

DRAFT - MINNESOTA FREIGHT ACTION AGENDA

Included under each strategy is a description of actions that are recommended, an indication of what MnDOT and its' partners should do next, and when the action should be taken. Additional detail is provided in Table 3.2, Minnesota's Freight Action Agenda, including:

- **ID.** Thirty-three strategies have been identified.
- **Strategy Name.** Short name of strategy.
- **Description.** Short description of strategy.
- **Action.** A variety of actions have been aligned to each strategy. These are described in the Plan text and identified in the table, as follows:
 - **(P) Partnerships/outreach.** Indicates that partnerships will be required outside of MnDOT to accomplish action.
 - **(S) Study required/planning related.** Indicates that a follow-up study or further planning-related activities will be required.
 - **(D) Design.** Indicates that action requires design modification of adjustment of design standards.
 - **(O) Operations.** Indicates that action relates to operational modifications.
 - **(F) Funding.** Indicates that action relates to funding whether review, allocation or advocacy for funding by MnDOT
- **Lead Agency.** Entity to take the lead in actions identified.
- **Partners.** Partners with varying levels of involvement in the action.
- **Timeframe.** Generally the actions will be required within the following timeframes:
 - **Short-Term.** 2015-2017 (0-2 yrs)
 - **Mid-Term.** 2018-2020 (3-5 yrs)
 - **Long-Term.** 2020+ (>5 yrs)

Table 1 DRAFT - Minnesota Freight Action Agenda

ID	STRATEGY CONCEPT	DESCRIPTION	ACTION(S)	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER	TIMEFRAME
ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY AND COMMUNICATION						
1	Education	Educate the public on the critical role freight plays in the economy and every-day-life of Minnesotans.	P	MnDOT OCVFO	Public and private sector freight stakeholders	Short-term, ongoing
2	Partnerships	Engage and partner with Minnesota's public agencies and with producers, shippers/receivers, carriers and other private sector freight stakeholders to address Minnesota's freight issues together. Engage and partner with neighboring states to address regional freight issues together.	P	MnDOT OCVFO	Offices within MnDOT conducting outreach	Short-term, ongoing
3	Ongoing Freight Forum	Convene an on-going dialog between public and private sector freight stakeholders to keep freight topics front and center. Regularly engage the private sector and consider their perspectives during freight system planning.	P, S	MnDOT OCVFO	CTS and members of the MFAC	Short-term, ongoing
4	Advocacy	Public and private freight stakeholders advocate together for advancing critical freight partnerships, strategies, investments and a dedicated source of funding for freight infrastructure at the National level.	P, S, F	MnDOT Office of Government Affairs	MnDOT OFCVO, public and private sector freight stakeholders	Short-term, ongoing
5	Freight Data	Improved data collection (e.g., truck counts) and use of innovative sources to help the public sector do better freight planning.	P, S	MnDOT OFCVO	Offices within MnDOT collecting field data	Short-term, ongoing

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6	Integrate Freight into all Planning Projects	Consider freight in overall project planning across modes (highway, rail, water and air). Regularly engage the private sector and consider their perspectives during freight system planning.	P, S	MnDOT OFCVO	MnDOT planning offices, state, regional and local planning agencies	Short-term, ongoing
7	Pilot Programs	Short-term and low-cost pilot programs to test the viability of concepts at a small scale.	P, S, O	MnDOT OFCVO	FHWA, public and private sector freight stakeholders	Short-term, ongoing
8	Workforce Development	Programs in cooperation with community colleges and private sector to ensure workforce is available for industry needs (e.g., truck drivers).	P	MN DEED, Minnesota Trucking Association	Public and private sector freight stakeholders, community colleges and other educational institutions	Short-term, ongoing

TRANSPORTATION IN CONTEXT

9	Corridor Preservation	Actively manage preserved rail corridors held in the State Rail Bank and evaluate for possible future transportation uses	P, S	MnDOT OFCVO	MnDOT planning offices, state, regional and local planning agencies	Short-term, ongoing
10	Truck Routes	Coordination of truck routes/planning in industrial and urban areas with restrictions and enforcement in adjacent residential areas.	P, S, D, O	Various state, regional and local planning agencies	MnDOT OFCVO	Mid-term, ongoing
11	Complete Streets	Treatments that consider truck movements as part of total vehicle traffic which can include time-of-day delivery windows to reduce	P, S, D, O	Various state, regional and local planning	MnDOT OFCVO, MnDOT Office of Transportation System	Mid-term, ongoing

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		conflicts with other street users, design guidelines for curb pullouts that can be used at different times for bus pullouts, truck parking, and others.		agencies	Management	
12	Land Use Planning and Policies	Land use planning and policies to ensure freight development areas are designated and preserved, and that development occurs adjacent to existing infrastructure.	P, S	Various state, regional and local planning agencies	MnDOT OFCVO, DEED	Mid-term
13	Freight As A Good Neighbor	Programs and projects that maintain Minnesota's high quality of life by balancing the local negative impacts of freight transportation with the statewide benefits provided.	P, S, D, O	MnDOT OFCVO	Various state, regional and local planning agencies, freight shippers and carriers	Mid-term
14	Advanced Technology	Monitor development of advanced technologies and their applications for freight.	P, S, O	MnDOT OFCVO	FHWA, MnDOT project planning and development staff	Mid-term - Long-term
CRITICAL CONNECTIONS						
15	Investments on the Principal Freight Network	Apply multimodal solutions that ensure a high return on investment, given constrained resources, and that complement the unique social, natural and economic features of Minnesota - including investments in the highway, railroad, port and waterway systems in the State.	P, S, D, O	MnDOT OFCVO	MnDOT Office of Aviation, MnDOT Office of Transportation System Planning, MnDOT Design and Engineering, public	Short-, Mid-, and Long-term

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					and private sector freight stakeholders	
16	First-/Last-mile Connections	Freight connections like highway access and rail spurs to local businesses.	P, S	MnDOT OFCVO	Various state, regional and local planning and economic development agencies	Short-term, ongoing
17	Targeted Rail System Investments	Upgrade main line track (all Class I to III railroads) to 25 mph minimum speed, as warranted. Improve the network (all Class I to III railroads) to support the use of 286,000 pound railcars throughout.	P, F	MnDOT OFCVO	Shortline railroads, regional rail authorities	Short-term, ongoing
18	Intermodal and Multimodal Facilities	Intermodal and multimodal facility development to allow goods to shift between modes such as truck, rail and water. Includes making equipment available.	P, S	MnDOT OFCVO	DEED, railroads in Minnesota, regional and local planning and economic development agencies where a new facility may be cited	Mid-term
19	Urban Goods Movement Programs	Projects and programs in urban centers focused on mitigating congestion caused by rush hour traffic, incidents, work zones or other factors where high volumes of freight and passenger traffic must coexist.	P, S, D, O	MnDOT Traffic Operations, various state, regional and local planning agencies	MnDOT OFCVO	Mid-term, ongoing

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20	Truck Size and Weight	More options available and improved routing for overdimensional and overweight vehicles. Consistency of regulations between Minnesota and neighboring states.	P, S, O	MnDOT OFCVO, state and local departments of public safety and enforcement	Local permitting agencies	Mid-term
21	Modal Options/ System Redundancy	Modal alternatives (e.g., truck, rail and water) in spot locations and modal redundancy within key corridors so companies have access to a variety of cost effective and competitive freight modes to ship their goods. Address captive shipper issue.	P, S	MnDOT OFCVO	MnDOT Office of Transportation System Management, public and private freight system stakeholders	Mid-term
22	Evaluate and Restructure Existing Freight Funding Programs	MnDOT's programs should be restructured to more adequately address needs.	P, S, F	MnDOT OFCVO	Public and private freight stakeholders that receive funds from MnDOT administered funding programs	Mid-term
ASSET MANAGEMENT						
23	Freight System Performance Measures	Utilize freight system performance measures to monitor and report system condition and identify investment needs for key transportation infrastructure	S, O	MnDOT Office of Transportation System Management	MnDOT OFCVO	Short-term, ongoing
24	Prioritize	Prioritize bridge/pavement maintenance on	O	MnDOT Office of	MnDOT OFCVO,	Short-term,

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	Maintenance on the Principal Freight Network	these shared routes to ensure ability to handle freight rail and truck, as well as passenger, traffic		Transportation System Management; MnDOT Bridge	MnDOT District Offices	ongoing
25	Corridor Improvement Programs	Implement roadway improvements that combine infrastructure, ITS technology, safety programs, and other actions to mitigate congestion for key shared passenger and freight corridors.	S, D, O	MnDOT Traffic Operations	MnDOT OFCVO, MnDOT Districts	Mid-term, Long-term
26	Spot Improvements	Utilize freight system performance measures to identify critical network bottlenecks; plan and implement spot improvements as needed	S, O	MnDOT Traffic Operations	MnDOT OFCVO, MnDOT Districts	Short-term, Mid-term, Long-term
SAFETY AND SECURITY						
27	Traveler Information	Provide freight-specific traveler information, such as truck parking availability, expected travel time and roadway conditions	P, S, O	MnDOT Traffic Operations	MnDOT OFCVO, public and private sector freight stakeholders	Short-term, ongoing
28	Design for Freight Safety	Design and implement geometric features that improve vehicle safety such as the use of rumble strips/stripes, wider shoulders, and other features where appropriate.	D	MnDOT Traffic Engineering and Design	MnDOT OFCVO	Short-term, ongoing
29	Truck Parking	Conduct assessment of truck parking and plan for expansion, as warranted	P, S, O	MnDOT OFCVO	Public and private sector freight stakeholders,	Short-term, ongoing

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					Neighboring states	
30	Incident Management and Emergency Response Plans	Develop emergency plans to ensure critical supply chain connectivity and proactively route hazardous materials	P, S	Minnesota Office of Public Safety	MnDOT OFCVO, public and private sector freight stakeholders	Short-term
31	Rail Crossings	Assess grade crossing safety and implement policies, programs and investments related to safety of at-grade crossings and seek funding for implementation	P, S, F	MnDOT OFCVO	Public and private sector rail stakeholders	Short-term, ongoing
32	Positive Train Control	Partner with railroads to complete initial deployment of state-of-the-art traffic control and safety systems, in particular on Minnesota's high-density main lines	P, S	Class I and shortline railroads	MnDOT OFCVO	Short-term
33	Rail System Vulnerabilities	Develop and implement a comprehensive plan that addresses key safety vulnerabilities across Minnesota's rail network	P, S, O	MnDOT OFCVO	Public and private sector freight stakeholders, Minnesota Department of Public Safety	Short-term

