1) Welcome and Introductions
2) Overview of Freight Plan Effort
3) FAC Role and Expectations
4) Relevant Policies and Peer Review
5) Draft Mission, Vision and Goals
6) Overview of the Statewide Modeling Effort and Freight Flow Characteristics
7) Topics/Questions for FAC Input/Discussion
   a) Which portions of the roadway network:
      i) Are most important to freight movement?
      ii) Experience freight related congestion or delay?
      iii) Are problematic for truck movements?
      iv) Are most in need of maintenance (pavement, restriping, etc.)?
   b) Where are there specific bridges or overpasses that present obstacles to truck and/or rail operations?
   c) Are there any anticipated changes in your primary commodity types or volumes?
   d) Are there any anticipated changes in your use of intermodal facilities?
   e) What kinds of technologies are anticipated to assist with freight movement and logistics?
   f) What types of real time information do you use for tracking freight?
   g) Do you schedule logistics to take advantage of off-peak hours?
8) Other Discussion Topics as Desired by FAC Members
9) Next Steps
Purpose
The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) has initiated an effort to develop the 2016 Alabama Statewide Freight Plan. The Freight Plan seeks to align Alabama’s freight policy with the latest federal transportation bill (the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, or MAP-21) and related guidance from the Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA’s) Office of Freight Management and Operations. The Freight Plan will also serve to provide guidance to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) throughout the state to assist them in meeting their performance monitoring requirements per MAP-21.

Study Team
ALDOT has contracted with J. R. Wilburn and Associates, Inc. to undertake this effort. The consultant team has worked extensively with Alabama’s transportation network and freight transportation dynamics. ALDOT representatives will guide the consultant team and oversee the study’s progress. Extensive stakeholder outreach will occur throughout the study.

Schedule, Activities and Deliverables
Plan development activities were initiated in spring 2015 and are scheduled for completion at the end of 2015. The scope of services consists of the following major tasks:

Task 1: Review MAP-21 and other federal and state laws and regulations pursuant to preparation of a statewide freight plan. Conduct peer review of plans/practices from neighboring states.

Task 2: Review all Title VI programs, processes, and procedures, and summarize state and MPO activities in a section entitled, “Title VI in the Preparation of the Statewide Freight Plan.”

Task 3: Develop a public involvement process for the Plan, consistent with state and federal requirements, and to include reengaging the Statewide Freight Advisory Committee.

Task 4: Determine and define the statewide freight network, to include all modal and intermodal elements of the various systems.

Task 5: Develop a statewide freight improvement strategy. This strategy should include any Freight Performance Measures levied as requirements on the state DOTs by FHWA and as published in the Federal Register.

Task 6: Prepare a Statewide Motor Carrier Freight Model based on the most recently available Freight Analysis Framework data (FAF3 or better).

Task 7: Prepare a draft 2016 Alabama Statewide Freight Plan.

The primary deliverable is the 2016 Alabama Statewide Freight Plan document. The Plan will identify:

• Alabama Statewide Freight Network and the methodology used in its development
• Current motor freight movement characteristics based on the Statewide Freight Model
• Deficiencies along the Statewide Freight Network with respect to congestion, safety, or other goods movement factors
• MAP-21 consistency and compliance
• Goals and performance measures specific to motor freight transportation, as well as the methodology for their development/refinement
Three interim summary reports (covering Tasks 1-3, 4-5, and 6) will document activities and findings as the study progresses. The summary reports and draft/final Freight Plan will be made available for review on ALDOT’s website (http://cpmsweb2.dot.state.al.us/TransPlan/FreightPlanning/Default.aspx) as the documents are approved for release.

Role of the Stakeholders
Engaging stakeholders representing the large diversity of freight related interests in Alabama is important to understanding conditions and ensuring the reality of Alabama’s freight system is presented. Input from stakeholders guides the study’s direction, assisting in the accurate assessment of existing conditions and development of a feasible plan for future efforts. Stakeholder input will be engaged at key milestones in the study schedule. As the study progresses, materials will periodically be placed on the study website. Anyone expressing interest in the Freight Plan is added to the stakeholder list and will be notified when materials are added to website.

In accordance with MAP-21 recommendations, a small group of stakeholders representing key elements of the freight transportation community will be invited to form a Freight Advisory Committee (FAC). As a whole, the FAC membership will have direct knowledge of and connections with all freight modal networks (roadway, rail, air, and water), and represent users/shippers and policymakers from both the public and private sectors. The role of the FAC will be advisory, and they will be charged with:

- Advising ALDOT on freight-related issues, priorities, and funding
- Providing a forum for discussion of freight-related decisions
- Communicating and coordinating regional priorities to all parties
- Promoting the exchange of information between public and private sectors
- Participating in the development of the 2016 Alabama Statewide Freight Plan

Contact Information
For more information on the Freight Plan or to be added to the stakeholder list, please contact:

Ms. Carla Bamatraf, JRWA, (404) 307-0605, bamatraf@comcast.net

Mr. Victor Jordan, ALDOT Bureau of Transportation Planning and Modal Programs, (334) 242-6830, jordav@dot.state.al.us
## 2015 Alabama Statewide Freight Plan
### Schedule of Tasks and Deliverables

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<td>Task 1: Review all MAP-21 and other federal and state laws and regulations</td>
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<td>Task 3: Develop a public involvement process for the Plan, and reengage the Statewide Freight Advisory Committee</td>
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<td>Task 6: Prepare a Statewide Motor Carrier Freight Model based on the most recently available Freight Analysis Framework</td>
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Start Date (April 15, 2015)  
Interim / Draft Deliverable  
In Effect and Available on Website (January 2, 2016)  
Final Deliverable
MAP-21 National Freight Plan Requirements

- Assess condition and performance of national freight network
- Identify highway bottlenecks that cause significant congestion
- Forecast freight volumes
- Identify major trade gateways and national freight corridors
- Assess barriers to improved freight transportation performance
- Identify routes providing access to energy areas
- Identify best practices for improving performance of national freight network and mitigating impacts of freight movement
- Provide process for addressing multistate projects and strategies to improve freight intermodal connectivity
MAP-21 National Freight Goals

- Invest in **infrastructure improvements** and implement operational improvements that:
  - Strengthen contribution of national freight network to **economic competitiveness** of U.S.
  - Reduce **congestion**
  - Increase **productivity**, particularly for domestic industries and businesses that create high-value jobs

- Improve **safety, security, and resilience** of freight transportation

- Improve **state of good repair** of national freight network

- Use **advanced technology** to improve safety and efficiency

- Incorporate **performance, innovation, competition, and accountability** into operation and maintenance of national freight network

- Improve **economic efficiency**

- Reduce **environmental impacts** of freight movement
# Draft Statewide Freight Plan Goals

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<th>Draft Goals</th>
<th>Emphasis Area(s)</th>
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<td>Goal 1: Ensure a state of good repair along priority freight corridors through the state</td>
<td>• Infrastructure Condition</td>
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| Goal 2: Improve reliability and reduce congestion on the priority freight corridors | • Congestion Reduction/Mobility Preservation  
  • Freight Movement and Economic Vitality                                    |
| Goal 3: Promote and enhance both the human and natural environment while enhancing the performance of the priority freight network | • Environmental Justice  
  • Environmental Sustainability (Natural)                                     |
| Goal 4: Improve economic benefits by supporting public and private sector investment in the statewide freight network | • Economic Competitiveness                                                     |
| Goal 5: Promote the safety and security of the freight infrastructure        | • Safety  
  • Congestion Reduction/Mobility Preservation                               |