State Freight Plan and Rail System Plan

Offices of Systems Planning and Rail Transportation

Freight Advisory Council
March 27, 2015
Outline

- Joint timeline
- State Freight Plan
  - Status
  - Freight mobility issues follow-up
  - Freight highway project evaluation concept
- Rail System Plan
  - Overview
  - RFP update
- Future input needs
## Development timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Combined Plan Development</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rail System Plan (RAIL)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>State Freight Strategic/Implementation Plan (FREIGHT)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purpose, Goals, and Objectives</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Purpose, Strategic Goals, and Objectives for the Freight System</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Vision, Goals, and Objectives for the Rail System</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roles of the Systems</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Economic Context of Freight Transportation Planning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Conceptual Analysis of Rail Transportation’s Role within the System</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Governance Structures and Programs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify Freight Programs and Institutions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inventory of the Systems</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe and Inventory Existing Freight Transportation Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe and Inventory Existing Rail Systems</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe Conditions and Performance of the Freight Transportation System</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Identify Rail Needs and Opportunities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Identify Freight Trends, Forecasts, and Issues</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Identify Rail Trends and Forecasts</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategies, Initiatives, and Projects</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify and Develop Decision Making Process</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Strategic Solutions, Freight Improvement Strategies, and Projects List</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Rail Service and Investment Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assess Funding and Institutional Strategies for Implementation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outreach and Public Input</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct Stakeholder and Public Outreach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conduct Stakeholder and Public Outreach</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe Coordination and Review Processes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>45-Day Public Input Period</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>45-Day Public Input Period</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Status of the State Freight Plan

- Develop strategic goals and objectives
- Identify and document the economic importance
- Inventory existing assets
- Describe conditions of the system and develop performance measures
- Document freight trends and issues
- Project freight-related forecasts
- Identify and develop the decision making process
- Develop strategic solutions, improvement strategies, and a prioritized project list
Freight mobility issues follow-up

- Highway, railroad, waterway, and operational/regulatory bottleneck identification
- June FAC exercise
- Freight Mobility Issue Survey
- Results
- Next steps
Freight project evaluation concept

- Value, Condition, and Performance (VCAP) matrix
- Tools
  - Freight bottleneck identification
  - iTRAM statewide traffic demand model
  - Infrastructure Condition Evaluation (ICE)
  - Freight network optimization study
  - Location of multimodal facilities
- Process
- Other modes
Overview of Rail System Plan

- US DOT recommend updates occur every 5 years
- This update will include required FRA documentation
  - Role of Rail
  - Existing Rail System
  - Proposed Passenger Rail & Freight Rail Improvements/Investments
  - State’s Rail Service and Investment Program
  - Linking the State Rail Plan and State Freight Plan
  - Coordination
Overview of Rail System Plan

- Anticipate effort will go beyond the guidance = more comprehensive and robust plan
  - Unique issues to Iowa
  - Identify rail-dependent commodities and industries
  - Identify essential rail corridors by commodity
  - Recommend how to enable short line railroads to better support Iowa’s economic development efforts
  - Look at abandonments more closely
  - Identify public benefits of the rail system and public investment to the rail system
  - Identify railroad needs and priorities (identified by those public and private partners)
  - Identify solutions to rail system bottlenecks
Consultant Request for Proposals Update

- Request for proposals - February
- Received proposals
- In-person interviews - early April
- Consultant contracted - end of April
Future input needs

- Conditions of the system
- Performance measures
- Industry trends and issues
- Solutions and implementation strategies
- Project prioritization process

- Individual interviews
- Reaching out to a wider range of industry stakeholders
Questions?

Amanda Martin
Office of Rail Transportation
amanda.martin@dot.iowa.gov
515-239-1653

Sam Hiscocks
Office of Systems Planning
samuel.hiscocks@dot.iowa.gov
515-239-1004