MAP-21 Language for Designation of National Freight Network

In general:

The Secretary shall establish a national freight network in accordance with this section to assist States in **strategically directing resources toward improved system performance for efficient movement of freight on highways**, including national highway system, freight intermodal connectors and aerotropolis transportation systems.
National Freight Network Components

- Primary Freight Network
  - 27k limit
  - Current Importance
  - + 3k
  - Future Importance

- Remainder of the Interstate System
  - Between 17k and 47k miles

- Critical Rural Freight Corridors
  - Unlimited miles
Factors for Designation of Primary Freight Network

• Origins and destinations of freight movement in the United States;
• Total freight tonnage and value of freight moved by highways;
• Percentage of annual average daily truck traffic in the annual average daily traffic on principal arterials;
• Annual average daily truck traffic on principal arterials;
• Land and maritime ports of entry;
• Access to energy exploration, development, installation, or production areas;
• Population centers;
• Network connectivity.
Possible Applications and Future Role of PFN

What should be the focus or objective behind PFN?
How will the PFN be used?

- National Strategic Freight Plan
- North American Corridors
- Intercity routes
- Areas with high levels of congestion
- Connectivity
- Performance Measures
- Funding
Five Areas for Comments in the Federal Register Notice

(1) Specific route deletions, additions, or modifications to the draft initial designation of the highway PFN contained in this notice;
(2) The methodology for achieving a 27,000-mile final designation;
(3) How the NFN and its components could be used by freight stakeholders in the future;
(4) How the NFN may fit into a multimodal National Freight System; and
(5) Suggestions for an urban-area route designation process.
Next steps

The following is the approximate schedule for designation of the NFN:

- Draft designation of highway PFN – Fall 2013
- Comment period for highway PFN designation – Fall 2013
- Review and analysis of comments – early 2014
- Final initial HPFN release – early 2014
- Finalization of Critical Rural Freight Corridors (CRFC) guidance - early 2014
- Requests for States to designate CRFC – Spring 2014
- Compilation of State-designated CRFC routes – Spring 2014
- Release of the initial designation of the full NFN (including highway PFN, rest of the Interstate System, CRFCs) – mid 2014
NFN website

USDOT has posted the details of the draft initial highway PFN, including the 26,966-mile draft highway PFN map, the 41,518-mile comprehensive map, State maps and lists of designated routes, tables of mileage by State, and information regarding intermodal connectors and border crossings at:

NFN website:

Notice website:
http://www.archives.gov/federal_register

Docket for comments:
http://www.regulations.gov

Comments on the Designation of the Primary Freight must be received by U.S. DOT on or before December 19, 2013