

# State Freight Plan and Rail System Plan

Offices of Systems Planning and Rail Transportation

Freight Advisory Council

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# 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



# 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
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- 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