible and requiring a longer run across it. What fence exists now to create physical impedance can be accomplished with a glass or chain link fence 6 to 8 feet in height.

It is the combination of physical impedances on both sides of the border that creates the difficulty of crossing over illegally.

Currently, in simplistic terms, an illegal crossing consist of hiding out on one side of the border trying to avoid the border patrol and get to the fence and jump over. The new border fence has made that part of jumping the fence very difficult. These attempts may be somewhat more successful at night although if detected by infrared camera, the illegal crossing party is not even aware they are being watched without any hindrance.

Lighting consists of high intensity lighting on one side of the border.

The zoning of the border with physical impedance would entail having permanent patrols on both sides of the border, lighting on both sides of the border, and wider decking on both sides of the border, possible drops in elevation on both sides of the border and a smaller fence on both

sides of the border. This fence may be glass or chain link fence and is built with an architectural purpose that makes the smaller fence a part of an entire vision of the new border.

Depending on the definition of successful, this zoning of the border configuration may be more successful than the vary large and imposing fence currently built.

Zoning of the Border	Current Border Fence
It can bring people to the border.	It discourages people from the border.
A local tax base can grow around the new configuration.	If depresses any development around the area where there is a border fence.
City police can also patrol near or next to border patrol agents.	Border Patrol agents patrol alone.
City can promote this area for new development with incentives typically offered by most cities.	This area near the border fence is not part of any development effort.
Tourism can generate revenue in a new and friendly border.	Only tourists that come are the news media to show pictures of empty land and high fences.
Over decades, an expanded tax base and population use of the borderland makes use of the border patrol very minimal.	Over decades, a new round of physical impedances may include electrifying the fence, or using acoustic or laser rifles to zap intruders.
The federal government has a decreasing cost in the manpower and resources to patrol the borderland in urban areas.	The federal government has an escalating cost to patrol the border due to increasing cost of living increases and increase man power.
The city citizens are proud of their new border configuration and it is the most visited location by locals and people from out of town.	The city continues to live with the stigma of a “border city”
Families flock to the border to enjoy a great day with their children.	Fathers accelerate their vehicles as fast away from the border as possible.
Families have great memories along the border.	Families forget there is a river between both cities.
The areas nearest the border in the city have the highest level of economic revitalization, renewal, and income growth than does the rest of the city.	The area continues to be poor and attract new poor as it is the least expensive area to live.

So depending on what the definition of a “successful physical impedance” is, what the current border fence may not account for is the insecurity and loss opportunity it has brought to the urban environment. With each escalation, there is an increase loss of security and opportunity.

Part two of the zoning of the border involves the intellectual impedance. This type of impedance uses any device, invention, or thought processes to discourage illegal crossing. Typical of these are lighting, surveillance cameras, and policing strategies.

Redressed intellectual impedance in lighting, surveillance, and policing strategies gives it a more purposeful use in an all encompassing intellectual plan.

The new intellectual plan may use many more components or overlays in addition to the ones already mentioned above. Its goal is to do exactly what the physical impedance objective is to do and that is to prevent illegal crossing of the border.

What an intellectual plan may consider are some of these points plus many others:

It considers the widths of the decks on both sides of the border.

It considers the drops between decks.

It considers the type of glass or chain link fence.

It considers the amount of people traffic that discourages illegal crossing.

It considers how to generate the amount of people traffic.

It considers how light is used to blanket both sides of the border.

It considers how bright and dense the lighting blanket could be while still not being a nuisance to the nearby neighborhood.

It considers how people will use the borderland at night and during the day.

It considers using walkways, bicycle routes, small motorized personal transportation to create population density.

It considers future mobility plans for the city, ports of entry, and both vehicle and pedestrian traffic in the future.

It considers how to continually promote the area which yields higher population density and commercial activity.

It considers the commercial activities and how any of the before mentioned points would have to be modified to accommodate both security and commerce.

It considers how architectural form contributes to both security and beauty to the borderland.

It considers a whole myriad of details that have to be considered and coordinated with each group considered an intellectual impedance overlay.

The River Uplift is an example of such a physical and intellectual impedance plan with several overlays.

Its purpose is to derive from the International Border and Security Infrastructure Code Book or IBSIC, a comprehensive plan to build physical and intellectual impedances to illegal border crossings. The plan uses El Paso / Cd Juarez as an example and includes overlays that may contribute to the effort.

The significance of the IBSIC book and River Uplift guide is the coded guidelines to support commerce. In fact, the IBSIC book as mentioned before is to set out the rules which can be utilized anywhere along the border just to support commerce in a way that is supportive of security concerns.

The code book would not be necessary if it was just about security. It exists because commercial interests have to know what they are able or not able to do in conjunction with security concerns.

The IBSIC book is used as a general guideline not explicitly spelling out how to build specific impedances but considers what is allowable.

The IBSIC book will try to model itself under existing code books, state, and federal regulations and that it is applicable broadly along the border with state or city jurisdiction considerations. Where there may be a conflict, the IBSIC book should address any issue broadly enough so that it becomes applicable to any area along the border. Although specific issues will arise such as one half of the border does not have a river between both countries while the other half does, the IBSIC book should have sufficient information to assist in city planning.

The IBSIC book is a rule book so that commercialization of the border can take place on both sides of the border with clear guidelines as to how this can be done with security issues already built into the infrastructure.

The IBSIC book is a clear outcome from preventing the federal government in the future from unilaterally imposing a plan across several city, county, state jurisdictions in which it was not already spelled out what was allowable and not allowable.

The IBSIC book should then explicitly state what the federal government would be able or not be able to do in the future.

Even thou congress could change the guidelines; the emphasis that commercial interest would be the guiding principle to create security would be challenged directly. As such, congress would simply be saying that commercial interests were unable to create the desired security.

Without this commercial cornerstone wrapped into the IBSIC book, the border will continually be a pawn for out of state congressman and senators to gerrymander with the border in the way they see fit; that is more border patrol, bigger fences, more drones, and more of something new in a fashion suitable for war making. The zoned border can and will accept a 6 foot glass barrier in opposition to the belief that a 15 foot metal cage is more acceptable for security when it is not. How David can challenge Goliath is a story about adeptness versus brutality.

The reason that a 6 foot glass “fence” or screen could be superior to a 15 fence is because the glass fence is part of a coalition of other impedances. It could be the measure of confidence that the system has since it would be the most visible. What kind of physical and intellectual impedances would it take to confidently place a 6 foot glass screen between the Deck and the river drop below?

It would entail a whole series of impedances and infrastructure capable to give the city that kind of confidence to allow for such a screen. It might not happen immediately or initially but a true symbol in the security matrix could be represented by such as glass screen.

Although this may appear, “not possible” to say it nicely, there is no illusion that there would be a higher level of sound or motion detection. Both sides would have police and border patrol and there would be high density of people during the day and early evening to make it possible to consider a 6 foot glass screen.

The physical and intellectual impedance plan which should consider anything that creates these impedances is the only way such a glass screen is possible.

In fact, that the glass screen could create night art and attract night time visitation from the public is just one example of those variables. Why would night glass screen art be a consideration?

If placing people on the border is a goal of the impedance plan, then any time there are masses of people along the River Uplift Deck or Economic Extensions within a 24 hour cycle, you will have security from occupation of the land.

In this glass screen example, such light art within the glass screen would be on both sides of the border thus attracting crowds on both sides of the border. This of course will invite city police to assist the border patrol.

So the glass screen at 6 feet tall within an urban environment thus provides an excellent example of how this can be more superior to a metal 15 foot fence.

6 foot Glass Screen	15 foot metal welded fence
It represents the city’s confidence in security.	The taller the better.
It can be bullet proof.	Not bullet proof.
Can be day or night time attraction.	Attracts no attention.
Can see below and view the river.	Never can get close to the levee.
Attracts people to the visit the borderline.	Discourages even one person to stop near the borderline but attracts border patrol to visit you and ask questions.
Can be part of night light art display.	If you consider graffiti art, well there it is.
Is part of a total impedance plan.	Is part of a physical impedance plan.