



Minnesota Statewide Freight System Plan

Advisory Committee Meeting #3
June 18, 2015

We all have a stake in A → B



Agenda

9:00 am Opening Remarks and Introductions

9:20 am Perspectives on Minnesota's Waterways

9:40 am Review of Progress To Date

9:55 am Developing Minnesota's Freight Action Agenda
Small Group Discussion

10 MINUTE BREAK

10:55 am Project and Funding Priorities
Large Group Discussion

11:25 am Closing Remarks and Next Steps

12:00 pm Adjourn



Opening Remarks

Advisory Committee Co-Chairs

Tim Henkel

Minnesota DOT

*Division Director, Modal Planning
and Program Management*

Bill Goins

Minnesota Freight Advisory
Committee
Chair



Perspectives on Minnesota's Waterways



Review of Progress To Date



MN MAP-21 Compliant Freight Plan

Schedule and Major Milestones

1 - Stakeholder Engagement / Education

Advisory Committee
Technical Team
Freight Summit
Industry & Public Meetings
Survey

2 - Data Synthesis & Baseline Assessment

Economic Context
System Inventory
Institutional Structure

3 - Freight Policy

Link to MinnesotaGO Strategic Vision

4 - Project Development Guidance

Performance Measures
Strategic Freight Network
Needs and Issues

5 - Plan Implementation

Value of Freight Transportation Investments

A collaborative effort between MnDOT and the consultant team

Freight Action Agenda



Visit the Plan Website

www.dot.state.mn.us/planning/freightplan



Stakeholder Outreach Update



Stakeholder Outreach

- ▶ Stakeholder Committee Meetings
- ▶ Freight Summit
- ▶ Minnesota Freight Advisory Committee
- ▶ Neighbor State Interviews
- ▶ MetroQuest Online Survey
 - Round 1 – Fall 2014
 - Round 2 – Upcoming, Summer 2015
- ▶ Industry Interviews
- ▶ District 4 Case Study



Industry Interviews

- ▶ Coldspring USA (St. Cloud area)
 - Natural Stone Manufacturer
- ▶ Digikey (Thief River Falls)
 - Electronic Component Distributer
- ▶ Electrolux (St. Cloud)
 - Freezer Manufacturer
- ▶ Lake Superior Warehousing (Duluth)
 - Warehousing and 3PL
- ▶ Marvin Windows (Warroad)
 - Window Manufacturer/Shipper
- ▶ US Steel (Virginia)
 - Taconite Mining



Industry Interviews

- ▶ Section 1: Context
 - Location/size/type of business, primary shipping routes, major origin-destination pairs, modal split
- ▶ Section 2: Minnesota Freight System Issues and Needs
 - Specific obstacles/improvements by mode
- ▶ Section 3: Economics
 - Emerging trends, Minnesota's strengths/weaknesses, importance of public sector assistance



Industry Interviews

Common Themes

- ▶ Much credit given to current MnDOT services (511 traveler information, plowing operations, outreach efforts)
- ▶ Many companies noted congestion/safety issues were not an issue in MN compared to other states
- ▶ Driver shortage
- ▶ Size and weight disparities with neighboring states/provinces
- ▶ Rail service impacted by crude activity



Industry Interviews

Individual Issues

- ▶ Captive shipper issues
- ▶ Desire for closer intermodal facility
- ▶ Desire for expanded air cargo service
- ▶ Environmental permitting
- ▶ Roadway widening
- ▶ Warehousing Tax



District 4 Case Study

- ▶ Purpose
 - How to integrate freight at District level
- ▶ First meeting held May 13; follow-up meeting in July
- ▶ Discussed current issues with freight during planning and design phases
- ▶ “What is a freight project?”



District 4 Case Study

- ▶ Freight not as high a priority as other issues
- ▶ Conflicts between design criteria
 - Example: narrower lanes for ADA vs. wider lanes for easier freight movement
- ▶ Data
 - Too much or not enough?
 - Estimated truck volumes
- ▶ Who pays for improvements?
 - Can be difficult to explain to public



District 4 Case Study

- ▶ Scoping worksheets and guide
 - Identification of District-level key freight routes
 - How are other Districts using these worksheets?
- ▶ Prioritized list of freight projects
 - Specific project locations
 - Project types
- ▶ Permitting
 - Coordination between Districts not well understood
 - Cost and timeliness



Developing Minnesota's Freight Action Agenda



Why a Freight Action Agenda?

A Freight Plan Product



*This is Minnesota's
Freight Plan*

- ▶ A tool for all public- and private sector freight stakeholders in Minnesota
 - All Plan recommendations in a single place
 - Ability to regularly update and monitor Plan implementation
 - Accountability for all freight stakeholders
 - Build relationships and foster collaboration



Freight Action Agenda Contents

- ▶ Freight Plan Recommendations/Actions
 - Physical System (e.g., *capacity additions*)
 - Operational (e.g., *supply chain shifts, technology applications*)
 - Policies and programs (e.g., *initiate dialog on freight funding*)
- ▶ Sequence Actions
 - Short-term (0-2 years) – “quick wins”
 - Mid-term (3-5 years)
 - Long-term (greater than 5 years)
- ▶ Assign Responsibilities

Actions identified for all freight stakeholders



Freight Action Agenda

Development Process



About Mitigation/Strategy Concepts

Types

- ▶ Economy
- ▶ Mobility
- ▶ Infrastructure
- ▶ Safety
- ▶ Environment and Community
- ▶ Organization/Policy

Modes

- ▶ Highway
- ▶ Rail
- ▶ Water
- ▶ Air



Small Group Discussion

- ▶ Four (4) small groups
- ▶ Discuss the strategies assigned
 1. What strategy concepts should be considered in Minnesota? What is missing from the list?
 2. Who should lead/partner on the strategy?
 3. Should any concepts be prioritized?
- ▶ Work together for ~30 min
- ▶ Assign a spokesperson/note taker
- ▶ Report back significant findings, turn in notes



Discussion

- ▶ *What mitigation/strategy concepts should be considered in Minnesota?*
- ▶ *Are there roles for all freight stakeholders?*
- ▶ *Are there any “quick wins”?*



BREAK

5 minutes



Project and Funding Priorities



MnSHIP Investment Priorities 2014-2033

Figure 5-1: Investment Priorities,
Years 1-10

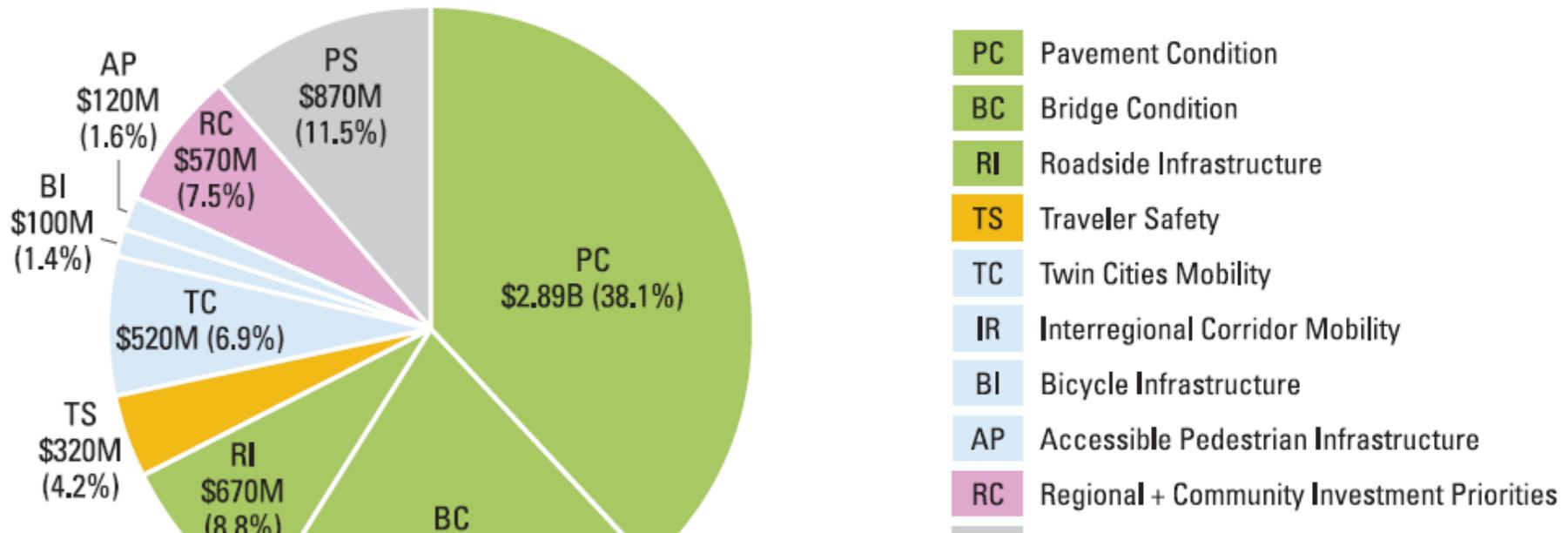
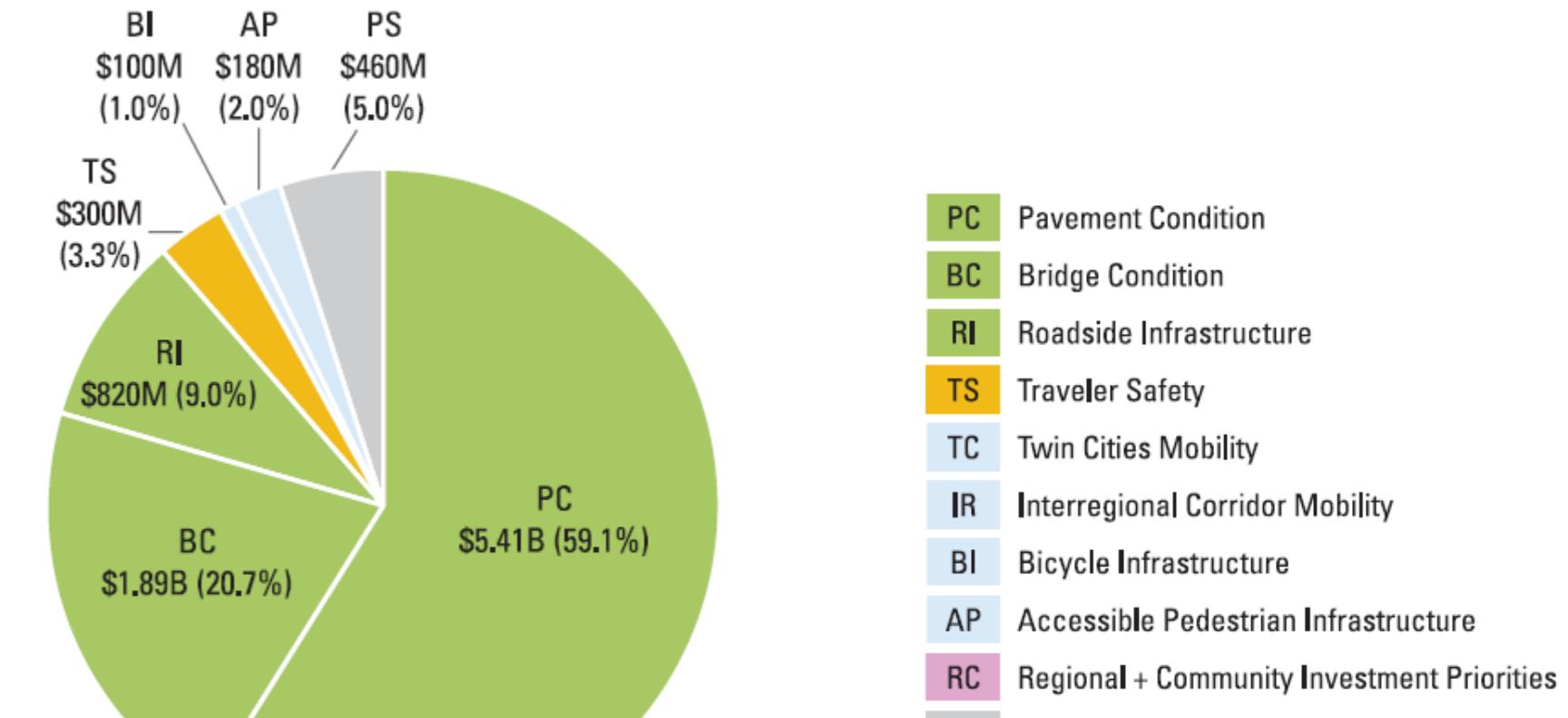


Figure 5-2: Investment Priorities,
Years 11-20



Advancing Freight Strategies

Key Components

- ▶ Flexible funding – traditional funds often don't apply
- ▶ Partnerships – multimodal, multi-jurisdictional, public and private sector
- ▶ Consensus on investment priorities
- ▶ Evaluation of project benefits, clear benefits
- ▶ Shovel ready projects



Large Group Exercise

- ▶ You each have **\$100** of new freight funds
 - This funding is **in addition** to the programs MnDOT currently funds
- ▶ How will you spend your \$'s?
 - Review the 10 pre-determined categories
 - Allocate your funds (each square is \$10)
 - Are there other categories you'd add? Note these.
- ▶ Take 10 minutes for everyone to allocate



Discussion

- ▶ *Are there funding categories you wished were on the board?*
- ▶ *What was your top priority? Lowest priority?*
- ▶ *Do you think there is a need for dedicated funds for freight in Minnesota?*



Closing Remarks and Next Steps

