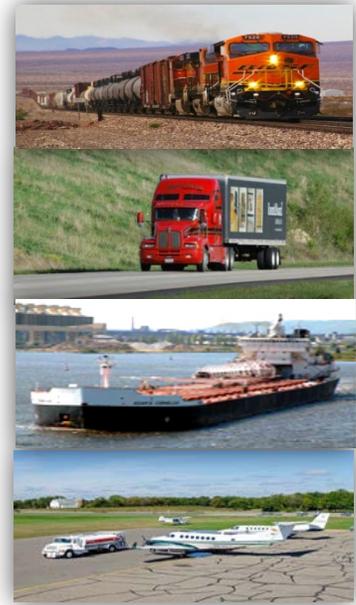


Statewide Freight System Plan

Why the need for a freight system plan?

Statewide freight movement is projected to grow by at least 30% by 2030, the aging population will double and we expect the Twin Cities metro area to add almost a million more people by 2040. It is critical that we plan today for tomorrow's well-run, integrated multimodal transportation system.

The **2015 Statewide Freight System Plan** will provide a policy framework and strategies for MnDOT and other public and private sector freight stakeholders to guide planning, project development and investment in various transportation modes. First completed in 2005, an updated State Freight System Plan will also now comply with new federal (MAP-21) guidelines and provisions. The Statewide Freight Plan will identify important industry and economic trends, along with freight transportation needs and issues. It will also include strategies and actions for improving performance for Minnesota's freight system, which includes rail, truck, waterway and air cargo shipping.



What do we hope to accomplish?

- Minnesota has one of fastest growing economies in the nation. To keep pace with this growth, freight system capacity and access are essential, so we need to invest in our transportation system. The Statewide Freight System Plan will propose a freight action agenda to ensure the safe, reliable, and efficient movement of goods within and through Minnesota, and enhance the state's economic development and competitiveness. Other states are investing in transportation – we also have to invest to keep pace and remain competitive as a state.
- The Plan will support Minnesota GO (the Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan), the Minnesota State Highway Investment Plan and other relevant freight planning documents, as well as national strategic freight goals.
- A primary focus is to collaborate with the private sector to establish new and productive ways of working together to advance a common vision for the freight transportation system.

How will this be accomplished?

- **Build working relationships between the public and private sectors.** An outreach plan will engage freight decision-makers and stakeholders to prioritize critical industry issues.
- **Provide an overview of key freight-generating industries – statewide and regionally – to tell the freight story.** Discussion of how products and goods get to market will illustrate the importance of reliable and cost-effective transportation services
- **Identify Minnesota's primary freight transportation network.** The freight network includes intermodal facilities and connections to and from destinations outside Minnesota.
- **Establish a decision-making framework** to improve multi-modal freight system performance. This framework will consider asset management and investment, state and national goals, economic efficiency, and public and private roles and responsibilities.

What is the timeline?

Work began in June 2014 and will conclude in May 2016.

For More Information and Frequently Asked Questions, [Visit our website](#)

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