

# Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Leslie Blakey Named to Department of Commerce Advisory Committee

### *CAGTC Executive Director to advise on U.S. Supply Chain Competitiveness*

WASHINGTON, DC (October 12, 2012) – Acting U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary Rebecca Blank has appointed Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC) Executive Director, Leslie Blakey, to serve on the Department's newly-formed Advisory Committee on Supply Chain Competitiveness (Committee).

"I look forward to working with the Department of Commerce on this crucial initiative," said Blakey. "Commerce and freight infrastructure are inherently linked, with our nation's economic vitality relying on a goods movement network that is often taken for granted. I commend the Administration for developing this Committee and I look forward to representing freight's important role in commerce."

According to the Department of Commerce, the Committee is charged with advising the Secretary of Commerce regarding the development and administration of programs and policies to expand the competitiveness of U.S. supply chains, including programs and policies to expand U.S. exports of goods, services, and technology related to supply chain.

The Administration's 2010 National Export Initiative, which aims to double U.S. exports by 2014, necessitates vast infrastructure improvements nationwide, as well as policy planning at the federal level. The Department of Commerce has indicated the Advisory Committee will address these issues by providing analysis and guidance on infrastructure deficiencies and projects.

"The Obama administration recognizes that in order to be competitive in today's global economy, American manufacturers need to be able to move products and goods securely, quickly, and efficiently within our borders and beyond," said Acting U.S. Commerce Secretary Rebecca Blank. "The Advisory Committee on Supply Chain Competitiveness will provide crucial input on issues related to national freight infrastructure and policies so that we can best support millions of U.S. businesses export goods, compete domestically and globally, and support American jobs."

As a representative for CAGTC, Blakey will work with the Committee to advise the Department of Commerce on policies and programs designed to enhance our domestic supply chain infrastructure, increase exports, and bolster the American economy.

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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).*

National Corn Growers Association

National Railroad Construction and Maintenance Association

Ohio Kentucky Indiana Regional Councils of Government

Orange County Transportation Authority

Oregon Department of Transportation

Parsons

Parsons Brinckerhoff

Port of Long Beach

Port of Los Angeles

Port of Miami

Port of Oakland

Port of Pittsburgh

Port of Portland, OR

Port of San Diego

Port of Seattle

Port of Tacoma

Port of Vancouver USA

Puget Sound Regional Council

RAILCET

Riverside (Calif.) County Transportation Commission

San Bernardino Associated Governments

SANDAG - San Diego Association of Governments

Seattle Department of Transportation

Southern California Association of Governments

Tennessee Department of Transportation

Virginia Port Authority

Washington State Department of Transportation

West Coast Corridor Coalition

Will County Center for Economic Development

ACS Transportation Solutions

AECOM

Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority

American Standard Companies

Cascadia Center

CenterPoint Properties Trust

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

City of Chicago

City of Industry, A Municipality

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana

FAST Corridor Partnership (Seattle-Tacoma-Everett)

Florida East Coast Railway

Florida Ports Council

Gateway Cities Council of Governments

HELP, Inc.

HERZOG

Intermodal Association of North America

Jacobs Engineering

Kern Council of Governments

Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation

Majestic Realty Co.

Maricopa Association of Governments

Maryland Department of Transportation

Maryland Port Administration

Memphis Chamber of Commerce

Metropolis Strategies

Mississippi State Department of Transportation