



Midwest Chicago Megaregion Workshop

Planning and Addressing Freight at the Megaregion Level Workshop Agenda

August 28 – 29, 2017

Ralph H. Metcalfe Federal Building, Room 331
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604

DAY 1 - Monday, August 28, 2017

Part 1 – Setting the Stage

Purpose Statement: This workshop brings together members of the public and private sector to discuss how we can better connect and work with each other to address multimodal freight transportation on a megaregion level in the Midwest (IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, MO, WI) and identify next steps for doing so.

12:30-1:00 Registration and Materials Pickup

1:00-1:20 Welcome/Introductions

- Randy Blankenhorn, Secretary, Illinois DOT (confirmed)
- Joe Szabo, Executive Director, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (confirmed)
- Catherine (Kay) Batey, Division Administrator, FHWA Illinois Division (confirmed)

1:20-1:40 Starting the Conversation: Planning and Addressing Freight at the Megaregion Level in the Midwest

Overview of Workshop goals.

Introduction by: Kay Batey, FHWA Illinois Division

Speaker:

- James Garland, FHWA Office of Planning (confirmed)

1:40-2:50 State DOT Perspectives on Freight, Economic Development, and Megaregional Coordination

Facilitated by: Brandon Buckner, FHWA Office of Planning

Speakers:

- State DOTs



2:50-3:00 BREAK

3:00-3:45 Transportation and Economic Development Efforts in the Midwest

Transportation, freight, and economic development activities that have benefits across the Megaregion.

Facilitated by: James Garland, FHWA Office of Planning

Speakers:

- Ron Chika, Duluth Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council (confirmed)
- John Greuling, Will County (IL) Center for Economic Development / CenterPoint Intermodal Center (confirmed)

3:45-4:00 Day One Wrap Up/Open Discussion

Speaker: Brandon Buckner, FHWA Office of Planning

4:00 ADJOURN

5:00-6:30 NETWORKING EVENT @ Cavanaugh's Restaurant

53 W. Jackson Blvd, Chicago

6:30 WALKING TOUR to Millennium Park

7:45 ARCHITECTURAL BOAT TOUR with Wendella Chicago

Cost ranges from \$19-\$35 per person depending on group size. Tour is approximately 75 minutes. Please contact Betsy Tracy (Betsy.Tracy@dot.gov) no later than COB Friday 8/25 to sign up.

DAY 2 - Tuesday, August 29, 2017

Part 2 – Current and Near-Term Megaregional Initiatives

8:15-8:30 Gather/Coffee and Networking

Registration and materials pick up for day-two only participants

8:30-8:45 Recap of Day 1 and Overview of Day 2

Speaker: James Garland, FHWA Office of Planning



8:45-9:30 Addressing Uniform Permitting and Truck Parking to Aim for Seamless Travel across the Midwest Megaregion

Facilitated by: Mary Forlenza, FHWA Wisconsin Division

Speakers:

- Mary Forlenza, FHWA Wisconsin Division - Regional Truck Parking Information and Management System (confirmed)
- Nick Vlahos, Cambridge Systematics - Uniform Permitting Activities (confirmed)
- Alex Beata, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning - Regional Truck Permitting Study (confirmed)

9:30-10:00 Megaregional Collaboration in the Midwest

Overview of research and collaboration efforts across the Megaregion.

Facilitated by: James Garland, FHWA Office of Planning

Speakers:

- Ernie Perry, Mid-America Freight Coalition / Center for Freight and Infrastructure Research and Education (confirmed)
- David Holt, CONEXUS Indiana (confirmed)

10:00-10:15 BREAK

10:15-11:15 Private Industry Perspective on Transportation and Freight Needs

Explore freight trends, needs, and challenges.

Facilitated by: Brandon Buckner, FHWA Office of Planning

Speakers:

- Steven Todd, Specialized Carriers and Rigging Association (confirmed)
- Donald Schaefer, Midwest Truckers Association (confirmed)
- Ray Drake, United Parcel Service (confirmed)
- Liisa Stark, Union Pacific Railroad (confirmed)
- Rich Cooper, Ports of Indiana (invited)

11:15-11:45 Multi-jurisdictional Coordination in Practice: How can State DOTs and MPOs Work Together to Prioritize Megaregional Needs

Facilitated by: James Garland, FHWA Office of Planning

Speaker:

- Mary Lamie, Bi-State Development Corporation, Greater St. Louis area (confirmed)



11:45-1:00 WORKING LUNCH AND SPECIAL PRESENTATION
Collaboration and Partnerships across Sectors: CREATE

Facilitated by: Betsy Tracy, FHWA Illinois Division

Speakers:

- Bill Thompson, Association of American Railroads, Presenter and Moderator (confirmed)
- Jeffrey Sriver, City of Chicago (invited)
- Beth McCluskey, Illinois DOT (invited)

1:00-2:15 Metropolitan Freight Activities and Megaregional Coordination

MPO participants discuss freight and economic development activities and challenges.

Facilitated by: Brandon Bucker, FHWA Office of Planning

Speakers:

- IL: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
- IA: Bi-State Regional Commission
- IN: Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission
- MI: Southeast Michigan Council of Governments
- MN: Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
- MO: Mid-America Regional Council
- WI : Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning

2:15-2:30 BREAK

Part 3 – Moving Forward

2:30-3:15 Facilitated Breakouts: Identifying Priority Needs and Potential Actions for the Megaregion

Breakout groups to identify common needs across the megaregion and brainstorm priority needs, action items, and coordination approaches.

3:15-3:45 Report Outs and Taking Action Beyond the Workshop: An Open Discussion of Needs, Next Steps, and Action Items

Develop concrete action items to carry forward.

Facilitated by: James Garland, FHWA Office of Planning

3:45-4:00 Closing Remarks and Final Thoughts

- Randy Blankenhorn, Secretary, Illinois DOT
- Joe Szabo, Executive Director, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
- Kay Batey, Division Administrator, FHWA Illinois Division
- James Garland, Team Leader, FHWA Office of Planning

4:00 ADJOURN