

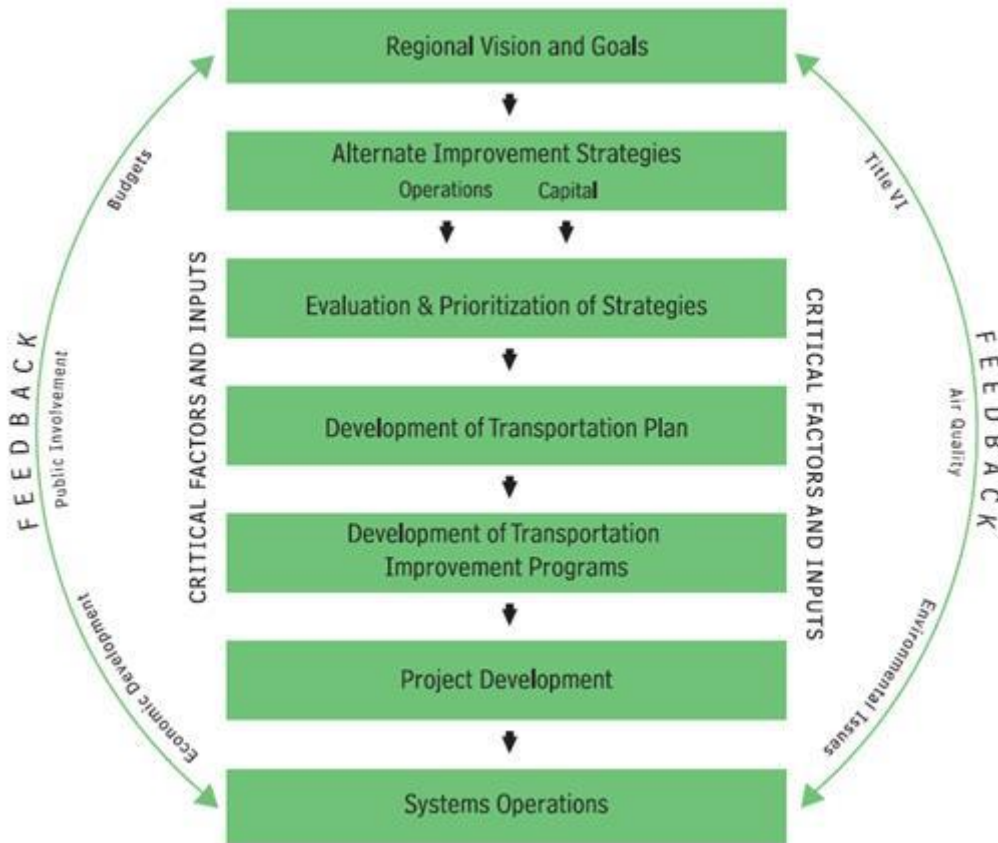


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# Transportation Planning in Your Community: Why Your Participation in the Process Matters

Presented by the  
Federal Highway Administration







# Key Issues of Mutual Interest

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- Economic Development
- Capacity, Congestion and Reliability
- Financing and Funding Projects
- Environmental Concerns
- Safety and Security Concerns





# **Why is Transportation System Performance Important to You?**

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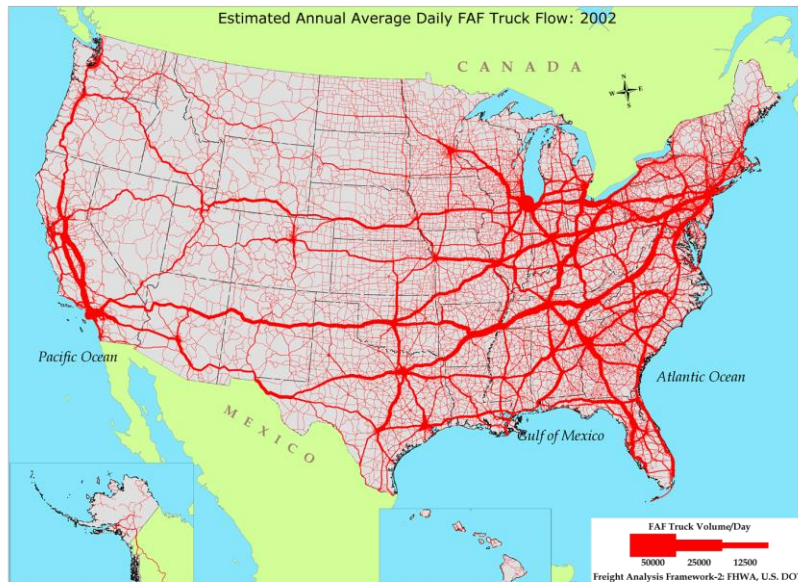
- Service/operating levels
- Asset performance
- Inventory costs
- Customer satisfaction
- Profitability



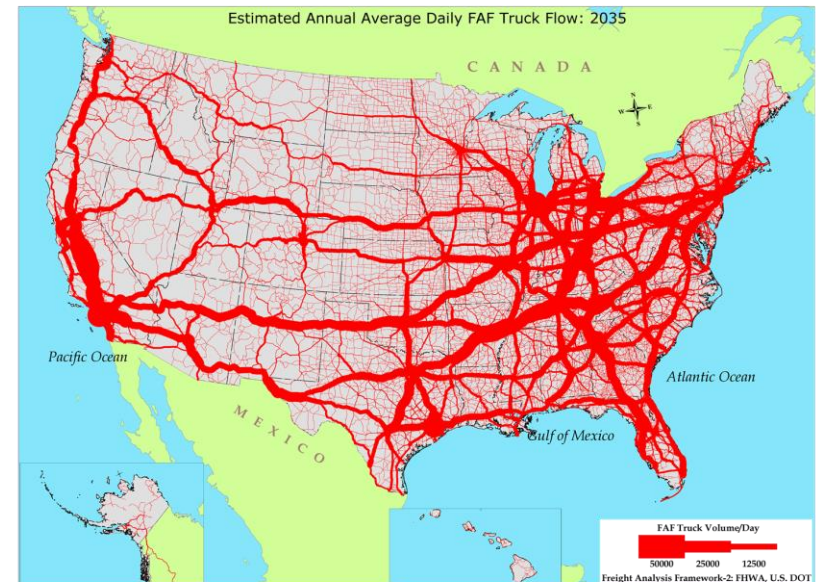


# And the Likely Future Is . . .

- Freight flows are expected to double by 2035



Truck Flows 2002



Truck Flows 2035

Source: [http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/freight\\_analysis/faf/index.htm](http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/freight_analysis/faf/index.htm)





# What Is the Transportation Planning Process?

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- A process that....
  - Analyzes existing and expected future (20 to 30 years) transportation system conditions
  - Identifies both long-term and short-range passenger and freight improvements
  - Prioritizes projects
  - Results in a transportation plan and an investment program





# Who Does Transportation Planning?

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- Transportation planning involves many different organizations, groups and individuals...each having a stake in making the transportation system as effective as possible.





# Public Agency Participation

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- Although there are many public agencies that participate in transportation planning, two agencies, in particular, play critical roles:
  - State department of transportation (DOT)
  - Metropolitan planning organization (MPO)







# State DOT Role in Planning Process

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- Provides and maintains transportation infrastructure under public ownership at the state level
- Partners with local governments for many transportation projects
- Develops statewide transportation plan and state transportation improvement program





# Invest in What?

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- Managing Existing Facilities and Systems
- New Capacity (either through new facilities or improving existing ones)
- Improved Access to Freight Facilities
- Enhanced Communication and Signing
- Coordinated Land Use Strategies





# Improving Access to Freight Facilities

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- Improved road connections to intermodal facilities
- Ramps and other street improvements
- Transit (for employee access)





# Enhanced Communication and Signing

- Operational improvements through signing
- Pre-trip information
- Real-time congestion reporting





# Coordinated Land Use Strategies

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- Avoid clash of land uses
- Create buffers
- Preserve space for future expansion
- Reserve right-of-way





# Your Participation Adds Value

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- To the public agencies planning investment in your transportation system and....
- To your industry by promoting investments of importance to you





# How Do You Get Started?

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- Ask how you can help
- Invite public officials to your meetings
- Participate on committees or in workshops
- Identify problems or bottlenecks
- Provide data and information
- Help establish goals and priorities
- Support continued funding for transportation





# For More FHWA Information

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- A Citizen's Guide to Transportation Decisionmaking:  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/citizen/index.htm>
- Office of Planning, Environment and Reality:  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/index.htm>
- Office of Freight Management and Operations:  
<http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/index.cfm>
- Freight Planning LISTSERV:  
<http://listserv.utk.edu/archives/fhwafp.html>

