

Oversight Committee Meeting #1

Date: 10/04/24 Time: 10:30 AM CT

TxDOT SAT District, Building 2, 4615 NW Loop 410

Attendees

- Hannah Santiago, CS
- Linda Vela, CS
- Gui Leao, CS
- Seema Singh, CS
- Sonia Jiménez, AAMPO
- Lori Stewart, AAMPO
- Sandeep Datla, AAMPO
- Matthew Moreno, AAMPO
- Cecilio Martinez, AAMPO
- Wendy Dodson, AAMPO
- Travis Nedrich, AAMPO
- Zack Graham, AAMPO
- Reggie Fountain, Bexar County
- Joel Hicks, Guadalupe County
- Garry Ford, City of New Braunfels
- Carly L. Farmer, City of New Braunfels
- Ryan Hall, City of San Antonio
- Marc Jacobson, City of San Antonio
- Isaac Levy, City of San Antonio
- Tom Hornseth, Comal County
- Nick Wingerter, Double Diamond
- Sean Greszler, Joint Base San Antonio
- Amanda Patino, TxDOT
- Ivonne De La Rosa, TxDOT
- Kara Hill, Port San Antonio



- Tiemann, John, VIA

Agenda/Introductions

- The attendees introduced themselves and shared the emerging industry trends that excite them the most.

Regional Freight Study Goals and Objectives

- Hannah from CS outlined the study's goals and objectives, and their alignment with other plans, including Texas Delivers 2050 and Mobility 2050.

Goals and Objectives Interactive Exercise

- She then invited the participants to list their top three desired outcomes of the Regional Freight study.
- The participants attending the meeting in-person provided their input using sticky notes. Other participants attending the meeting virtually shared their input via an online chat feature.
- Common themes emerging from the discussion included enhancing freight network resiliency, system reliability, safety and incident management, improving traffic flows by improving connectivity, and better communication between agencies.
 - One stakeholder mentioned HERO Program's effective traffic incident management in San Antonio
 - Another stakeholder brought up the railroad delays caused by Union Pacific at crossings in the region.
- Hannah offered clarification on the project scope, highlighting that the study will focus on identifying policies, programs, and projects, rather than specific projects. The study will identify needs and highlight areas for future project development. She clarified that the safety analysis of existing trouble spots and reliability assessments will be part of the study.

Regional Freight Study Schedule

- Next, Hannah outlined the study's five major tasks – Project management; Research and background; Mid to near-term implementation; Long-range strategies and Policies; and Final report – and presented the overall project schedule, highlighting the project current status and final project deadline in Nov/December 2025.
- Hannah highlighted that one of the project's goals is also to establish a standing Freight Advisory Committee for better coordination across the region.
- During the duration of the study, a total of five committee meetings will be scheduled. The next meeting is scheduled for November or December. In order to better understand private sector needs and priorities, two types of industry stakeholder engagement activities are planned, which includes a Freight Industry Forum and Freight Industry Roundtables.



Regional Freight Activity & Demand

- The CS team presented on Population & Employment in the Region, Regional Freight Flows by Mode and Direction, Top Commodities, Top Trading Partners, and Truck Origins and Destinations.
 - One stakeholder asked what secondary traffic entails to which Seema clarified that it represents a mix of commodities that move in dry van trucks from warehouses and distribution centers or in containers from rail intermodal facilities or from air cargo facilities.
 - Another stakeholder raised a question about the commodities being traded with Wyoming, since it sees a major drop in tonnage from 4.8 MT in 2019 to zero in 2050.
 - It was emphasized by another stakeholder that it is mostly petroleum and coal products that AAMPO trades with Wyoming.
- The CS team presented the list of AAMPO's key stakeholders that the team identified for stakeholder engagement activities. They invited the participants to share the names of organizations or industries that were not on the stakeholder list and must be included.
- Participants shared several potential industry stakeholders that could be added to the list. Names included:
 - Quarry operators
 - HEB
 - Freight brokers
 - Amazon
 - UPS
 - FedEx
 - Walmart Distribution
 - Defense Logistics Agency (DLA)
 - Martin Marietta Materials
 - Ingram Readymix
 - Airforwarders Association
 - Volcan
 - ATRI
 - FEMA
 - Tyson Poultry
 - Toyota and suppliers
 - Navistar
 - Cemex
 - CPS Energy



Freight Assets, Conditions and Performance

- The CS team provided an overview of the Project Study Area, which includes the proposed AAMPO boundary, Texas Highway Freight Network (THFN), AAMPO Regionally Significant Roadways, and other key roadways identified by AAMPO staff.
- The CS team provided an overview of AAMPO's multi-modal freight assets and their network condition and performance. This included Highway, Rail, Air, and Pipeline.
 - Related to safety, one stakeholder brought up the Finesilver Curve as an area of concern.
 - Another stakeholder discussed the importance of incorporating technology to help better guide truckers on which routes to use. Google currently directs drivers to use fastest routes, leading drivers to move on certain routes that are not suited for oversize/overweight vehicles.

Next Steps

- The CS team and AAMPO closed out the meeting. The next Oversight Committee meeting is scheduled for January of next year. The Regional Freight Industry Forum is scheduled for Spring 2025 and the Stakeholder Engagement Workshop is scheduled for Summer 2025.

