

Project Overview

Los Angeles County is home to over 10.2 million people, the largest container port complex in the U.S., the West Coast's top international air cargo airport, and a vast supply of logistics facilities that makes the county one of the nation's top gateways for both domestic and international trade. LA County's freight transportation system handles nearly 30% of California's goods movement and serves as critical infrastructure that fuels a major economic engine to the region and nation.

While supporting economic growth and our current standard of living, the robust goods movement activities have resulted in a number of impacts that affect our quality of life. These impacts include increased roadway congestion, commercial vehicle-involved crashes, harmful air pollutants that threaten public health, deteriorating pavement conditions and instances of land use conflicts. As LA County's population and economy continue to grow, these impacts are likely to further threaten our quality of life without sound planning and implementation.

To provide a world-class transportation system that can effectively support all who live, work, and play in LA County, Metro's Goods Movement group has initiated the development of the LA County Goods Movement Strategic Plan. The strategic plan process provides an opportunity for a systematic approach to explore and address key challenges that LA County faces. For example, will our transportation system be able to handle demand in light of changes in supply chain practices and consumer shopping behaviors, limitations to physical expansion, as well as the need to balance interests from various transportation modes?

- > A Board-approved strategic plan to guide Metro's investment, policy, planning and programming strategies for goods movement in LA County that will also serve as a complementary planning document to local, regional, state and federal planning efforts;
- > The mission, vision and goals to be adopted by the Board that will delineate objectives, strategies, and actions to guide Metro's Goods Movement planning efforts;
- > The Goods Movement module for Metro's Long Range Transportation Plan and support for objectives necessary to complete and implement the LRTP;
- > A near-term priority list of projects and performance metrics for the Measure M 2% (Highway) System Connectivity Sub-fund, followed up by a long-term list of project and performance metrics for future cycles; and
- > A resource for county agencies and stakeholders in support of a better goods movement system.

FREIGHT WORKING GROUP

To help guide the planning process, Metro has established the Goods Movement Freight Working Group (FWG), a broad collection of key stakeholders who will provide feedback as the strategic plan develops. This FWG will be comprised of public and private stakeholders and will meet periodically during the development of the plan to provide policy and technical direction, as well as strategic recommendations.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Metro believes that stakeholder participation and frequent communication are keys to successfully developing the plan. The purpose of stakeholder engagement in this study is to obtain opinions, comments, and suggestions on the strategic plan from interested and affected parties throughout LA County. The intent is to build stakeholder ownership and support to help Metro make progress toward its strategic goals and to develop a framework for integrating goods movement into regional discussions and decision-making.

Stakeholders will be engaged to inform and provide feedback on the development of the strategic plan. The project team will engage stakeholders:

- > At the beginning of the study – to inform them about the project, and to gather information on the vision and goals.
- > In the middle of the study – to solicit input on the existing and future conditions, identify priorities and projects and assess the evaluation framework.
- > At the end of the study – to solicit input to help finalize prioritize/projects, develop the implementation plan and to vet final materials.

Briefings on the project will be given at regular intervals to the Metro Board, Metro Measure M Policy Advisory Council, and the Metro Technical Advisory Committee.

Targeted small discussion groups organized by stakeholder type or key issue will be convened in Summer 2019.