

Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors

AECOM

Alameda Corridor-East
Construction Authority

Cambridge Systematics,
Inc.

Canaveral Port Authority

Cascadia Center

CenterPoint
Properties Trust

Chicago Metropolitan
Agency for Planning

City of Chicago

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

HNTB Corporation

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

Moffatt & Nichol

National Railroad
Construction and
Maintenance Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NASCO – North
American Strategy for
Competitiveness

The Northwest
Seaport Alliance

Nossaman LLP

Ohio Kentucky Indiana
Regional Council of
Governments

Orange County
Transportation Authority

Oregon Department of
Transportation

Parsons

Port Authority of
New York & New Jersey

Port Newark Container
Terminal

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 Tampa Bay

Port of Vancouver USA

Puget Sound Regional
Council

RAILCET

SANDAG - San Diego
Association of
Governments

Southern California
Association of
Governments

Tennessee Department
of Transportation

Washington State
Department of
Transportation

West Coast Corridor
Coalition

Will County Center for
Economic Development

WSP

Freight Scores High in FY17 FASTLANE Small Grant Awards

Awards Demonstrate the Ability of Small, Multimodal Freight Projects to Deliver Economic Value through a Competitive Funding Approach

WASHINGTON, DC (August 9, 2017) – The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) has released its proposed list of 10 project awards under the small project fiscal year 2017 (FY17) Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Project program (known as FASTLANE). Of the 10 proposed awards, most were multimodal and all featured freight infrastructure improvements. The Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC) has long advocated infrastructure funding through competitive grants based on objective economic criteria and applauds USDOT's rationale in selecting these projects.

"The Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects program was designed by Congress to fund projects that help improve America's commerce and freight mobility especially," said CAGTC President Leslie Blakey. "We are pleased that this round of grants lives up to that standard. Rural lawmakers have long expressed concerns that competitive grants may not be effective in their regions and are more likely to favor urban areas. USDOT has done well to select freight-focused, multimodal small-scale projects in mostly rural areas that can improve business efficiency not only regionally but nationally."

Improving all levels of freight infrastructure is a win-win for both localities and the entire country. Our nation's goods movement needs are generated in both rural communities and urban centers, requiring dependable and cost-effective infrastructure from end-to-end. And competitive grants are an essential way to get vital investment to projects that can do the most good.

"We applaud the Department for recognizing that small projects, not just megaprojects, can leverage federal funds and create important freight benefits," said Tim Lovain, CAGTC Chairman and Executive Vice President of Crossroads Strategies. "A great example of a small project becoming an economic multiplier is this partnership between Port of Moses Lake and the Washington State Department of Transportation. Creating rail access to the Port of Moses Lake will deliver benefits by developing safer and more efficient access to the Port's industrial park."

During a USDOT webinar on the Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects program, attendees were told that funding requests for this small grant FASTLANE round totaled more than \$1.8 billion, or 22.5 times the approximately \$80 million made available for the program. Like the TIGER program, there is no shortage of demand for this funding approach.

“I commend DOT for proposing funding support for small freight projects, largely located in rural America, to improve multimodal nodes of our national freight transportation network,” said Paul Hubler, Vice Chairman of CAGTC and the Director of Government and Community Relations for the Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority. “To complement this approach and achieve transformational improvements, the next round of grant awards should focus on critical mega-projects located in America’s nationally significant freight gateways and trade corridors.”

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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.