

# 2026 CAGTC Annual Meeting

## 25 Years of Giving Freight A Voice

Register: <https://tradecorridors.org/event/cagtc-25th-anniversary-celebration/>

Tuesday, April 21	Board of Directors Dinner – Open to Board of Directors
6:00 pm	CAGTC Board of Directors Dinner The Monocle 107 D Street NE Washington, DC 20002

Wednesday, April 22	Annual Meeting – Open to Public
8:30 am – 2:00 pm	<b>Hilton Washington DC Capitol Hill</b> 525 New Jersey Avenue NW Washington, DC 20001
8:30 am	<b>Networking Breakfast Opens</b>
8:45 am	<b>Welcome &amp; Opening Remarks</b>
9:00 am	<b>Congressional Staff Panel – An <i>Off the Record</i> Conversation</b> <i>Please be aware that this conversation is “Off the Record.”</i>  Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Michael Davisson, Senior Professional Staff Member, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, &amp; Transportation – <i>Invited</i></li> <li>➤ Andrew Perlstein, Senior Policy Advisor, Senate Committee on Environment &amp; Public Works – <i>Invited</i></li> <li>➤ Hunter Presti, Republican Staff Director, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, House Transportation &amp; Infrastructure Committee – <i>Invited</i></li> <li>➤ Jackie Schmitz, Democratic Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, House Transportation &amp; Infrastructure Committee – <i>Confirmed</i></li> </ul>
10:00 am	<b>Port of Long Beach: Building the Port of the Future</b> Dr. Noel Hacegaba, CEO, Port of Long Beach – <i>Confirmed</i>  <i>CEO Dr. Hacegaba will outline his vision to double the Port of Long Beach’s cargo to 20 million TEU by 2050, and provide an update on capacity-increasing terminal projects and the building of the capital program, including the \$1.8 billion Pier B On-Dock Rail Support Facility.</i>  <i>Presented by the Port of Long Beach</i>
10:30 am	<b>Growing the Federal Focus on Freight</b>

Version 3.25.2026 – All session times are subject to change based on speaker schedules.

	<p><i>Federal freight infrastructure policy and programming increased exponentially over the past 25 years. From \$0 in 2001 to \$70 billion available to freight investments in the most recent reauthorization law, we've made great strides – but what happens next? How does freight keep its seat at the funding table and encourage policies that support dedicated freight funding? How can CAGTC advocate for growing resources in lock step with growing needs?</i></p> <p>Moderator: Wes Lujan, Vice President, Government &amp; Industry Affairs, GATX Corporation – <i>Confirmed</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Erin Aleman, Executive Director, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning – <i>Confirmed</i></li> <li>➤ Chuck Baker, President, American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association – <i>Confirmed</i></li> <li>➤ Tom Saunders, Head of Government Affairs, Ports America – <i>Confirmed</i></li> </ul>
11:15 am	<p><b>Celebrating the Interstate Highway System's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Charting America's Next Bold Vision for Transportation</b></p> <p><i>The Interstate Highway System reshaped how America moves, fueling commerce, connecting communities, and redefining freedom of mobility. As this transformative network marks its 70th anniversary, what comes next? This panel brings together leaders and visionaries to explore the nation's next bold transportation chapter – one that tackles aging infrastructure, emerging technologies, and freight innovation.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Paula Dowell, PhD, Senior Vice President, Integrated Planning Services, HNTB – <i>Confirmed</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ John Drake, Vice President, Transportation, Infrastructure, and Supply Chain Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce – <i>Confirmed</i></li> <li>➤ Andrew Okuyiga, Vice President, Public Affairs, UPS – <i>Confirmed</i></li> <li>➤ Will Reid, Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Transportation – <i>Confirmed</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Presented by HNTB</i></p>
12:00 pm	<p><b>Keynote Lunch: The Honorable Sean Duffy, Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation</b> <i>(Invited)</i></p> <p><i>Buffet lunch served; remarks begin at 12:15</i></p>
1:00 pm	<p><b>The Scoop – A Conversation with the Press</b></p> <p><i>We're diving into the latest transportation news with those who break it. The IJA expires in less than six months, and Congress is working to beat the clock. What are the opportunities and likely paths for advancing this legislation on time, and what are the potential barriers? Will infrastructure be a focus of midterm election politics? What are Congress' competing priorities this session that may impact timing of a bill?</i></p> <p>Moderator: Fran Inman, Senior Vice President, Majestic Realty (<i>Confirmed</i>)</p>

	<p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Samantha Handler, Punchbowl News – <i>Confirmed</i></li> <li>➤ Chris Marquette, Politico – <i>Confirmed</i></li> <li>➤ Eugene Mulero, Transport Topics – <i>Confirmed</i></li> <li>➤ Zach Williams, Bloomberg – <i>Confirmed</i></li> </ul>
1:45 pm	<b>Advocacy Kick Off &amp; Closing Remarks</b>
2:00 pm	<p><b>CAGTC-Organized Hill Meetings</b></p> <p><i>CAGTC will be organizing Hill meetings to engage with congressional offices on reauthorization priorities and other issues of importance. These meetings are open to CAGTC members in good standing (including your Board of Directors and any staff at your organization, as well as your Washington-based representation). Must register by March 26 to participate.</i></p>
5:30 pm – 9:00 pm	<p><b>25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Reception &amp; Dinner</b></p> <p>Atrium Ballroom          Hilton Washington DC Capitol Hill          525 New Jersey Avenue NW          Washington, DC 20001</p> <p>Guests of Honor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) – <i>Invited</i></li> <li>➤ Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS) – <i>Invited</i></li> <li>➤ Assistant Secretary Michael Rutherford, Office of Multimodal Freight Infrastructure and Policy, U.S. Department of Transportation – <i>Confirmed</i></li> </ul>

Thursday, April 23	Annual Meeting – Open to CAGTC Members Only
<b>8:15 am – 10:00 am</b>	<p><b>Board of Directors Meeting</b></p> <p>Hilton Washington DC Capitol Hill            Montpelier Room            525 New Jersey Avenue NW            Washington, DC 20001</p>
<b>10:00 am – 12:00 pm</b>	<p><b>Membership Meeting</b></p> <p>Hilton Washington DC Capitol Hill            Montpelier Room            525 New Jersey Avenue NW            Washington, DC 20001</p>

10:00 am	<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Elaine Nettle, Executive Director, Coalition for America's Gateways &amp; Trade Corridors</li> </ul>
10:15 am	<b>2026 Board of Directors Elections</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Leslie Blakey, President, Coalition for America's Gateways &amp; Trade Corridors</li> </ul>
10:30 am	<b>Discussion of Hill Meetings &amp; CAGTC Policy</b>  <i>Presentation by Eno Center for Transportation:        The Last Exit: Fixing the Highway Trust Fund while Solvency is still Solvable</i>
12:00 pm	<b>Adjourn</b>