

# Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors

AECOM

Alameda Corridor-East  
Project, San Gabriel Valley  
Council of Governments

Broward County's  
Port Everglades

California Department  
of Transportation

Cambridge  
Systematics, Inc.

Canaveral Port Authority

Cascadia Center

Chicago Metropolitan  
Agency for Planning

City of Chicago

City of Industry

COMPASS – Community  
Planning Association of  
Southwest Idaho

Dewberry

Florida Department  
of Transportation

Florida East  
Coast Railway

Florida Ports Council

Florida Transportation  
Builders' Association, Inc.

Freight Mobility Strategic  
Investment Board  
(Washington State)

Gateway Cities Council of  
Governments

Great Lakes Dredge & Dock  
Company

HERZOG

HNTB Corporation

Illinois Soybean  
Association

Intermodal Association  
of North America

Kootenai Metropolitan  
Planning Organization

Los Angeles  
County Metropolitan  
Transportation Authority

Majestic Realty Co.

Maricopa Association of  
Governments

Memphis Chamber of  
Commerce

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Statement by CAGTC President Leslie Blakey on Senate Commerce Surface Transportation Proposal Goods Movement Coalition Endorses Committee's \$28B Emphasis On Multimodal and Freight Investments

WASHINGTON, DC (June 15, 2021) – "The Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC) applauds Chairman Cantwell (D-WA), Ranking Member Wicker (R-MS) and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation for introducing the *Surface Transportation Investment Act of 2021 (STIA)*. The bill, S. 2016, proposes an investment of \$78 billion over five years for multimodal surface transportation, rail, freight, and safety programs. Included in the Commerce Committee's proposal are many significant multimodal freight funding and policy pieces that advance CAGTC's long-held priorities.

According to supporting documents, \$18 trillion worth of goods were moved throughout the United States in 2018 and commodity flow is expected to reach \$37 trillion by 2045. These figures underscore the critical importance of robust federal funding for freight infrastructure to support America's economic competitiveness. We commend the bipartisan leadership and direction provided by the Committee in developing legislation that prioritizes multimodal freight infrastructure, including megaprojects that span multiple jurisdictions. Notable provisions include:

- Authorizing an average of \$1.2 billion each year in addition to funds provided through the Highway Trust Fund for the Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects grant program (commonly referred to as INFRA) and increasing the amount of funds that can go towards multimodal freight projects. This funding would be complementary and supplemental to the Senate EPW bill, which proposes nearly \$1 billion annually for INFRA. The total is more than double funding in the FAST Act.
- Establishing a new grant program in addition to INFRA, largely aimed at megaprojects and authorized at \$10 billion over five years, called the National Infrastructure Project Assistance Program.
- Authorizing the RAISE/ BUILD/ TIGER program at \$1.5 billion a year for five years (historically this program is included in the annual appropriations proposals).
- Establishing a new Office of Multimodal Freight Infrastructure and Policy within USDOT.

CAGTC promotes a seamless goods movement network and robust funding for freight infrastructure. Since its founding in 2001, CAGTC has encouraged creation of a freight-specific USDOT office to administer a federal grant program that awards funding to freight projects through the use of merit-based criteria.

As the Senate advances its actions on reauthorization, we look forward to working with Congress and the Biden-Harris Administration toward our shared goal of improving our multimodal goods movement network. Robust, sustained, dedicated investment that is commensurate with the infrastructure needs of our supply chain is critical to supporting our nation's return to prosperity."

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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)

Metropolitan  
Transportation  
Commission

Moffatt & Nichol

National Railroad  
Construction and  
Maintenance  
Association

NASCO – North  
American Strategy for  
Competitiveness

The Northwest  
Seaport Alliance

Nossaman LLP

Orange County  
Transportation Authority

Port Authority of  
New York & New Jersey

Port Houston

Port Newark Container  
Terminal

Port of Hueneme

Port of Long Beach

Port of Los Angeles

Port of New Orleans

Port of Oakland

Port of San Diego

Port Tampa Bay

Port of Vancouver USA

Ports America  
Chesapeake

Prime Focus, LLC

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

Will County Center for  
Economic Development

WSP