

# MnDOT District 8 Freight Plan

## June 21, 2019 Advisory Committee Meeting Meeting Themes and Reflections for Internal Discussion

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### Key Themes:

- The importance of local last-mile connections to the trunk highway network.
  - Last-mile weight limits as barrier to truck mobility.
  - Reducing circuitous routings through improved weight limits.
  - Soft roads, flooding, and tipping trucks are examples of problems.
  - Safety concerns at local road intersections with trunk highways.
- Importance of incorporating freight considerations or improvements into existing projects and planning processes.
- Integrate District 8 Freight Plan with local and regional economic development planning, and bike/pedestrian planning.
- Find ways to communicate about freight's importance and needs to the public.
- Consider the future role or impact of air transportation for freight movements.
- Make sure to include programmatic recommendations.

### Economy:

- Specific commodities to include in analysis:
  - Ethanol production, including plants adjacent to District 8 in South Dakota.
  - Wind turbines.
- Include considerations of E-logs and other policies.

### Freight System Condition and Performance:

- Connections to other regions are important to study: bottlenecks in Twin Cities affect District 8 movements, and new industrial developments in South Dakota are relevant as well.
- Study bridge postings and weight limits.
- Study barriers to last-mile connections with trunk highway network, particularly for beet and poultry industries.
- How can the system's resilience be improved?