

Iowa's Freight Transportation Plan

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Iowa Freight Advisory Council

Mason City, Iowa

Iowa's Freight Transportation Plan

Developed in 2 phases

- Phase I = Policy plan
- Phase II = Implementation plan with projects

Interim Guidance on State Freight Plans Structure

1. Strategic Goals

2. The Economic Context of Freight Transportation Planning

3. Freight Policies, Strategies, and Institutions

4. State Freight Transportation Assets

5. The Conditions and Performance of the State's Freight Transportation System

Interim Guidance on State Freight Plans Structure

6. Freight Forecasts

7. Overview of Trends, Needs, and Issues

**8. Strengths and Problems of the State's Freight
Transportation System**

9. The State's Decision-Making Process

10. The State's Freight Improvement Strategy

11. Implementation Plan

Iowa's Freight Transportation Plan

Chapter 1. Introduction

- Purpose and vision
- Federal requirements
- Relationship to Planning Ahead 2040
- Relationship to other freight initiatives
- Document outline

Iowa's Freight Transportation Plan

Draft Purpose

1. Inventory Iowa's freight infrastructure, facilities and movements
2. Assess the impact of freight movement on Iowa and our economy
3. Identify freight mobility issues and needs including critical bottlenecks
4. Identify and designate key freight corridors and facilities of statewide and regional significance
5. Define and develop freight policies and strategies
6. Investigate new financing mechanisms
7. Identify and prioritize future investments

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Chapter 2. Strategic Goals

- Description of:
 - Iowa's freight vision
 - National freight goals
 - Planning Ahead 2040 goals
 - Safety = to make Iowa a safer place to travel
 - Efficiency = to make the best use of resources
 - Quality of Life = to make Iowa a better place to live, work and travel
- Relationship of Iowa's goals to the national goals

National Freight Policy Goals

- Improving the contribution of the freight transportation system to economic efficiency, productivity, and competitiveness;
- Reducing congestion on the freight transportation system;
- Improving the safety, security, and resilience of the freight transportation system;
- Improving the state of good repair of the freight transportation system;
- Using advanced technology, performance management, innovation, competition, and accountability in operating and maintaining the freight transportation system;
- Reducing adverse environmental and community impacts of the freight transportation system.

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Chapter 3. Economic Context of Freight Transportation Planning

- Discussion of the role that freight transportation plays in the State's overall economy
 - Identify most important industries
 - Identify supply chains that are critical

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Chapter 4. Freight Policies, Strategies, and Institutions

- Discussion of the State's freight policies and strategies that will guide the freight-related transportation investment decisions
- Include the State's grant and loan programs that are available to pay for freight-related transportation infrastructure;
- Discuss current fiscal constraints on freight-related investments
- List and describe the State's freight-related institutions, associations and partnerships
- Discuss regional freight planning initiatives

Iowa's Freight Transportation Plan Draft Objectives

1. Improve safety
2. Improve freight mobility
3. Improve intermodal connectivity
4. Stimulate economic development
5. Enhance environmental conditions
6. Develop financial strategies for freight projects
7. Strengthen partnerships to address freight issues

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Chapter 5. Iowa's Freight Transportation Assets

- Inventory of freight carrying modes
- Freight facilities
 - Grain
 - Biofuels
 - Container/trailer
 - Warehousing/transloading
- Natural resource locations
 - Energy development
 - Mining
 - Agriculture

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Chapter 6. Conditions and Performance of the State's Freight Transportation System

- Describe Planning Ahead 2040 performance measures
- Describe current conditions and performance measures that will guide the freight-related investment decisions
 - Identify bottlenecks in the system
 - Include one measure of condition or performance for each goal
 - Reflect outcomes directly important to users and general public (reduction in crashes, reduction in delay and congestion)
 - Avoid measure not directly important (miles of track, number of bridges inspected)

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Chapter 7. Freight Forecasts

- Present forecasts through 2040 of freight transportation demands
 - By mode and commodity
 - Into, out of, within and through

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Chapter 8. Overview of Trends, Needs, and Issues

- Summarize existing trends, needs and issues
- Summarize issues and papers developed by the Freight Advisory Council

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Chapter 9. Strengths and Problems of the State's Freight Transportation System

- Include an analysis of:
 - Strengths of the State's freight system to preserve
 - Where freight system does not meet the state's freight goals
 - Most important problems to address

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Chapter 10. State's Decision-Making Process

- Present the public involvement process
- Discuss the current decision-making process
- Discuss several freight initiatives that will be used in the decision-making process
 - Interstate Corridor Plan
 - Mississippi River Action Plan
 - iTRAM update
 - Freight Network Optimization Strategy

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Chapter 11. State's Freight Improvement Strategy

- Include a description of the strategies the State will employ to address freight mobility issues
- Rank strategies in priority order

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Chapter 12. Next Steps

- Develop an implementation plan
 - List of potential freight projects
 - Include approximate time schedule