

# 2017 Freight System Plan

## Update Overview

Seattle Freight Advisory Board

March 21, 2017



# Objectives

## Meet new requirements under FAST Act:

- Identify multimodal freight corridors and facilities
- Describe relationship to national multimodal freight policy and highway freight program goals
- Identify strategies to mitigate significant congestion or delay caused by freight movement
- Develop Freight Investment Plan, including a list of freight priority projects

## Meet RCW requirement:

- Integrate Marine Ports and Navigation Plan

## Coordinate with stakeholders:

- Consult with WAFAC to advise on issue, trends, strategies and recommendations
- Engage MPOs/RTPOs, local govts., ports, tribes, associations, etc.
- Integrate with Washington Multimodal Transportation Plan

# 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 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 corridor designation completed, 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”

- *Assess multimodal approaches to resolving freight congestion*



# New requirement: Development of a Freight Investment Plan

## Critical Urban and Rural Freight Corridors

- FHWA certified Corridors, 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.**

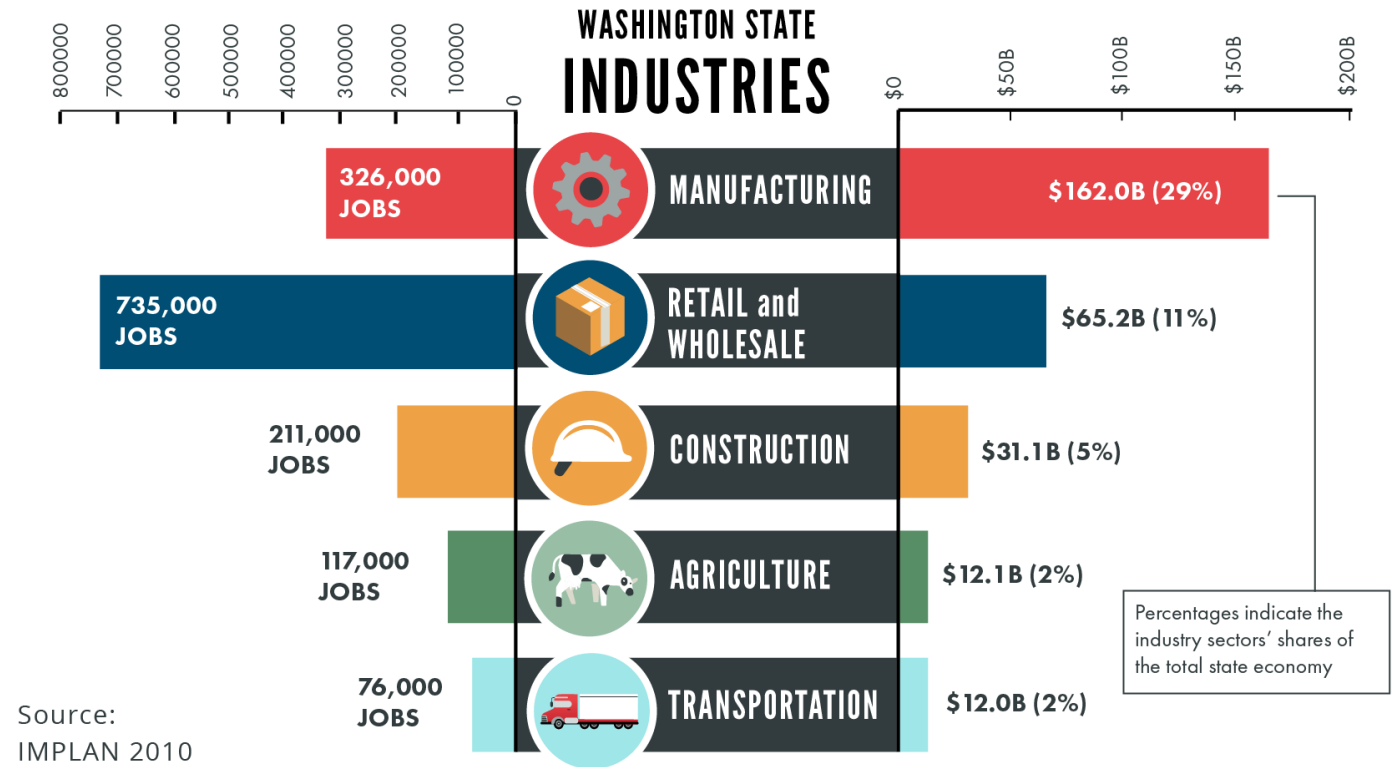
The state-interest component of the statewide multimodal transportation plan shall include a state marine ports and navigation plan, which shall assess the transportation needs of Washington's marine ports, including navigation, and identify transportation system improvements needed to support the international 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
- Update freight volume and forecast
- Evaluate and improve freight performance measures



# General Trends and Issues

- Population growth
- Energy
- Land use policies
  - Inconsistencies between jurisdictions that affect freight movement
  - Need to protect statewide interests at local level
  - *Preservation of rail-oriented and marine-oriented industrial land*
- Flow of freight through border gateways (*including ports and airports*)
- National defense priorities
- *New consumer delivery models and technologies*
- *National trade policies*
- *Better data needed to understand the freight system*

# 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 truck and rail carriers
- Freight operational changes and constraints
- Freight system resiliency
- *Intermodal connections*
- *New efficiencies through technology: ITS and automation*

# 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
- *Applying technology to improve regulatory enforcement and preserve highway infrastructure*

# 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
- *Management of inland waterway system to balance environmental and economic goals*

# 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
- *Improving service for agricultural shippers in Eastern Washington*
- *Future capacity constraints*



# 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
<b>Document Development</b>												
Draft Plan Preparation												
Draft Plan Review												
Final Plan Preparation												
FHWA Review												
Plan Complete												
<b>Outreach</b>												
Phase I - Scope												
Phase 2 - Update												
Phase 3 - Review												
Ad Hoc Meetings												

# Questions?

For more information,  
please contact:

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

