

# Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors

AECOM

Alameda Corridor-East  
Project, San Gabriel Valley  
Council of Governments

Broward County's  
Port Everglades

California Department  
of Transportation

Cambridge  
Systematics, Inc.

Canaveral Port Authority

Cascadia Center

Chicago Metropolitan  
Agency for Planning

City of Chicago

COMPASS – Community  
Planning Association of  
Southwest Idaho

Dewberry

Economic Development  
Coalition of  
Southwest Indiana

Florida Department  
of Transportation

Florida East  
Coast Railway

Florida Ports Council

Freight Mobility Strategic  
Investment Board  
(Washington State)

Gateway Cities Council of  
Governments

HERZOG

HNTB Corporation

Illinois Soybean  
Association

Intermodal Association  
of North America

Kootenai Metropolitan  
Planning Organization

Los Angeles  
County Metropolitan  
Transportation Authority

Majestic Realty Co.

Maricopa Association of  
Governments

Memphis Chamber of  
Commerce

Metal Fatigue Solutions

Metropolitan  
Transportation  
Commission

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## CAGTC Members Awarded 27 Percent of INFRA Funding for Nationally Significant Freight Projects

### Substantial Needs Remain in Key Freight Regions and Gateways

**WASHINGTON, DC (June 7, 2018)** – The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) recently announced 26 projects set to receive funds from the fiscal year 2017/2018 round of the INFRA discretionary grant program. The INFRA program was designed by Congress in 2015 to make investments in the nation's most critical freight and highway needs. Of the approximately \$1.5 billion available, freight projects or projects with a freight component received nearly \$1.35 billion, or 87.7 percent of total dollars. However, much of the spending was spread broadly throughout the nation while needs continue to grow in many freight hubs.

"As a Coalition, we have long advocated for a freight-focused multimodal competitive grant program that uses objective, performance-based merit criteria to select high-priority goods movement projects," said Elaine Nettle, executive director of the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC). "We look forward to working with Congress and the Administration to strengthen the competitive grant program and fund projects with the most demonstrable benefit to the national economy. We are pleased that a number of CAGTC members received awards for their nationally-significant freight projects and know that these projects will go far in supporting the national and regional economies they serve."

Substantial freight infrastructure needs remain in key regions across the nation, as demonstrated in CAGTC's [Freight Can't Wait, Second Edition](#) booklet. In 2016, the first round of this competitive grant program received \$13 in request for every \$1 in funding (total funding requests are not yet available under this round of INFRA). The safety, efficiency and reliability of the national freight network is critical – the system directly supports 44 million U.S. jobs and the health of our nation's other economic sectors are inextricably tied to it.

Several successful projects in this round of INFRA were put forward by or partnered on by CAGTC members, and total roughly 27 percent of total dollars awarded. These include:

- Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro), *Interstate 5 Golden State Chokepoint Relief Program (I-5 Component)*
- Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) in partnership with the Idaho Department of Transportation, *Interstate 84 Safety, Mobility and Economic Opportunity Expansion – Karcher Interchange to Franklin Boulevard*
- The City of Chicago and the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning in partnership with the Illinois Department of Transportation, *75<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Improvements and Argo Connections (P3, GS19, B9)*
- The Memphis Chamber of Commerce supporting the Tennessee Department of Transportation, *US-78/SR 4/Lamar Avenue Corridor Improvements*
- The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and Boone County (a member of the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments), *I-71/I-75 Interchanges project*

LA Metro will use the INFRA funds to address a chokepoint along a critical 18-mile stretch of I-5 in north Los Angeles County. **LA Metro's CEO, Phil Washington**, said: "Metro is pleased to be a recipient of valuable federal funds to bring more freeway mobility to the residents and commuters who travel through the Santa Clarita Valley. This project is an excellent example of what happens when local, state and federal governments step up together to fund critically needed transportation improvements."

Moffatt & Nichol

National Railroad  
Construction and  
Maintenance  
Association

NASCO – North  
American Strategy for  
Competitiveness

The Northwest  
Seaport Alliance

Nossaman LLP

Ohio Kentucky Indiana  
Regional Council of  
Governments

Orange County  
Transportation Authority

Oregon Department of  
Transportation

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 Oakland

Port of Portland, OR

Port of San Diego

Port Tampa Bay

Port of Vancouver USA

Prime Focus, LLC

Puget Sound Regional  
Council

RAILCET

SANDAG - San Diego  
Association of  
Governments

Southern California  
Association of  
Governments

Tampa Hillsborough  
Expressway Authority

Tennessee Department  
of Transportation

Washington State  
Department of  
Transportation

Will County Center for  
Economic Development

WSP

The Idaho Department of Transportation, in partnership with COMPASS, will use their grant funds to address a critical component of the Idaho Transportation Department's Regional Long Range Transportation Plan. "We are thrilled to be selected to receive a \$90 million INFRA grant to address a significant bottleneck on Interstate 84 in southwest Idaho," said **Matt Stoll, Executive Director of COMPASS**. "As the metropolitan planning organization for the region, we (COMPASS, the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho), had ranked improvements to this area of I-84 as the region's #1 transportation priority. I-84 is the only nationally designated major freight corridor through Idaho, carrying over \$80 billion of freight annually, yet it reduces from three lanes in each direction to two in this highly congested area, leading to substantial safety issues and gridlock."

The Illinois Department of Transportation, in partnership with CAGTC members the City of Chicago and Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, will use the \$132 million INFRA grant to help complete construction of a critical phase of the 75th Street Corridor Improvement Project, the largest and most complex of the Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) Program projects. "By eliminating conflicts in the nation's rail hub for some two million-plus freight cars each year, the 75th Street Corridor Improvement Program benefits the Midwest and national economy," said **Joseph C. Szabo, Executive Director of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning**. "The \$132 million INFRA grant leverages \$341 million of local, state and private investment to provide tangible benefits to shippers and consumers across North America – a true win-win!"

"Transportation is both Chicago's and our nation's historic strength and competitive advantage for the future," said **Commissioner Rebekah Scheinfeld of the City of Chicago's Department of Transportation**. "Investments in Chicago's rail system strengthen our economy and benefit the entire country. This grant is the culmination of a highly successful partnership between the City of Chicago, the State of Illinois, Cook County, the railroad industry, Metra and Amtrak who all came together to advance this critical, nationally significant package of rail projects."

The Tennessee Department of Transportation will use their INFRA funds to address crippling congestion on a nationally and regionally significant multimodal freight corridor that serves as a conduit for freight movement throughout the Southeast and the rest of the nation. "In addition to the enormous amount of freight that moves through the Lamar Corridor, thousands of people use this road to get to and from work each day," **TDOT Commissioner John Schroer** said. "Our projects will relieve congestion and improve our ability to attract more industry and jobs to Memphis. We thank Governor Haslam, Tennessee's congressional delegation, state and local elected officials, and the many stakeholders who provided unwavering support in our efforts to secure this grant."

"The Lamar Avenue improvements will create thousands of new jobs and significantly reduce unemployment and poverty in the region," said **Phil Trenary, President and CEO of the Greater Memphis Chamber**. "As we work on moving Memphis forward, this type of success is significant for Memphis businesses and for our recruitment and retention efforts because it further strengthens our position as the center of business in North America."

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet received \$67.45 million for the Boone County (a member of the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments) I-71/I-75 Interchanges project. "The world economy is only as strong as its freight systems. INFRA grants greatly strengthen our nation's ability to compete on the world stage. In the OKI region, the new interchanges, which the INFRA grant will help build, will address major regional congestion issues near the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky International Airport, which is the fastest growing freight airport in the nation. In addition, these greatly improved interchanges are on the I-75 trade corridor. Therefore, these improvements will advance freight movements for a large part of our nation," said **Mark Policinski, CEO of the Ohio Kentucky Indiana Regional Council of Governments**.

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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).