



Minnesota Freight Advisory Committee Meeting

March 11, 2016

Freight Provisions, Policies and Legislation

University of Minnesota
McNamara Alumni Center

We all have a stake in **A+B**



National Freight Policy

Establishment of first ever National Freight Policy under a National Strategic Plan.

- › Congress and Federal Executive worked closely with states and industry to develop a more sophisticated understanding of our nation's freight transportation needs.
- › Goals to increase competitiveness, efficiency, and productivity of the network.
- › Development of State Freight Advisory and state freight plan.



National Highway Freight Program

- › Establishes a new formula-based \$6.2 billion over five years/\$1.2 billion yearly avg. MN - \$20 million average.
- › Improve the efficient movement of freight on the National Highway Freight Network - MN Interstate.
 - Critical Urban Corridor
 - Critical Rural Corridor
- › Eligible activities include construction, operational improvement, freight planning and performance measures.
- › Highway focus but ≤ 10% for rail/port/intermodal projects.
- › States required to have freight plan with a **freight investment plan**, within two years. Freight Advisory Committees are encouraged.



Nat'l Significant Freight & Hwy Project (FAST LANE Grants)

Fostering Advancement in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-Term Achievement of National Effectiveness.

- ▶ \$900M/year avg. for competitive grants for projects > \$100M (small projects at least \$5M).
- ▶ Eligible activities:
 - Highway freight project on NHFN.
 - NHS Hwy/bridge projects and National Scenic Areas.
 - Freight rail/intermodal/port projects (≤ \$500M over five years).
 - Rail-highway grade crossing or grade separations
 - Congress has 60 days to disapprove.



Other Freight Provisions

- ▶ Primary Highway Freight System re-designation every five years (FAC involvement)
- ▶ National Multimodal Freight Network
- ▶ Truck Size and Weight Provision
 - Exemption from vehicle weight limitation
 - Clarification of Vehicle or Load Definitions
- ▶ Grants on going: TIGER
 - Wilmar Wye – Rail Efficiency/Safety
 - Truck Parking (8 states) – Availability Parking/Safety



NEXT STEPS

Key Areas: Freight Plan and Freight Investment

- ▶ Determine how MFAC consultation with MnDOT will occur?
 - Tools for decision-making
 - MnDOT Decision Lens
 - Private Sector Quality Management
- ▶ Level of participation & process?
 - How to organize MFAC membership
 - Subcommittee
 - Executive leadership



Questions???

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