



Seattle Gets Freight Moving

June 2005

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) is proud to release the third edition of the *Freight Mobility Strategic Action Plan*. As part of Mayor Nickels' 2004 *Manufacturing and Maritime Action Plan*, **SDOT developed this action agenda to protect and grow the industrial job base.**

Freight mobility issues are particularly important for Seattle's two designated manufacturing and industrial centers — the Greater Duwamish Manufacturing and Industrial Center and the Ballard/Interbay/Northend Manufacturing and Industrial Center (BINMIC). Manufacturing and maritime sectors provide:

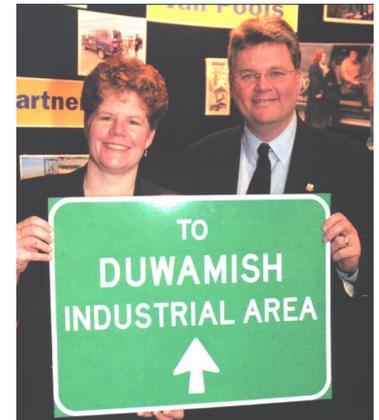
- more than 121,700 family-wage jobs,
- 24 percent of all jobs in Seattle, and
- almost 40 percent of the city sales tax base.

2005 UPDATE — EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The action plan includes 22 specific actions that will help get freight moving. The City of Seattle expects to **invest more than \$58 million** during the next two years and up to \$331 million over six years in projects that will reduce congestion and increase freight movement. Investments include:

- Bridge Way North and Fremont Circulation,
- Fremont Bridge Approaches,
- SR 519 Surface Improvements at Alaskan Way, and
- Spokane Street Viaduct Widening Project.

Mayor Greg Nickels and Transportation Director Grace Crunican present an example of new directional signage.



The 2005 action plan update reflects changes in the city's freight program and new funding opportunities. For example, Seattle has dedicated funds in the 2005 budget for projects such as: updating street design for easy truck turning; advancing the long-term strategic program of railroad crossing overpasses; and installing more truck guide signs. This action plan is the department's progress report to the freight community. It guides our efforts to enhance the movement of goods.

To read the plan in its entirety, visit:
www.seattle.gov/transportation/FMSAP.htm



The City of Seattle is investing in improvements to move goods efficiently, create jobs, support businesses and grow the economy.

Strengthening the Voice Of Industry: The Freight Community Partnership

In October 2002, the Seattle Freight Mobility Advisory Committee, co-sponsored by SDOT and the Seattle industrial community, was created. This forum offers regular communication with city staff and other agencies and advises on freight needs. The Committee makes sure we know freight's interests on projects as small as speed bumps to as large as the Alaskan Way Viaduct.

SDOT presents the committee's recommendations to project sponsors and decision makers, reflecting the interests of constituents both in north and south Seattle to encourage attendance and participation.

SEATTLE TAKES ACTION - 2004 RESULTS

Highlights of SDOT's implementation of the 2004 *Freight Mobility Strategic Action Plan* and the *Manufacturing and Maritime Action Plan* include:

IMPROVING OUR STREETS

- 1) Finished design for the SR 519 Alaskan Way Truck and Rail Improvements to increase access to the Central Waterfront, the Port's Terminal 46 and the BNSF intermodal rail yard;
- 2) Completed the Leary Way Street Improvements in Ballard and upgraded signals along seven industrial and maritime corridors. As a result delays were reduced by 40 percent and travel times improved 10 to 25 percent in these areas;

- 3) Solicited freight input on the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement project on issues such as travel times, grades, and combustible materials. These needs were considered when determining the preferred tunnel alternative.

IMPROVING RAIL CAPACITY & SPEEDS

Coordinated with the BNSF Railroad on mainline rail crossing improvements to add a third mainline track south of downtown.

SUPPORTING MARINE OPERATIONS

Upgraded the Lower Spokane Swing Bridge mechanical components, thereby ensuring their long term operability and keeping the Duwamish River open for marine traffic.