### Foreign Trade Zones

**Description of the tool:**
These are zones established to create permanent jobs and promote capital investment.

**How Well Does It Work?**

**How valuable is this tool? How important is its contribution to achieving North Texas' vision for the future?**
Foreign Trade Zones, FTZ, were created for U.S. businesses who deal with International Corporations in trade relations. They will keep international trade booming in North Texas.

**How does it actually work?**
Zones can be used by more than one company for different purposes. The companies can manufacture, process, store, assemble and distribute goods for the purpose of international trade and have national and international components. There are 12 FTZ sites in North Texas.

**What are the costs and who will they affect?**
N/A

**What are the benefits and who will they help?**
- There are benefits to businesses who do not have to pay customs/duty charges on their inventory. This is also goods for business who are storing good because they can be exempt from taxes.
- This is a great way to bring in more business in the form of assembling and shipping merchandise to foreign countries.

**What are the biggest stumbling blocks?**
- Stumbling block 1 discussion
- Stumbling block 2 discussion
- Add additional items as appropriate

**How can they be addressed?**
- Action to address
- Action to address

**Who Would be Responsible?**
**Primary (lead) responsibility**
Trade Information Center 1-800-USA-TRADE, or http://ia.ita.doc.gov/ftzpage/. For more information and helpful links.

**Secondary responsibility**
Texas Wide Open for Business.
http://www.texaswideopenforbusiness.com/

**Need for coordination**
## North Texas 2050 Action Package

### Action Tool Title

**Foreign Trade Zones**

### How Should it be Funded?

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### How Does It Connect?

**What other VNT issues are helped by this tool?**

It helps the North Texas Area connect with the global world we live in through access.

**What other VNT issues could be hurt by this tool?**

Limits Resources: water, pollution, increased traffic congestion

### How Should It Be Implemented?

**What will be done?**

- Contact your local Foreign Trade Zone
- The counsel businesses on FTZ’s and discuss with local Customs Offices to make sure you are qualified
- add additional steps as appropriate

**When will it happen?**

There are no set dates for contacting your local FTZ or to start the process.

### What Examples Can We Follow?

**North Texas Case Studies**

- Ft. Worth Foreign Trade Zone

**Other Texas Case Studies**

- El Paso, Texas Foreign Trade Zone
  - [http://www.worldtrademag.com/Articles/Industry_News/889a960966af7010VgnVCM100000f932a8c0](http://www.worldtrademag.com/Articles/Industry_News/889a960966af7010VgnVCM100000f932a8c0)

**Other U.S. Case Studies**

- Detroit Foreign Trade Zone
  - [http://www.portdetroit.com/gdftz/casestudy.htm](http://www.portdetroit.com/gdftz/casestudy.htm)

**Supporting Research**

- Here is a link to the Texas Enterprise Zone Program FY2008-2009

**Related Information**

- Import Administration
  - [http://ia.ita.doc.gov/ftzpage/](http://ia.ita.doc.gov/ftzpage/)

### Acknowledgements

Recognize the people who have provided assistance to VNT for this tool

Burns Development Group