# Future of Surface Transportation Opportunities and Challenges

presented to

Commonwealth of Virginia

**Commonwealth Transportation Board** 

Richmond, Virginia

presented by
Lance Neumann
Cambridge Systematics, Inc.

Transportation leadership you can trust.



## Agenda

- System Condition and Demands
- Demographics
- Energy and Environment
- System Operations/Management/Safety
- Institutional Change
- Funding



## **Transportation Bottom Line**

System
Conditions and
Demands



# Freight Volumes Growing Faster than Passenger; Bottlenecks Emerging

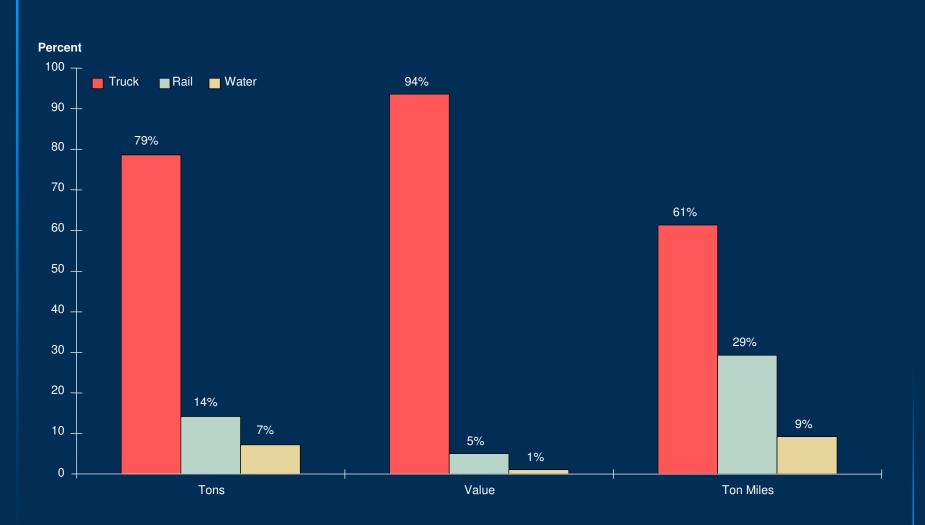


## **Community and Land Use Impacts**Cost/ Complexity of Expanding Marine, Rail, Truck, Air Terminals





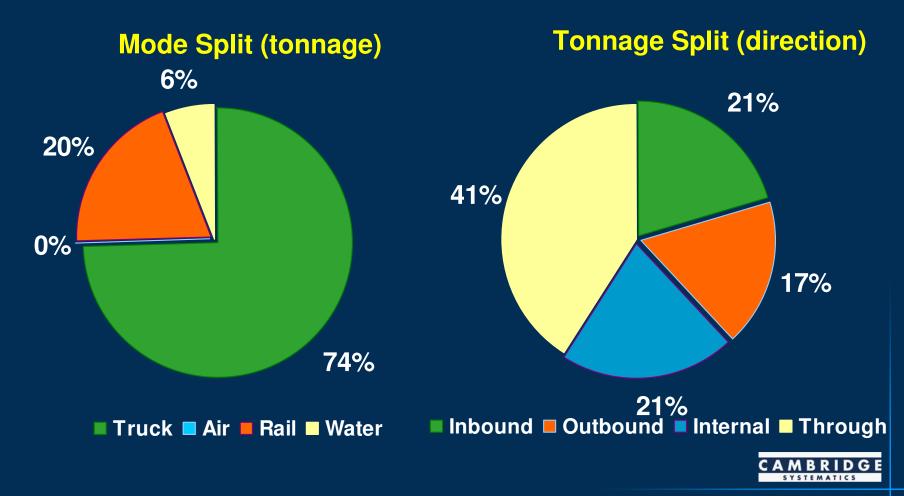
## Freight Tons, Value, and Ton-Miles, 2004 United States



Source: TRANSEARCH 2004.

### Commodity Flow Analysis Summary: Modal and Directional Splits by Weight for Virginia

**Total Tonnage by Mode and Direction, 2004** 



## **Total Logistics Cost**

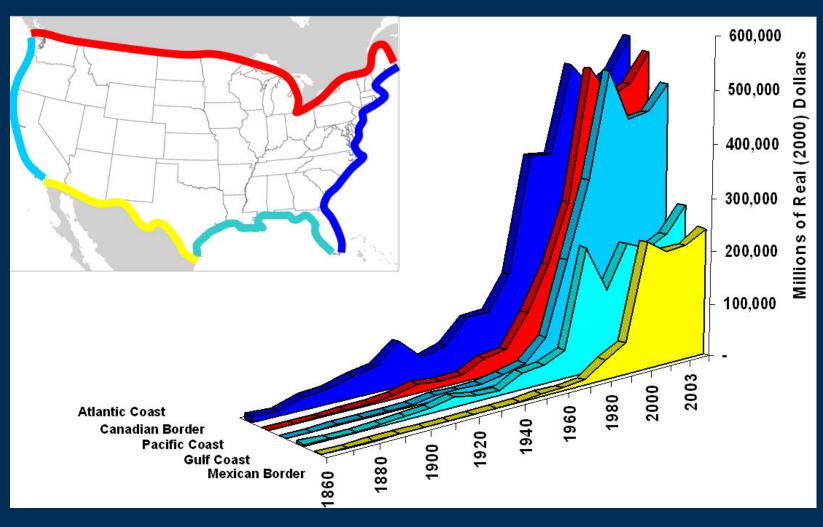
#### **U.S. Gross Domestic Product (in Percent)**



Source: Rosalyn A. Wilson, State of Logistics Report, Council of Logistics Management, 2006



## 21st Century Information Era/Globalization





## **NAFTA Freight Regions and Emerging Ports**

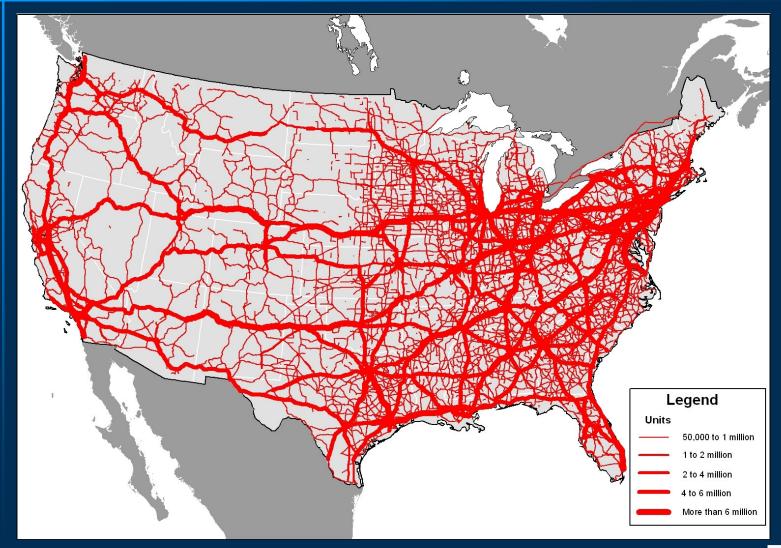


Principal Mexican Manufacturing Regions

- •BAJA
- •SONORA PACIFIC
- •CENTRAL MEXICO
- •RIO GRANDE VALLEY
- **•CHIHUAHUA**

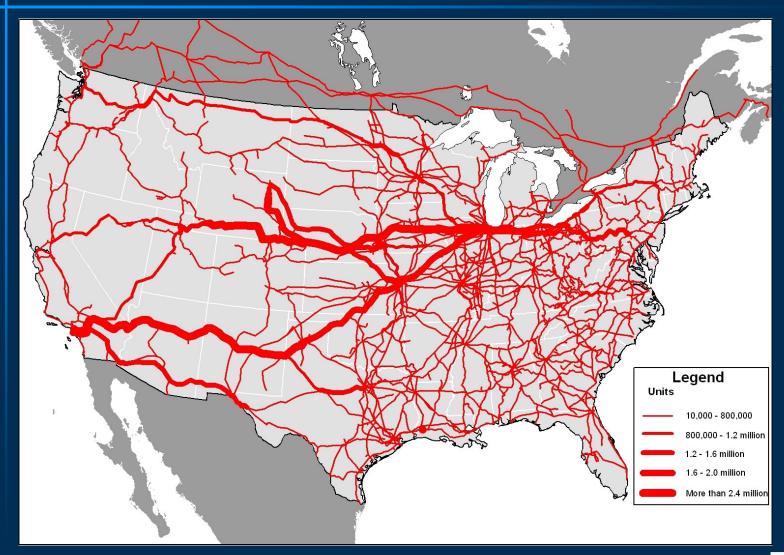


## Freight-Highway Traffic (Units, 2005)





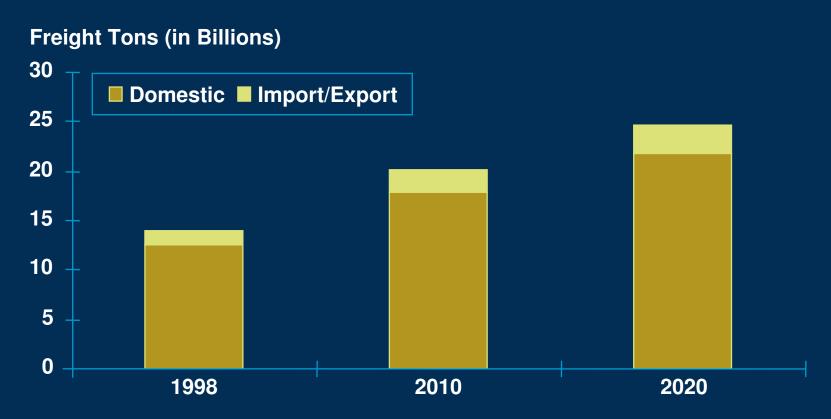
## Freight-Rail Traffic (Units, 2005)





## U.S. Freight Tonnage Forecast 1998 to 2020

 With moderate economic growth (3% per year), import / export freight tonnage could double and domestic freight tonnage could increase by about 60%

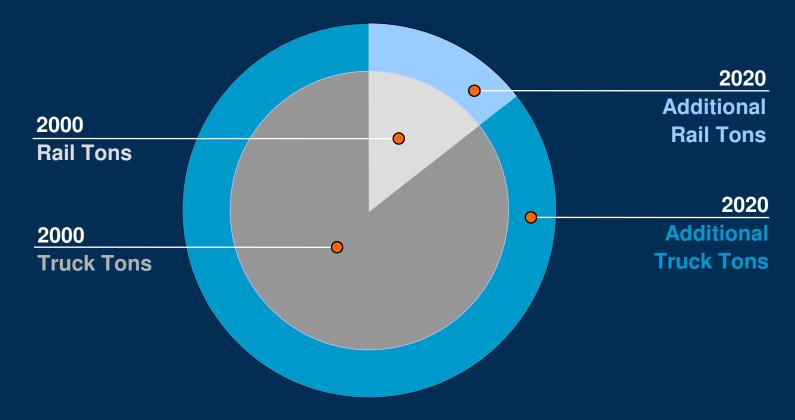


Source: AASHTO Freight-Rail Bottom Line Report, 2003 (prepared by Cambridge Systematics, Inc.



## **Freight System Capacity**

Do the truck and rail freight systems have the capacity to handle the growing volume of freight – even if mode shares remain constant?



Do the public benefits of a freight-rail system warrant public initiatives to expand freight capacity?



## Truck Movements by Weight: All Directions (In + Out + Intra + Through), 2004



## Truck Movements by Weight: All Directions (In + Out + Intra + Through), 2030



## Rail Movements by Weight: All Directions (In + Out + Intra + Through), 2004



## Rail Movements by Weight: All Directions (In + Out + Intra + Through), 2030

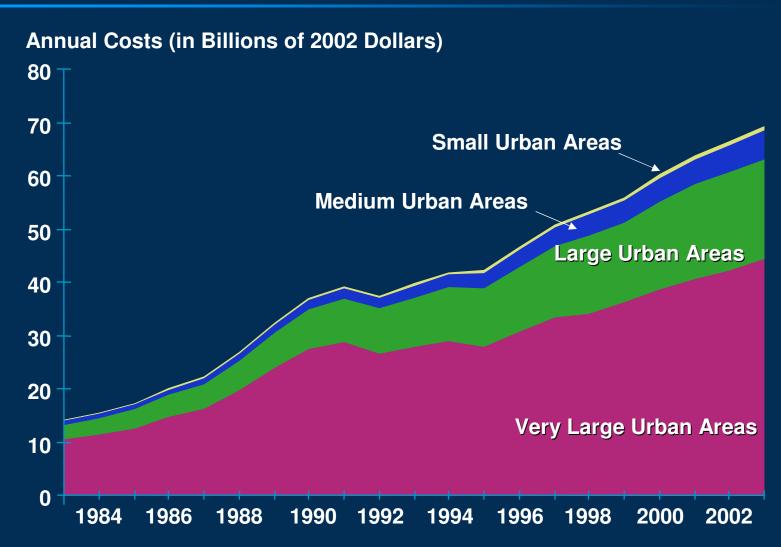


Increasing congestion
Vehicle travel up 78%; road miles increased 1% and lane miles 2% in last 20 years





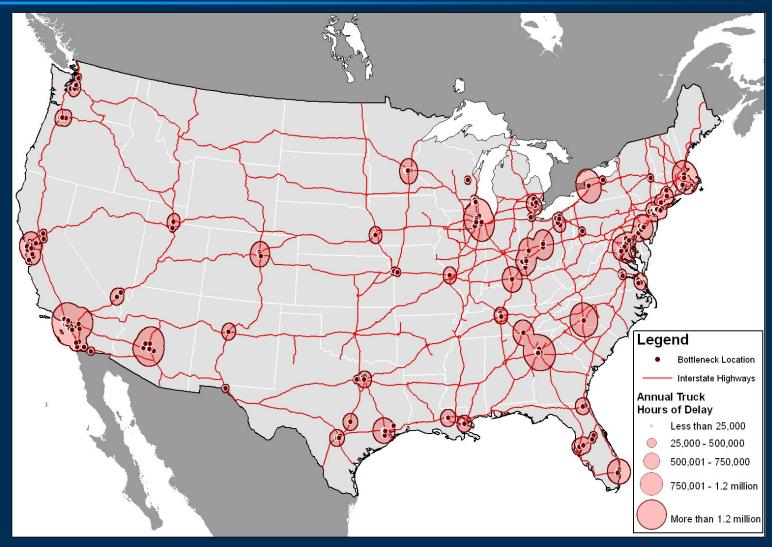
## **Annual Congestion Costs** 85 Metropolitan Areas



Source: Based on data reported by Texas Transportation Institute (TTI).

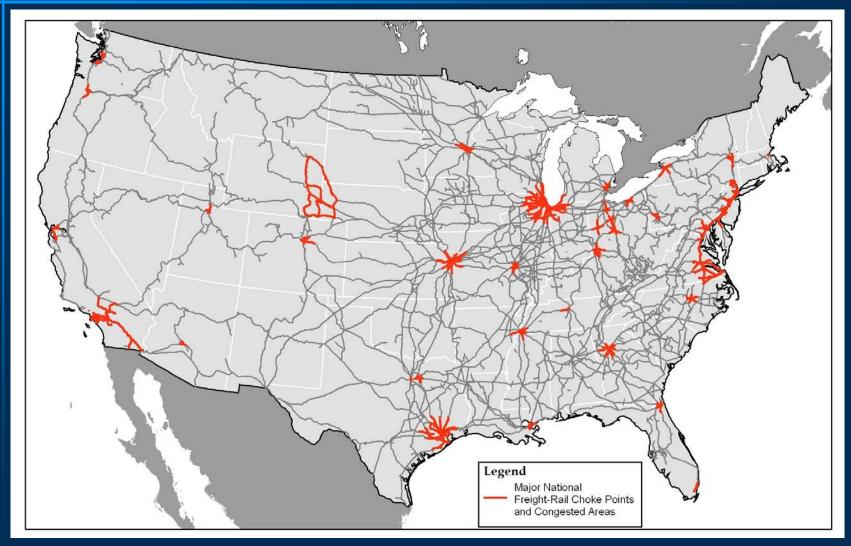


## **Truck Congestion Bottlenecks**





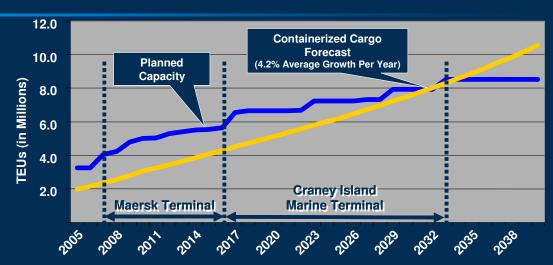
## **U.S. Rail Network Major Choke Points**

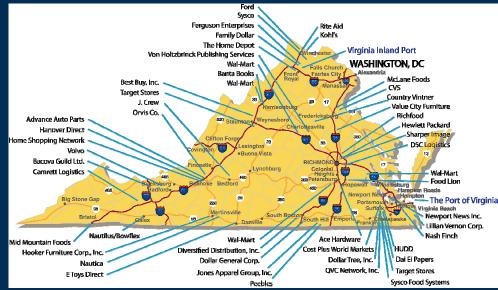




### **Ports and Growth**

- Freight forecast model developed for Port Master Plan
- Linkage of port growth and warehouse/ distribution center growth



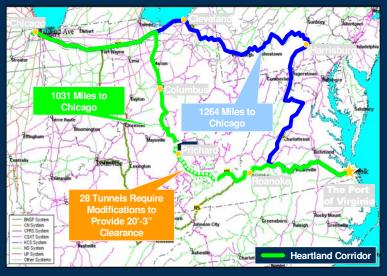




## **Ports and Rail/Highway Connections**

- Bottlenecks and solutions
  - International gateways
  - National corridors
  - Local connectors





## Other Issues and Challenges

- Demographics
- Energy and the Environment
- System Operations and Safety
- Institutional Change
- Funding

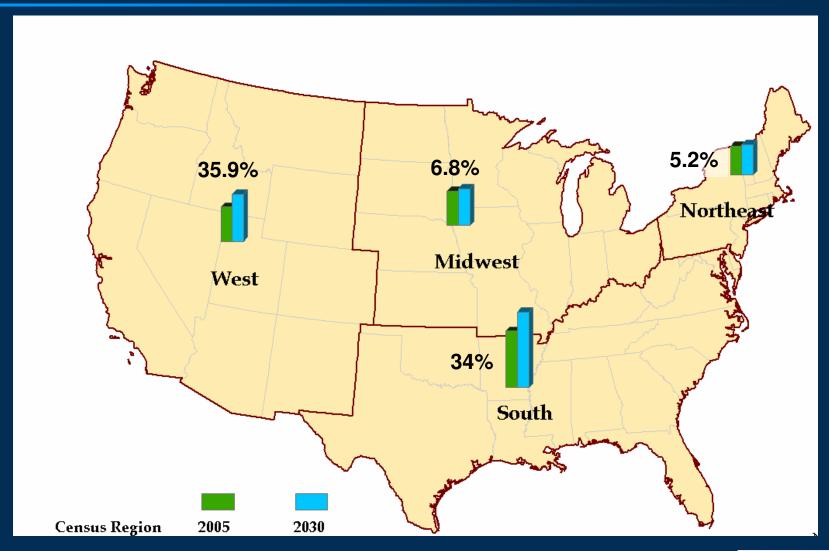


## **Demographics**

- Population Growth
- Aging
- Migration



# **Census Region Population Forecast** 2005-2030





## **Energy and Environment**

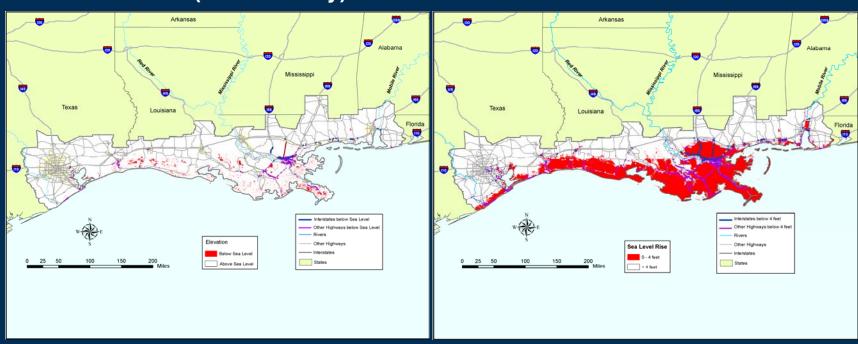
- Shift from project impacts to systems (ecosystems) analysis
- Emerging Issues: air toxics
- Transportation/LU and public health
- Energy: price, alternative fuels, implications for finance strategies and environmental policy...
- Climate Change



# Highways Potentially Vulnerable to Sea Level Rise (DOT / USGS Gulf Coast Study – preliminary findings)

#### **Baseline (Present Day)**

#### 4 Feet of Sea Level Rise



Source: Cambridge Systematics analysis of U.S. DOT Data.



## **Hurricane Katrina Damage to Highway 90 at Bay St. Louis, MS**



**Source: NASA Remote Sensing Tutorial.** 



## **System Operations and Safety**

- Imperative to maximize efficiency of existing system will continue to increase
- VII, Smart Roadside, open-road tolling and pricing, real time traffic management and....even signal timing!
- Security vs. capacity at international gateways
- Safety: vehicle and roadside technology and the engineering "E" a given; political will to match international progress with all the "E's" unclear



## **Institutional Change**

- Shifting roles federal/state/regional
- Public and private roles and experimentation
- State CEO's and the "Mobility Corporation"
- Recognizing need for stronger partnerships
- Skill building and retention



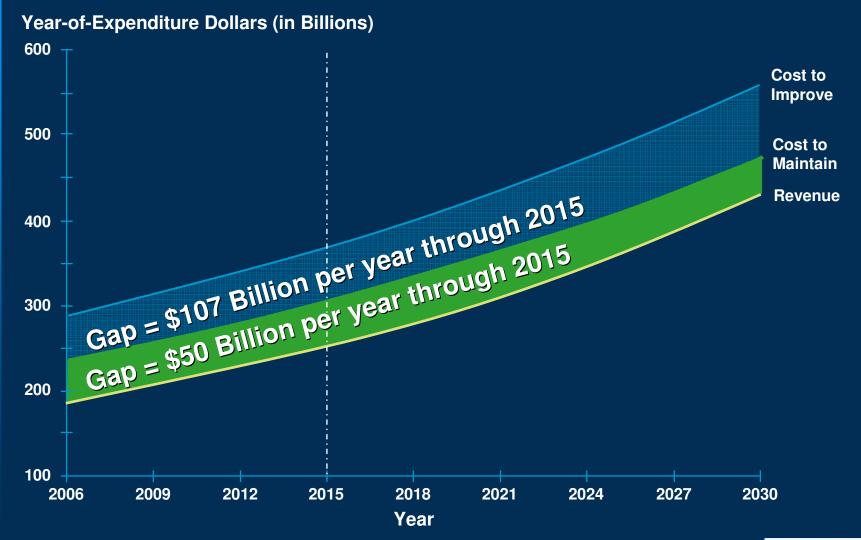
## **Funding**

Is There Really a Case for More Funding?

At What Level of Government Can the Case be Made?



## **National Funding Gap**



## Estimated Highway and Transit Program Levels and HTF Account Balances

**Assuming Level Funding After 2009** 





## The Case for Investments is Strong

- Transportation as key economic driver
- Implications of new logistics and globalization
- Trends in system conditions and demand forecasts
- Historic rates of return 30% → 15%
- Cost of deferred maintenance well known



## Where's the Money?

- Federal/National
  - No system vision / goals to replace interstate
  - Donor / donee debate
  - Earmarking
  - Potential shifts in public / private roles
  - Impact of the Commission



## Where's the Money? (continued)

- State / Regional / Local
  - 26 of 34 (76%) transportation funding ballot initiatives passed in November 2004
  - At least ten states actively pursuing significant increases
  - Performance and accountability are key themes
  - Addressing freight and national economic issues difficult at this level
- Wide range of mechanisms being examined including tolling and PPP's
- Transition from fuel tax to other mechanisms possible/likely in a 15/20 year horizon

### Conclusions

- Passenger and freight demands on the transportation system will continue to grow
- West and south, gateways and bottlenecks on all modes will be key focus
- Demographic, environmental and energy issues will affect the strategies that will be effective
- Opportunities created by technology innovation will cut across many issues including system operations, safety, financing strategies, and security
- Strong national leadership will continue to be a critical element though significant institutional change is likely

