

# Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors

AECOM

Alameda Corridor-East  
Construction Authority

Cambridge Systematics,  
Inc.

Cascadia Center

CenterPoint  
Properties Trust

Chicago Metropolitan  
Agency for Planning

City of Chicago

City of Industry,  
A Municipality

COMPASS – Community  
Planning Association of  
Southwest Idaho

Dewberry

Economic Development  
Coalition of  
Southwest Indiana

Florida Department of  
Transportation

Florida East  
Coast Railway

Florida Ports Council

Freight Mobility Strategic  
Investment Board  
(Washington State)

Gateway Cities Council of  
Governments

HERZOG

Illinois Soybean  
Association

Intermodal Association  
of North America

Jacobs Engineering

Kootenai Metropolitan  
Planning Organization

Los Angeles  
County Metropolitan  
Transportation Authority

Majestic Realty Co.

Maricopa Association of  
Governments

Memphis Chamber of  
Commerce

Metropolitan  
Transportation  
Commission

National Railroad  
Construction and  
Maintenance Association

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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NASCO – North  
American Strategy for  
Competitiveness

Northwest Seaport  
Alliance

Ohio Kentucky Indiana  
Regional Councils of  
Government

Orange County  
Transportation Authority

Oregon Department of  
Transportation

Parsons

Parsons Brinckerhoff

Port of Hueneme

Port of Long Beach

Port of Los Angeles

Port Miami

Port of Oakland

Port of Pittsburgh

Port of Portland, OR

Port of San Diego

Port of Seattle

Port Tampa Bay

Port of Vancouver USA

Puget Sound Regional  
Council

RAILCET

SANDAG - San Diego  
Association of  
Governments

Southern California  
Association of  
Governments

Supply Chain  
Innovation Network of  
Chicago- SINC

Tennessee Department  
of Transportation

Washington State  
Department of  
Transportation

West Coast Corridor  
Coalition

Will County Center for  
Economic Development

Xerox State and Local  
Solutions

## Landmark Freight Provisions Signed Into Law

### CAGTC Applauds FAST Act for Unprecedented \$10.8 Billion Freight Investment Program

WASHINGTON, DC (December 4, 2015) – Today, President Obama signed H.R. 22, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, a \$281 billion, five-year surface transportation bill with, for the first time, dedicated freight infrastructure funding. Over its five-year duration, this landmark legislation will distribute \$4.5 billion, through a freight-specific competitive grant program and \$6.3 billion through a freight formula program. These investments come at a critical time, as freight movements across all modes are expected to increase 42 percent by 2040.

"The FAST Act reflects many of the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC)'s long-held positions, including a minimum annual investment of \$2 billion dedicated to freight infrastructure," said Elaine Nessel, CAGTC Executive Director. "In passing the FAST Act, Congress showed a commitment to manufacturers, retailers, and farmers, all of whom rely on the multimodal freight network to get goods to market. I applaud Speaker Ryan, Senate Majority Leader McConnell, Committee leaders, and the Administration for swiftly advancing this piece of legislation, allowing our nation to begin making these critical investments as soon as possible."

The FAST Act includes a modified version of the dual formula and competitive grant investment strategy that first appeared in the Administration's GROW AMERICA Act. Like the Administration's bill, which recognizes that freight does not move on highways alone and called for the creation of a federal, multimodal freight policy, the FAST Act requires the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) to designate a multimodal freight network to help direct state and private company investment decisions.

"We are so pleased that much of the Administration's proposal was incorporated into the FAST Act," said Sharon Neely, CAGTC chairman. "CAGTC urges quick and effective implementation by the Administration of these new freight programs and the project streamlining tools incorporated into the FAST ACT. Given the Administration's urging of Congress to pass a transportation bill, we also anticipate that the Administration will take all steps available to show lawmakers a smooth and quick implementation. Congress should monitor USDOT's accomplishments to ensure real-world impact of this law and maximize the FAST Act's potential to create new jobs and improve the economy."

The investments provided by the FAST Act will support over 44 million jobs that depend directly on freight transportation. Historically, freight projects have had difficulty securing funds through traditional mechanisms, such as existing formula distributions, because they are often large-in-scale and frequently multimodal. H.R. 22 will provide vital investment for our goods movement network, thereby improving America's ability to remain competitive in an increasingly global economy.

A commitment to investment in goods movement and dedicated funding for a freight program is critical to ensure a safe, efficient, reliable, multimodal supply chain that will continue to stoke the engine of commerce and support job growth. CAGTC has called for a comprehensive goods movement policy with funding commensurate to our nation's vast system needs since its formation in 2001. CAGTC looks forward to working with lawmakers and administrators in the coming months and years to ensure that the freight network benefits from the FAST Act's investment and policies provided by the FAST Act.

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#### **About the Coalition**

*The Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC) is a diverse coalition of more than 60 public and private organizations dedicated to increasing federal investment in America's intermodal freight infrastructure. In contrast to single mode interests, CAGTC's main mission is to promote a seamless goods movement transportation system across all modes to enhance capacity and economic growth. For more information on the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors, please visit [www.tradecorridors.org](http://www.tradecorridors.org).*