Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors

AECOM

California Department of Transportation

Cambridge Systematics, Inc.

Canaveral Port Authority

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

City of Chicago

City of Industry

COMPASS – Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho

DCLI

Florida Department of Transportation

Florida East Coast Railway

Florida Ports Council

Florida Transportation Builders' Association, Inc.

GATX Corporation

Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company

HNTB Corporation

I-40 TradePort Corridor

Illinois Department of Transportation

Intermodal Association of North America

Jacobs

Joliet Arsenal Development Authority

Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Majestic Realty Co.

Memphis Chamber of Commerce

Moffatt & Nichol

National Railroad Construction and Maintenance Association

NASCO – North American Strategy for Competitiveness FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Goods Movement Industry Leaders Call for Bold Investment in Supply Chain Infrastructure to Advance the U.S. Economy

WASHINGTON, DC (May 14, 2025) – Freight and supply chain leaders from across the country came together today for the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC) Annual Meeting, uniting behind a clear message: investing in freight infrastructure is vital to powering America's economy, supporting millions of jobs, and maintaining our competitive edge in the global marketplace. With Congress gearing up to reauthorize the nation's surface transportation programs well ahead of the mid-2026 deadline, this year's meeting – aptly themed "America's Freight is America's Future" – could not have come at a more critical time.

Attendees heard keynote remarks from **Deputy Secretary of Transportation Steven Bradbury**, who outlined the Administration's vision for freight policy. The meeting featured a robust lineup of expert speakers and panels tackling issues like the cost of supply chain disruption, shifting trade patterns, and forecasting future freight demand in an ever-changing global landscape.

A panel of congressional staff representing House and Senate transportation committees provided valuable insight into their emerging priorities for the next reauthorization bill. CAGTC members then took to Capitol Hill, meeting with dozens of congressional offices to deliver our advocacy message. Throughout these meetings, CAGTC's membership highlighted its surface transportation reauthorization platform, which was developed by the Coalition's broad range of supply chain entities. The platform urges Congress to increase funding for competitive freight infrastructure grant programs, simplify the application process, and accelerate delivery timelines to get projects off the ground faster and more efficiently.

In conjunction with the Annual Meeting, CAGTC released a new fact sheet – <u>Fund Freight</u>, <u>Fuel Growth</u>, demonstrating the multimodal freight network's profound impact on U.S. job creation and economic growth. The fact sheet underscores the need for targeted federal investment in the goods movement infrastructure that drives our economy.

"Freight is the cornerstone of the nation's economy," said **CAGTC Executive Director Elaine Nessle**. "Freight infrastructure investment strengthens our supply chains, fuels local economies, and supports jobs across the country. These large and complex projects depend on federal funding to become a reality. If we want to maintain global competitiveness, we need infrastructure that not only meets today's needs but also prepares us for the growing freight demands of tomorrow. We are calling on Congress to prioritize and expand investment in freight infrastructure – because America's freight *is* America's future."

As momentum builds in Washington, CAGTC and its membership remain committed to advancing policies and investments that support the future of America's freight network – and, by extension, the nation's economy.

The Northwest Seaport Alliance

Nossaman LLP

Orange County Transportation Authority

Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

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

San Diego Association of Governments

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

Southern California Association of Governments

Strong Port Strategies

Tennessee Department of Transportation

Washington State Department of Transportation

Will County Center for Economic Development

WSP

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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 multimodal 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