Welcome
Freight Advisory Council
September 11, 2015
Goal
Accurately define what the rail and freight system in the state looks like today and what it needs to look like in the future.
# 2016 Iowa Rail and Freight Plan Task Overview

## Purpose, Goals and Objectives

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
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- **Develop Purpose, Strategic Goals and Objectives for the Rail System**
- **Develop Conceptual Analysis of Rail Transportation's Role within the System**
- **Develop Economic Context of Freight Transportation Planning**

## Roles of the System

- **Describe and Inventory Existing Freight Transportation Assets**
- **Describe and Inventory Existing Rail Systems**
- **Describe Conditions and Performance of the Freight Transportation System**
- **Identify Rail Needs and Opportunities**
- **Identify Freight Trends, Forecasts and Issues**
- **Identify Rail Trends and Forecasts**

## Inventory of the Systems

- **Identify and Develop Decision Making Process**
- **Develop Strategic Solutions, Freight Improvement Strategies and Projects List**

## Strategies, Initiatives and Projects
Goals of the Iowa Freight Plan

- Improve contribution of freight system
- Reduce congestion
- Improve safety and security
- Repair system
- Implement innovative technology
- Reduce impacts
- Gather input
Outline/objectives of the State Freight Plan

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

- Industry trends and issues
- Conditions of the system
- Performance measures
- Implementation strategies and priorities
Stakeholder Input Gathering

**Input Mechanism**
- Freight White Papers
- Freight Plan Document Outline
- Revised Freight Plan Document Outline
- Freight Mobility Issues Exercise and Survey
- Freight Goals Exercise
- Revised Freight Plan Development Timeline
- Performance Measures Exercise
- Improvement Strategies and Project List Exercise
- Issues Based Workshop

**2012**

**2013**

**2014**

**2015**

**2016**

- General freight plan development
- Industry trends and issues
- Conditions of the system
- Performance measures
- Improvement strategies and priorities

Start of plan development
Reset timeline 2016
Guidance on Freight Improvement Strategies

Must include:

- A description of the strategies the state is employing to address freight mobility issues

Recommendations:

- Include a presentation of the state's complete freight improvement strategy, with different improvements ranked in order of priority (or grouped into higher and lower priority groups)
- Include an analysis of how each improvement will advance the state's strategic goals
Freight Improvement Strategies

- Development process
  - Current/future department initiatives
  - Freight Advisory Council
  - Freight Executive Committee
  - Other planning partners
Example Strategies

- Explore/create other **funding sources** to increase investment in the freight transportation system
- Target investment to **address mobility issues** that impact freight facilities
- Utilize designs that are **compatible with oversize/overweight** freight movements
- Target **investment on the interstate system** at a level that reflects the importance of this system for moving freight
- **Leverage information from users** of the system to support advanced decision-making and incident avoidance
Multimodal Freight Projects

- Aviation – Iowa DOT Office of Aviation
- Highway – Freight Mobility Issue Survey, Value, Condition, and Performance (VCAP) concept
- Pipeline – Propane Supply Chain Optimization Study
- Railroad – State Rail Plan
- Waterway – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Example Project List - Highway

- VCAP matrix
- Tools
  - Freight Mobility Issue Survey
  - Iowa Travel Analysis Model (iTRAM) statewide travel demand model
  - Infrastructure Condition Evaluation (ICE)
  - Freight Network Optimization study
  - Iowa DOT truck traffic data
- Process
### Example Project List - Highway

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<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>VALUE</th>
<th>CONDITION</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE</th>
<th>TIERBREAK</th>
<th>TRUCK VOLUME</th>
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</table>
Example Project List - Highway
Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Guidance

- Stakeholder engagement
- Identify proposed rail improvements
- Safe, efficient, convenient freight transportation
- Economic development
Goals and Objectives of the Iowa Rail Plan

- Merge rail plan into multimodal framework
- Economic benefits
- Align initiatives with Iowa priorities
- Unify common rail interests
- Develop in tandem with Iowa Freight Plan
- Open and inclusive process
- Educate the public through public meetings

IOWA RAIL PLAN
2016
IOWA DOT
Additional Goals and Objectives Iowa Rail Plan

- Unique issues to Iowa
- Identify rail dependent commodities and industries
- Identify essential rail corridors by commodity
- Enable short line railroads to support economic development
- Look at abandonments more closely
- Identify investments and public benefits of the rail system
- Identify railroad needs and priorities
- Identify solutions to rail system bottlenecks
Iowa Rail and Freight Today

- 4 times faster than trucks
- 84% of shipments are coal, chemicals, farm & food products
- 37.7 million tons received
- Over 3,500 rail employees
- 48.5 million tons shipped
- Over 3,500 miles of track
- Average freight length over 1 mile
- 59,824 passenger rides in 2013
Stakeholder Participation
Issues-Based Workshop

- Marks the beginning of the upcoming public and stakeholder engagement efforts for the planning process
- Introduces details and status of the State Rail and Freight Plans
- Provides opportunity to hear from stakeholders
- Offers a complementary online survey component
- ~200 invitations distributed
High Leverage Stakeholder Committee

- Develop vision and goals for State Rail and Freight plans.
- Discuss strategies for improvements
- Discuss location-specific improvement projects.
- Composed of local persons having an active role in the community.

*High Leverage Stakeholder Committee members will be selected by the Iowa DOT and actively recruited with the assistance of local governments.*
Shipper Interviews

- Learn shipper attitudes about current rail and freight issues.
- Learn about the role and importance of public programs.
- Explore interest and use for shippers without on-site rail access.
- Class I, II shippers
Public and Online Meetings

- Solicit public input about rail and freight issues.
- Identify opportunities for freight and passenger rail.
- Educate the public about:
  - the purpose of the State Rail and Freight Plans
  - vision and goals
- Online meeting provided to allow public comments.
Stay Involved

http://engagetrailplans.iowadot.gov/

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Thank you