



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

ADVANCING THE FUTURE OF FREIGHT

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Under a new mission to prioritize and recommend the highest priority strategic freight mobility investments and encourage policies that support a competitive, resilient, and equitable freight system, 2024 marks a year of change, progress, and achievement for the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB). Over the year, FMSIB has worked diligently to produce a comprehensive list of recommendations for a **Six-Year Strategic Freight Mobility Investment Program, a 2024 Truck Parking Implementation Plan, and a research-based study and practical toolkit for Best Practices for Integrating Community Considerations in Freight Mobility Projects**. These reports demonstrate a culmination of focus and dedication by the Board to aligning freight investments with community benefits. In addition to this critical work, FMSIB continues to support capital projects and improvements that enhance safety, reduce congestion, and better facilitate the movement of freight throughout Washington State.

FMSIB also experienced a transition in staff. I was honored to be selected as the new Executive Director in September of this year. In the short time I've served as Executive Director, we have finalized and submitted critical reports to the Legislature and Governor, **welcomed new board members, updated our branding, hired a new Transportation Planning Specialist, and continued to engage with valued partners across industries, state, and local governments**. I would like to acknowledge that much of the great work accomplished in the last year was done under the direction and guidance of interim Executive Director Kjristine Lund.

Looking ahead to 2025, FMSIB will continue to evolve and advance under its new mission. As part of this work, FMSIB will begin outreach to project applicants, sponsors, and other interested parties in updating the Six-Year Investment Program to facilitate better statewide participation. As part of the Six-Year Investment Program and Best Practices for Integrating Community Considerations in Freight Projects, FMSIB hopes **to receive the necessary funding to support data updates to the FMSIB Freight and Community Mapping Tool**.

While we expect next year will be challenging, FMSIB is ready to rise to the occasion.

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO RECOMMENDING A STATEWIDE SIX-YEAR INVESTMENT PROGRAM

FMSIB has identified a total of 34 projects for recommendation to the Legislature, supporting regional diversity and the economic needs of Washington State while balancing the impacts on overburdened communities. These projects demonstrate that freight mobility can be enhanced while minimizing harm and providing equitable benefits to Washington communities.

The recommended program funds \$29.5 million in strategic freight projects in FY 2025-2027 and provides critical information about strategic freight needs in the coming biennia.

Project selection was based on criteria required by RCW 47.06A.020. The ranking criteria first weighted a project's statewide strategic freight value and importance, inclusion in the Statewide Freight Plan and federal funding commitment. After these statutory requirements, prioritization criteria considered project readiness for the designated phase and biennium and overlap with overburdened communities as defined by the Washington State Environmental Health Disparities Map (threshold of 8 or higher to indicate areas of need).

The Six-Year Investment Program continues to evolve and be improved. In 2025, FMSIB will begin outreach and engagement with project applicants, sponsors, and other interested parties to gather feedback for process improvements, including updates to the application process and scoring criteria.



COMPLETED STUDIES

INTEGRATING COMMUNITY CONSIDERATIONS IN FREIGHT INVESTMENTS: Recommendations to Create Benefits and Minimize Negative Impacts on Overburdened Communities

Under the direction of the Washington State Legislature in 2023 and Substitute House Bill 1084, now codified as RCW 47.06A.020, FMSIB engaged with BERK Consulting and Cascadia Consulting Group to conduct a research-based study and develop practical tools to help FMSIB, applicants, and project sponsors integrate consideration of overburdened communities in strategic freight investments. As a result of this work, the following items were developed:

- A final report describing FMSIB's focus on implementation and best practices for applicants, project sponsors, and infrastructure owners broadly.
- A publicly accessible interactive mapping tool that supports integrated consideration of strategic freight system investments and community impact, which will help users understand the relationship between existing freight infrastructure, potential future freight projects, and nearby communities.
- A toolkit providing practical guidance for how jurisdictions can make effective and equitable public works investments. Applicants will find the toolkit particularly useful, as FMSIB-specific considerations are highlighted, and several worksheets may be submitted directly to FMSIB in response to its call for proposals as it develops its Strategic Six-Year Program.
- A StoryMap providing applicants, sponsors, and other engaged participants an overview of FMSIB's focus, key findings, and easy access to worksheets and case studies.

TRUCK PARKING IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Building on the recommendations submitted to the Legislature in the 2023 Interim Truck Parking report, FMSIB has worked collaboratively with WSDOT to identify six recommendations that span a total of three biennia. These six recommendations total \$56.15 million in funding needed to increase truck parking supply and support the safe movement of cars and trucks on key economic corridors.

Recommendations Include:

- Continue Investments in Truck Parking Information Management System
- Design of I-5 Fort Lewis Weigh Station Upgrade and Truck Parking Expansion
- WSDOT SRA Preservation
- Truck Parking Lead
- Private Sector Collaboration Pilot and Program
- WSDOT Public Truck Parking Supply Expansion Projects

MARINE CARGO FORECAST

FMSIB through its partnership with WSDOT Local Programs is contracting with the Washington Public Ports Association for the 2024 Marine Cargo Forecast Study. The study will update and build upon the 2017 Marine Cargo Forecast Study. The study will identify emerging trends and identify potential projects for achieving freight mobility outcomes that benefit the state. The Study will include data and analysis on the following topics:

- International trade cargo types i.e. containers, bulk, breakbulk, and neobulk
- Selected commodity analysis
- Landside modal splits of cargo
- Rail capacity



PROJECTS COMPLETED [2023-2024]

SPOKANE COUNTY

Bigelow Gulch Phase 2, \$2.29M

This project made improvements along Bigelow Gulch Road, allowing for enhanced freight movement through the greater Spokane area while reducing safety hazards, congestion, and fuel consumption. Increased travel reliability and transit operations benefit both freight movement and commuter traffic.

SPOKANE VALLEY (WSDOT)

Barker Rd / BNSF Grade Separation, \$6M

The Barker Road/BNSF grade separation project improves safety by replacing the existing at-grade BNSF Railway crossing on Barker Road with an overpass and constructing a roundabout at the Barker Road/Trent Avenue intersection. Additionally, this project supports improved emergency access for vehicles and overall traffic congestion.

PROJECTS UNDERWAY [2024-2025]

AIRWAY HEIGHTS

6th/10th/12th Ave Improvements, \$2.42M

FIFE

I-5/Port of Tacoma Road Interchange Phase 2 (south side I-5), \$7.53M

KENT

76th Avenue S (South Phase), \$5M

WSDOT (MARYSVILLE)

SR-529/I-5 Interchange Expansion, \$5M

PORT OF OLYMPIA

Marine Drive Heavy Haul Freight Corridor Restoration, \$1.3M

PORT OF SEATTLE

Re-Build of T-91 Gate & Access Road, \$75K

PORT OF KALAMA

Industrial Rail Additions, \$3.9M

PORT OF VANCOUVER

Terminal 5 Overpass (Design), \$200K

SEATTLE

East Marginal Way Heavy Haul Corridor, \$6.1M

SPOKANE COUNTY

Bigelow Gulch Phase, \$2.29M

SPOKANE VALLEY

Barker Rd Corridor Widening - Spokane River to SR 290, \$1.68M

SPOKANE VALLEY

South Barker Rd Corridor Improvements, \$3M

SPOKANE VALLEY (WSDOT)

Barker Rd / BNSF Grade Separation, \$6M

SUMNER

Stewart Road, \$3.7M

VANCOUVER

Jefferson Street Realignment, \$3M

WAITSBURG

Bolles Road Overlay (Design), \$80K

WENATCHEE

McKittrick Underpass (INFRA Segment 1B), \$3M

WSDOT

I-90 Transportation System Management & Operation (TSMO) Improvement, \$600K

2024-2025 BOARD MEMBERS

Temple Lentz, Chair,
President and CEO, The Historic Trust,
Community Representative

Leonard Barnes, Executive Director, Port of Grays
Harbor, Ports Representative

Peter Bennett, Maritime Industry Representative

Matthew Colvin, Director of Logistics, Tree Top,
Trucking Industry

Marshall Elizer, Assistant Secretary of Transportation*
proxy for Secretary Millar

Matt Ewers, Principal, Senior Vice President, IEDS
Logistics, Trucking Industry* *Served until October 2024*

Al French, Commissioner, Spokane County, Counties
Representative

Erik Hansen, Transportation Senior Budget Analyst,
Office of the Governor

Johan Hellman, Executive Director of Public Affairs,
BNSF Railway, Railroad Representative

John McCarthy, Commissioner, Port of Tacoma,
Ports Representative

Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor, City of Vancouver,
Cities Representative

Roger Millar, Secretary of Transportation

Arthur Swannack, Commissioner, Whitman
County, Counties Representative

Phil Wallace, Area Manager, Kiewit Bridge and
Marine

Ben Wick, Councilmember, City of Spokane
Valley, Cities Representative

Aaron Hunt, Senior Director, Public Affairs,
Union Pacific Railroad, Ex-Officio

BOARD MEMBER VACANCIES – Governor’s Office Seeking Applicants

Package Delivery Industry

Labor Representative - freight sector

Environmental Protection

Overburdened Community Interest

FMSIB STAFF

Brandy DeLange, Executive Director

Kjristine Lund, Interim Executive Director (09/23–09/24)

Sally See, Executive Assistant

Fred Wenhardt, Transportation Planning Specialist

2025 FMSIB MEETINGS

January 16–17, Olympia

March 21, Tacoma

June 12–13, Wenatchee

September 19, Walla Walla

November 14, Vancouver



P.O. Box 40965
Olympia, WA 98504-40965

360.586.9695
www.fmsib.wa.gov