Texas Freight 2055

Efficient, reliable, and safe freight transportation is critical to the economic prosperity of any region. An efficient multimodal and intermodal transportation system reduces transportation and supply chain transaction costs and increases connectivity, mobility, reliability, and accessibility to local and global markets. An efficient freight transportation system, therefore, supports economic development, expansion of international trade, increased employment, growth in personal income, and growth of the gross domestic product of a region—ultimately improving the quality of life of its citizens.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has contracted with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute and the Center for Transportation Research at The University of Texas in Austin to develop a framework for an effective and efficient Texas freight transportation system four decades into the future. Specifically, the objectives of the research are to:

- consult with a representative sample of Fortune 500 companies with headquarters in Texas and major maquilas in Mexico to determine their vision and expectations for a Texas freight transportation system four decades into the future;
- translate these alternative views into viable modal frameworks; and
- develop the TxDOT Freight Framework 2055, which will identify and discuss TxDOT's role, freight strategies, opportunities (including critical investments), and constraints in enabling the envisioned freight transportation system in 2055.

The framework will support proactive freight planning and could inform the prioritization of freight investments that will support the growth of industry and ultimately of the Texas economy.

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