

Border Wall and the Economy: Cost & Upkeep



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Where will the money come from?

- \$1.375 billion from the Homeland Security appropriations bill
- \$600 million from the Treasury Department's drug forfeiture fund
- \$2.5 billion from the Department of Defense's drug interdiction program
- 3.6 billion from the Department of Defense's military construction account

Estimate cost of the border wall maintenance

- Size of the wall: 1,150 miles long; 40 feet high; 10 feet deep into the ground; 1 foot wide
- Total volume of material: 11.2 million cubic yards
- Materials: Approximately \$8.7 billion in concrete (97 percent of the materials); approximately \$3.6 billion in steel (3 percent of the materials)
- Labor: Approximately \$12.3 billion (given the labor costs on the original 654 miles of barriers we can assume a conservative 1:1 ratio of materials to labor)”

The Cost of the Border Wall Keeps Rising

- The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) recently sent a letter to Congress where it argued that \$5.7 billion would pay for approximately 234 miles of a new physical steel barrier along the border. That new estimate comes to about \$24.4 million per mile. This new OMB estimate is 41 percent more costly than the approximately \$17.3 million per mile construction costs that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) estimated just a few years ago, 2.7 times as expensive as Mitch McConnell and Paul Ryan estimated, and 5 times as expensive as Trump's lowest estimate.

President Trump	House Speaker Paul Ryan	Dept. of Homeland Security	Washington Post	Senate Democrats' Report
\$12 billion	\$15 billion	\$22 billion	\$25 billion	\$70 billion

Private Funding from Supporters



Crowd-Funding and the Border Wall

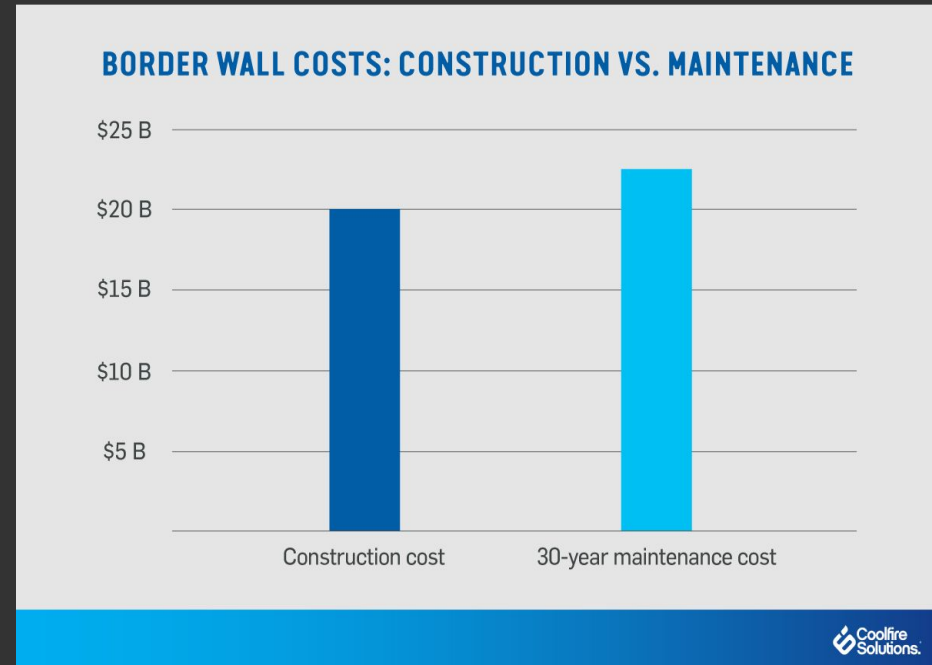
As time progresses talks about the cost of funding the border wall have increased. Individuals such as the United States President Donald Trump, Senate Majority leader Mitch McConnell and 54th Speaker of the House Paul Ryan have given many estimations towards the cost of creating a border wall along the Rio Grande Valley. As each estimation becomes public information, some Americans have become fed-up.

As a call to action, some patriots have set up crowdfunding on the popular site *Go Fund Me* to raise money towards creating the border wall. According to a recent interview published by “CBS This Morning,” a group called We Build the Wall have fundraised over 23 million dollars. This money has been donated by other Americans who support the creation of the Border Wall. It is noted that this wall is privately owned, and was created with permission by the private landowner. When completed, the wall should span across a popular asylum seeker route.

A total of 8 million dollars of the said funds have been poured into creating a mile-long wall in New Mexico. According to the leader of the, We Build the Wall organization, spending of the money is carefully audited by internal and external committees. This is to ensure the ethical and efficient use of the funds. As the government continues to delegate on economic aspects of the wall, determined Americans are banding together to provide an increase in border protection.

Upkeep Cost Expecting to Rise

- Upkeep to the border wall is expected to increase over the years according to research.
- “In the year 2017 alone, \$274 million was spent on border fence maintenance.”(2017)
- This number is expected to triple to more than \$750 million annually.



Repairs

Causes:

- Nature
- People:
 - cut through
 - dig under
 - knock down a certain portion

Materials to be repaired:

- Gates
- Roads
- Bridges
- Lighting and electrical systems
- Drainage and grate systems
- Vegetation and debris removal



Breach Repair Costs

- Each repair will cost about \$784, per breach.
- Between 2010 to 2015 there was a total of 9,287 breaches, which was about \$7,281,008 between those five years.
- In 2009, An estimated cost for two decades worth of repair to existing barriers will be around \$1 billion.



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