

2017 Freight System Plan

Regional Freight Mobility Roundtable

Plan overview and
discussion of issues and trends

February 3, 2017





Purpose

Meet new requirements under FAST Act:

- Identification of multimodal freight corridors and facilities
- Description of how the plan meets the national multimodal freight policy goals and the national highway freight program goals
- Strategies to mitigate significant congestion or delay caused by freight movement
- Development of Freight Investment Plan, including a list of freight priority projects

Meet RCW requirement and other emerging needs:

- Integrate Marine Ports and Navigation Plan
- Refresh freight data from 2014 State Freight Plan
- Update emerging trends, needs, and issues
- Provide status update of 2014 Plan actions
- Update strategies and recommendations



WAFAC roles and responsibilities

Committee Action in 2013-16

- ✓ 2014 Freight Mobility Plan
- ✓ Advised on Critical Urban and Rural Freight Corridor Designation
- ✓ Provided guidance on freight project list prioritization

Committee Consultation in 2017

- ☐ Participate in the development of State Freight Plan
- ☐ **Advise on freight-related issues and trends**
- ☐ Advise on strategies and recommendations
- ☐ Review and comment on draft documents

New requirement: Identification of multimodal freight corridors and facilities

National Multimodal Freight Network

Multimodal critical rural freight facilities and corridors designated within the State under section 70103 of title 49

- *NMFN is still under development by USDOT*



National Highway Freight Network

Critical rural and urban freight corridors designated within the State under section 167 of title 23

- *WSDOT has completed corridor designation in September 2016*



New requirement: Congestion caused by freight

“Consideration of any significant congestion or delay caused by freight movements and any strategies to mitigate that congestion or delay”

- *Look at multimodal approaches to resolve freight congestion*



New requirement: Development of a Freight Investment Plan

Critical Urban and Rural Freight Corridors

- ✓ Corridors certified with FHWA September 2016

Freight Project List

- ✓ 2016 Freight Project List sent to state legislature November 2016
 - National Highway Freight Program
 - FASTLANE Program

Description of how NHFP funds would be invested and matched



New: Marine Ports and Navigation Plan

RCW 47.06.070

Marine ports and navigation plan.

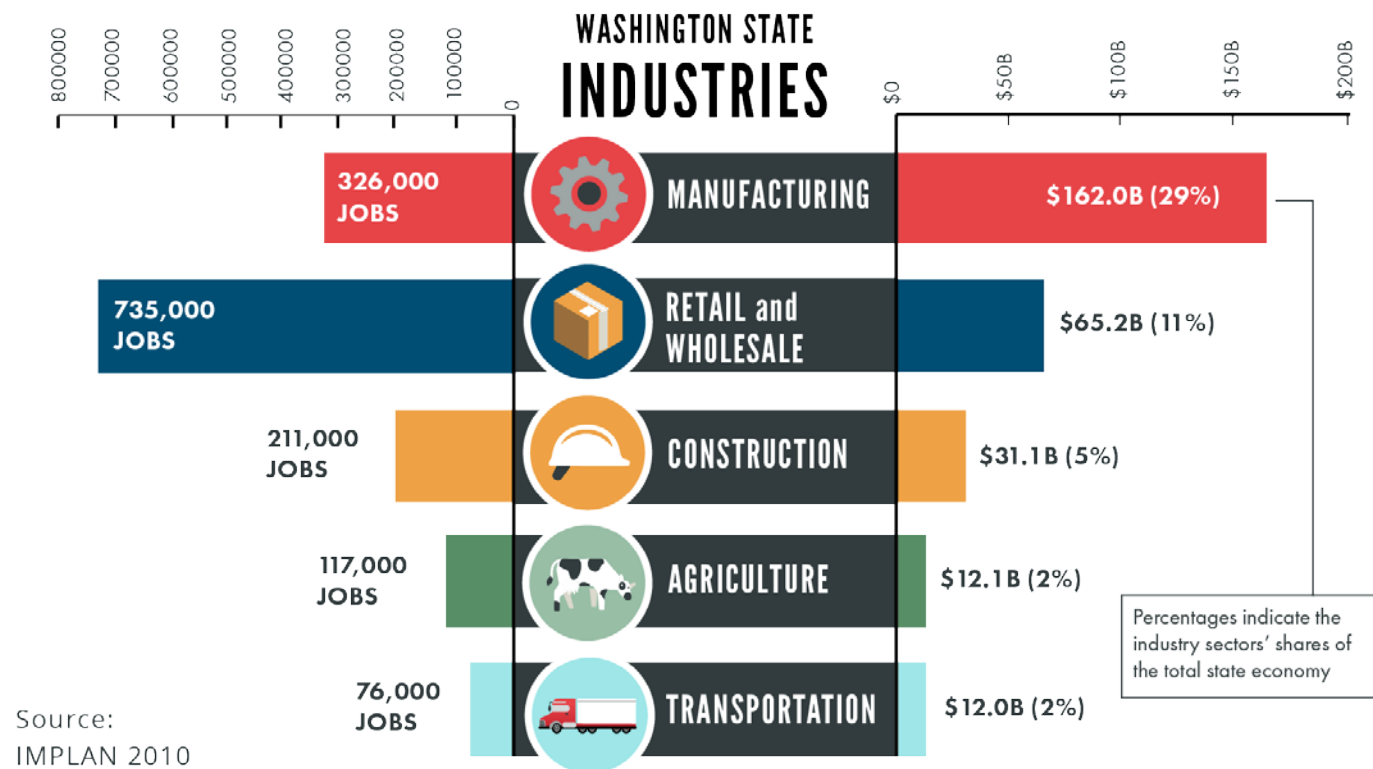
The state-interest component of the statewide multimodal transportation plan shall include a state marine ports and navigation plan, which shall assess the transportation needs of Washington's marine ports, including navigation, and identify transportation system improvements needed to support the international trade and economic development role of Washington's marine ports.

Focus Areas

- Economic context
- Freight transportation system and port directory
- System condition and performance
- Freight volumes and forecast
- Trends, issues, and needs
- Funding
- Recommendations, strategies, and next steps

Refresh freight data

- ☐ Update old data
- ☐ Incorporate new data not previously available in the 2014 Plan
- ☐ Review economic and freight system conditions
- ☐ Update freight volume and forecast
- ☐ Evaluate and improve freight performance measures



Provide status update of 2014 plan actions

- 2015 Short Line Inventory and Needs Study
- 2015 PCC Rail System Plan
- 2016 Truck Parking Study
- Washington Aviation System Plan Update
- Marine Cargo Forecast
- JTC Road-Rail Conflicts in Cities
- USDOT National Freight Framework





General Trends and Issues

- Population growth
- Energy
- Land use policies
 - Inconsistencies between jurisdictions that impede freight movement
 - Need to protect statewide interests at local level
- Flow of freight through border gateways
- National defense priorities

Discussion: Multimodal Trends and Issues

- Congestion impacts freight-dependent businesses
- Consistent and stable federal and state funding
- Preservation of freight infrastructure not keeping pace
- Shifts to newer and 'greener' technology
- Regulatory changes affecting costs and operations for truck and rail carriers
- Freight operational changes and constraints
- Freight system resiliency

Discussion: Truck Trends and Issues

- Regulatory inconsistencies for trucks between states and countries
- Truck parking shortage in Washington is likely getting worse
- Safety issues related to inadequate truck parking are a major concern
- Trucking companies face numerous challenges to provide safe, reliable and cost-competitive services



Discussion: Rail Trends and Issues

- Funding for at-grade rail crossing improvements and “first and last” mile projects
- Community impacts of rail freight
- Rail capacity constraints during peak periods of agricultural commodity movement
- Productivity and safety of the short line rail system suffers from long-deferred maintenance

Discussion: Marine Trends and Issues

- Inadequate and unequitable spending of available Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund monies
- Competition facing Washington State Ports
 - Prince Rupert
 - Panama Canal
 - Railroads
- Inadequate financial support for emergency preparedness and national defense roles of ports
- Port automation
- Larger vessels
- Reliance on relatively few companies

Discussion: Air Cargo Trends and Issues

- Effect of security policies on efficiency of air cargo networks
- Lack of state resources for aviation planning and development



Update Strategies and Recommendations

Strategies and recommendations from 2014 Plan

- Reauthorization of the Surface Transportation Act
- U.S. border
- Freight rail
- Freight Waterway
- Air Freight
- State and regional funding
- State guidance for local governments
- Future Issues to be Addressed

Need to develop new strategies and recommendations

Outreach and schedule

February – March 2017: Initial scoping to solicit input and information, focusing on our scope and approach for the 2017 Plan update, and present the issues and trends identified in 2014.

April – June 2017: In-progress update to present our preliminary analysis of issues and trends for 2017, and present the recommendations and strategies identified in 2014.

July – August 2017: Review of findings, and sharing the final draft of the plan and soliciting feedback on recommendations and strategies.

2017 Freight Mobility Plan Schedule	2017											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Document Development												
Draft Plan Preparation												
Draft Plan Review												
Final Plan Preparation												
FHWA Review												
Plan Complete												
Outreach												
Phase I - Scope												
Phase 2 - Update												
Phase 3 - Review												
Ad Hoc Meetings												

Questions?

For more information,
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Documents will be available at the
WSDOT freight site:
<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/freight/>

