



COMMONWEALTH *of* VIRGINIA
Office of the
SECRETARY *of* TRANSPORTATION

Virginia Freight Advisory Committee

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Freight Advisory Committees

- **The FAST Act requires each state to develop a comprehensive State Freight Plan to obligate National Highway Freight Program funding**
 - **Freight Advisory Committees are not required by the FAST Act, but are encouraged and exist in a majority of states (about 35)**
 - **States leverage their FAC to identify needs and inform analysis of the plan**
- **The Virginia Freight Element, a component of VTrans, serves as Virginia's Freight Plan**

Freight Advisory Committee Role

- The FAC will ensure the continuing economic competitiveness of the Commonwealth by supporting a safe, efficient, and effective freight industry
- The FAC will provide recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation and the Commonwealth Transportation Board on advancing five primary efforts:
 - Identification of opportunities to improve freight and logistics infrastructure across the Commonwealth
 - Review and recommendation of legislative, regulatory, and other policy matters related to the safe, efficient, and sustainable movement of goods across modes
 - Increase the understanding of emerging technologies as they relate to freight transportation in Virginia
 - Improvement of rural, urban, multi-state, and international freight mobility across Virginia's transportation system

Freight Advisory Committee Membership

- **The FAC membership will include representation from:**
 - **Beneficial Cargo Owners**
 - **Trade Associations**
 - **Warehouse and Distribution Companies**
 - **Trucking Companies**
 - **Rail Interests (Class 1 and Short Line)**
 - **Industrial Economic Development Interests**
- **The FAC will be supported by a Technical Committee**

Technical Committee

- **The Technical Committee will be comprised of resource agency representatives including:**
 - VDOT
 - OIPI
 - VEDP
 - DRPT
 - DoAV
 - DMV
 - VDEM
 - VSP
 - Research/Innovation
 - POV
 - MPOs

Freight Advisory Committee – Best Practices

- Establish and adhere to a regular meeting schedule
- Establish a clear purpose, goals, and activities
- Identify champions (both public and private sector)
- Provide appropriate resources for support
- Value private sector involvement
- Enable two-way communications and collaboration
- Integrate freight considerations into all phases of transportation decision-making

Schedule

- A draft charter for the FAC has been developed
- The Technical Committee will meet by mid-November
- Invitations to participate in the FAC will be sent and the first meeting will occur before the end of 2020



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