Status of Freight Planning in the Alamo Area MPO

Transportation Policy Board | December 5, 2016
The Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act is a five-year, $305 billion bill that reauthorizes surface transportation programs.

The TxDOT Federal Affairs Department presented information about FAST Act funding and key provisions to the Transportation Policy Board in January 2016.
The FAST Act included key provisions related to freight:

- Establish a **National Multimodal Freight Policy** and require a **National Freight Strategic Plan** to implement that policy.
- Create a new **discretionary freight-focused grant program** to invest $4.5 billion.
- Set aside $6.3 billion in **formula funds** for a newly designated **National Highway Freight Program**.
- Expand on performance measurement targets established in **MAP-21**.

### Texas’ Portion of National Highway Freight Program Formula Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Apportionment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$100,641,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$96,265,993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$105,017,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$118,144,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$131,271,809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$551,341,597</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: TxDOT, January 2016
Texas is home to **26 million residents**, each of whom depend on the daily delivery of goods transported via a multimodal freight network.

- **67 tons** per Texan
- **7 million** Texas workers
- Almost **50%** growth from 2014 to 2040

**2014**

- **625 Million Tons**
  - **Rail**: 28%
  - **Highway**: 48%
  - **Port**: 23%
  - **Air**: <1%

**Within Texas**

- **821 Million Tons**
  - **Rail**: 6%
  - **Highway**: 86%
  - **Port**: 8%
  - **Air**: <1%

**Outbound**

- **361 Million Tons**
  - **Rail**: 17%
  - **Highway**: 32%
  - **Port**: <1%
  - **Air**: 51%

**Inbound**

- **192 Million Tons**
  - **Rail**: 59%
  - **Highway**: 41%
  - **Port**: <1%
  - **Air**: <1%
The Texas Transportation Commission adopted the Texas Freight Mobility Plan in January 2016

- The first plan developed by TxDOT that focuses on Texas’ freight transportation needs

- Submitted 10 projects from the Texas Freight Mobility Plan totaling $98.6 million under the National Highway Freight (formula funded) Program
  - One from AAMPO study area: IH-35 bridge at New Braunfels Ave

- Submitted three projects for FASTLANE (discretionary grant) Program funding
  - None awarded
Since the Freight Plan’s approval in January 2016, FHWA has published new FAST Act guidance and requirements.

- TxDOT is updating the Texas Freight Mobility Plan to comply by:
  - Designating critical corridors
  - Developing performance measures
  - Developing a Fiscally Constrained Investment Plan (project listing)

- FHWA must receive TxDOT’s updated Freight Plan by December 1, 2017
What are Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFCs)?

• The FAST Act authorizes large MPOs, in consultation with the state, to designate locally significant public roads as Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFCs).

• The state, in consultation with smaller MPOs, designates CUFCs for MPOs under 500,000 population.

• CUFCs are part of the network eligible for National Highway Freight Program formula funds.
How many miles of CUFCs can be submitted for funding eligibility?

- Texas may designate about **373 miles of CUFCs**
- With 9.28% of the urbanized area in Texas, **AAMPO’s** challenge is to identify **about 35 miles of CUFCs**
- CUFCs must meet certain requirements such as connecting an intermodal facility to the Interstate System or serving a major freight generator.
AAMPO began a public involvement process for Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFC) designation in October.

**October 7, 2016**
- Fast Act freight provisions (TxDOT)
- Texas Freight Mobility Plan implementation (TxDOT)
- Status of local freight planning (AAMPO)

**November 16, 2016**
- Developing Critical Urban Freight Corridors (AAMPO)
- Results of 2013 Freight Workshops (AAMPO)
- Mapping exercise

**December 2 & 5, 2016**
- Update on Freight Work Group meeting
- Highlights of FAST Act freight provisions and AAMPO process
- Results of Freight Work Group meeting

**March & April 2017**
- Two-step presentation and action process to recommend CUFC

**February 2017**
- Recommend CUFC based on TAC/TPB/Freight Workshop feedback

**January 25, 2017**
9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.
(Back-to-back workshops similar in content and format)

**Working agenda**
- Give feedback on draft CUFCs
- Hear about latest developments in freight industry
- Participate in guided discussion about freight planning
- See results of 2013 Freight Workshops
TAC members participated in a mapping exercise on November 16th to identify potential CUFCs

TAC used markers to identify:

- Where freight enters/exits the region
- Points of origin of freight (i.e. warehouses and intermodal centers)
- Connecting corridors

Then, they worked with measured strings to identify potential critical urban freight corridors

- Used 58 “miles” of string
Many corridors are identified on the national Primary Highway Freight System and are already eligible for federal freight funding.

View the map at [http://maps.alamoareampo.org/freight](http://maps.alamoareampo.org/freight)
TAC members used 58 “miles” of string to draft the following locally significant public roads as potential CUFCs

1. **Loop 1604** from IH 10 W to IH 10 E (29.63 mi)
2. **Loop 410** from IH 35 N to NE Loop 410 (2.12 mi)
3. **Rittiman Rd** from Loop 410 to FM 78 (2.97 mi)
4. **Foster Rd** from FM 78 to IH 10 E
5. **Frio City Rd** from General Hudnell Dr to Brazos St (2.76 mi)
6. **SH 46** from IH 35 to IH 10 E (11.79 mi)
7. **SH 46** from IH 10 E to SH 123 (6.27 mi)

View the map at [http://maps.alamoareampo.org/freight](http://maps.alamoareampo.org/freight)
AAMPO staff are maintaining an interactive map of data layers relevant to freight at maps.alamoareampo.org/freight. Updates are made as new information becomes available.

Physical maps used by TAC in November showed:
• Primary Highway Freight System (PHFS)
• Interstate System
• NHS Intermodal connectors
• Industrial land use

Additional layers on maps.alamoareampo.org/freight:
• Freight Workshop feedback
• TxDOT UTP projects
• AAMPO TIP & MTP plans
• TxDOT Texas Highway Freight Network
• TxDOT 2015 and 2035 AADT
• TxDOT Truck Traffic Percentage of 2015 AADT
• *TxDOT Truck Volumes of 2015 AADT*
• National Multimodal Freight Network
• Hazardous Material Routes
AAMPO will host a pair of Freight Workshops for public and private freight interests on January 25, 2017.

Workshops will be similar in content and format, and the goals are to:

- Give an AAMPO freight overview
- Hear about the latest developments in freight from (invited) representatives from the Freight Shuttle System, Southwest Research Institute and Amazon
- Participate in a guided discussion about the growing role of freight in order to:
  - Identify areas of concern and recommend CUFC corridors
These Freight Workshops follow up on workshops held in November 2013

60+ attendees gave input on a variety of freight issues:

- Traffic congestion
- Safety concerns
- Rail issues
- Delivery issues
- Physical barriers
- Conflict points
Stakeholders identified 130 concerns. **Forty-four overlap with project limits** in Mobility 2040

View the map at [http://maps.alamoareampo.org/freight](http://maps.alamoareampo.org/freight)
Stakeholders identified 130 concerns. **Forty-four overlap with project limits** in Mobility 2040
Following the Freight Workshops in January 2017, the Board can expect a two-step presentation and action process to recommend CUFCs in March/April 2017.

October 7, 2016
- Fast Act freight provisions (TxDOT)
- Texas Freight Mobility Plan implementation (TxDOT)
- Status of local freight planning (AAMPO)

November 16, 2016
- Developing Critical Urban Freight Corridors (AAMPO)
- Results of 2013 Freight Workshops (AAMPO)
- Mapping exercise

December 2 & 5, 2016
- Update on Freight Work Group meeting
- Highlights of FAST Act freight provisions and AAMPO process
- Results of Freight Work Group meeting

March & April 2017
- Two-step presentation and action process to recommend CUFC

February 2017
- Recommend CUFC based on TAC/TPB/Freight Workshop feedback

January 25, 2017
9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.
(Back-to-back workshops similar in content and format)

Working agenda
- Give feedback on draft CUFCs
- Hear about latest developments in freight industry
- Participate in guided discussion about freight planning
- See results of 2013 Freight Workshops
Thank you!

Allison “Allie” Blazosky, AICP
AAMPO Regional Transportation Planner
blazosky@alamoareampo.org
210-230-6911