

New Report Says Trump's Proposed U.S.-Mexico Border Wall Could Cost \$21 Billion



Washington, February 13 (RHC)-- U.S. President Donald Trump's proposed wall along the U.S.-Mexico border would be a series of walls and fences that could cost about \$21 billion, and take more than three years to build, according to a U.S. government estimate.

A U.S. Department of Homeland Security internal report shows that the estimated price for the wall is much higher than the \$12 billion figure cited by Trump during his presidential election campaign. The report says the border wall would be built in three phases, covering just over 1,250 miles (2,000 km) by the end of 2020.

The report estimates that the first phase would cost just \$360 million, a relatively easy way for Trump to make good on his campaign pledge to limit illegal migration.

But the rest of the construction will be significantly more expensive, covering a much larger stretch of land, much of it privately owned or consisting of major physical barriers, like mountains and rivers.

Many cost estimates and time-lines have been offered since Trump campaigned on the promise of building a wall. Building a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border to stop the influx of refugees and undocumented migrants coming from Central and Latin America was a hallmark of Trump's presidential campaign.

During his campaign, Trump also characterized Mexican migrants living in the U.S. as murderers and rapists and pledged to build a wall that he said Mexico would pay for. Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto cancelled a scheduled meeting with Trump at the White House on January 26th after the new U.S. leader pressured him to fund construction of the border wall.

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