

System Optimization / Intermodal Considerations

Session 2B Overview Worksheet

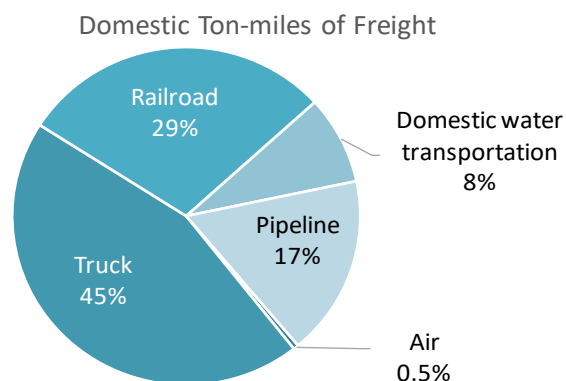
Session Summary

The movement of freight has enormous importance to the U.S. economy but poses major planning challenges. The volume of imports and exports transported by our freight system is expected to more than double by 2040 from today. In this session, we'll identify methods to improve the system-wide efficiency of clean corridors. In particular, we'll focus on ports and other intermodal connections. Rick Cameron, the Director of Planning and Environmental Affairs at the Port of Long Beach, will serve as the subject matter expert and help guide the one-hour discussion.

Goals of Breakout

The session will help participants discuss:

- The various definitions of “system efficiency” for clean corridors
- How system efficiency is addressed in the FAST Act
- How to choose the optimal mode of freight transportation for a given segment of the corridor (for example, rail versus truck).
- Key metrics for measuring system efficiency.
- How to plan clean, efficient intermodal connections.



Source: [Table 1-50: U.S. Bureau of Transportation Stats](#)

Strategies to Increase System Efficiency

Category	Description
Tools	Develop tools for freight data collection, analysis, and modeling to enhance knowledge and planning for freight improvements
	Increase the use and effectiveness of traffic alerts system.
	Develop transparent tracking system across entire freight supply chain.
	Implement appointment system at seaports and border crossings.
	Support development of truck travel data and a statewide information platform
	Develop and implement freight priority traffic management systems such as signal priority and eco-routing
Operational	Increase off-peak delivery
	Eliminate bottlenecks in key locations along critical freight corridors
	Develop innovative public-private collaborations
	Increase coordination across state and regional planning agencies
	Support handling of international containers at on-dock rail facilities
	Accelerate and support the development of dynamic truck travel information and drayage optimization
Capital Investment	Build multi-modal capacity with advanced technology into new freight hubs (e.g., zero emission rail spur at major distribution center)

Category	Description
	Evaluate the feasibility of an all-electric freight container transport system along primary freight corridors
	Facilitate intermodal connectivity

Maximizing Asset Utilization



Source: *Freight Efficiency Strategies: A White Paper Series to Inform the California Sustainable Freight Action Plan*, <http://www.casustainablefreight.org>

Key Discussion Questions

- What is the primary goal of a clean corridor?
- What does “system efficiency” mean?
- How can planners quantify system efficiency?
- What are the primary regulatory and planning bodies for each portion of the clean corridor?
- Where are the main bottlenecks for the freight system along a given corridor?
- Which sections of a clean corridor require the greatest collaboration between planning and regulatory agencies?

Notes
