

How Should MPO's Engage in Setting Freight Priorities?

Presented to
MPOAC Freight Subcommittee

Presented by
Michael Williamson, Cambridge Systematics, Inc.

October 29, 2015

Key Questions

- How do MPOs identify and prioritize freight projects today?
- What programs do these priorities feed?
- Is there consistency among MPOs? Should there be?
- How does FDOT identify and prioritize freight projects today?
- What role should MPOs take in setting state freight priorities?
- How should off-state-network projects be addressed?



How do MPOs identify and prioritize freight projects today?

- Not all MPOs identify and prioritize freight projects
- Needs are often identified through a variety of activities:
 - Bottleneck analyses, stakeholder surveys/partner input, capital improvement plans/master plans
 - Overall capacity improvements are typically included
- Non-roadway improvements are often included in LRTPs through reference (e.g., port master plans)
- Projects are prioritized based on freight volumes, freight intensity, mode, economic impact, system efficiencies, and more

Case Study Example: Southeast Florida's Freight Prioritization Process

SEFTC's Project Prioritization Methodology

Highway Projects

2040 Southeast Florida Regional Freight Plan

2040 Southeast Florida Regional Freight Plan

Truck Traffic - 40 Points					
Percentage (20 pts)	1-20 pts	Volume (20 pts)	1-20 pts		
≥30%	20 pts	>10,000	20 pts	Truck Percent Score (1-20)	
25-29%	19 pts	9,501-10,000	19 pts	Truck Volume Score (1-20)	
21-24%	18 pts	9,001-9,500		Truck Activity Centers - 25 Points	
18-20%	17 pts	8,501-9,000		Number of Establishments	1-25 pts
16-17%	16 pts	8,001-8,500		> 30	25 pts
15%	15 pts	7,501-8,000		27-29	24 pts
14%	14 pts	7,001-7,500		24-26	23 pts
13%	13 pts	6,501-7,000		22-23	22 pts
12%	12 pts	6,001-6,500		21	21 pts
11%	11 pts	5,501-6,000		20	20 pts
10%	10 pts	5,001-5,500	 pts
9%	9 pts	4,501-5,000	9 pts	1	1 pts
8%	8 pts	4,001-4,500	8 pts		
7%	7 pts	3,501-4,000	7 pts		
6%	6 pts	3,001-3,500	6 pts		
5%	5 pts	2,501-3,000	5 pts		
4%	4 pts	2,001-2,500	4 pts		
3%	3 pts	1,501-2,000	3 pts		
2%	2 pts	1,001-1,500	2 pts		
1%	1 pts	<1,000	1 pts		

Intermodal Connectivity - 10 Points				
Connectivity to three or more modes	10 pts	"Intermodal Connectivity" Score:		
Connectivity to two modes	7 pts			
Connectivity to one mode	4 pts			
None	0 pts			

> 30	25 pts
27-29	24 pts
24-26	23 pts
22-23	22 pts
21	21 pts
20	20 pts
...	... pts
1	1 pts

categorized into the following groups: Infrastructure, Regulatory/Institutional/Other. "Infrastructure" includes projects that are in a major corridor. "Operational/Technology" includes projects that improve operating capacity. "Regulatory/Institutional/Other" includes projects that could not be categorized into the two preceding groups.

Facility type score: _____

Indicates whether a project improves access to an intermodal facility.

"Intermodal Connectivity" Score: _____

SEFTC's Project Prioritization Methodology

Air Projects

Category	Measure	Points
Project Type	Capacity	20
	Operations	10
	Maintenance	5
Type of Traffic	Freight	25
	Both	5
Public Funding/State Work Program	Yes	20
	No	0
Level of Impact	High	15
	Low	0
Timeframe	Short	20
	Medium	10
	Long	5
Total		100

SEFTC's Project Prioritization Methodology

Rail Projects

Category	Measure	Points
Project Type	Capacity	20
	Operations	10
	Maintenance	5
Type of Traffic	Freight	15
	Both	5
Public Funding/State Work Program	Yes	15
	No	0
Project Impact	High	15
	Low	0
Intermodal Connectivity	Port	15
	Truck	5
Timeframe	Short	20
	Medium	10
	Long	5
Total		100

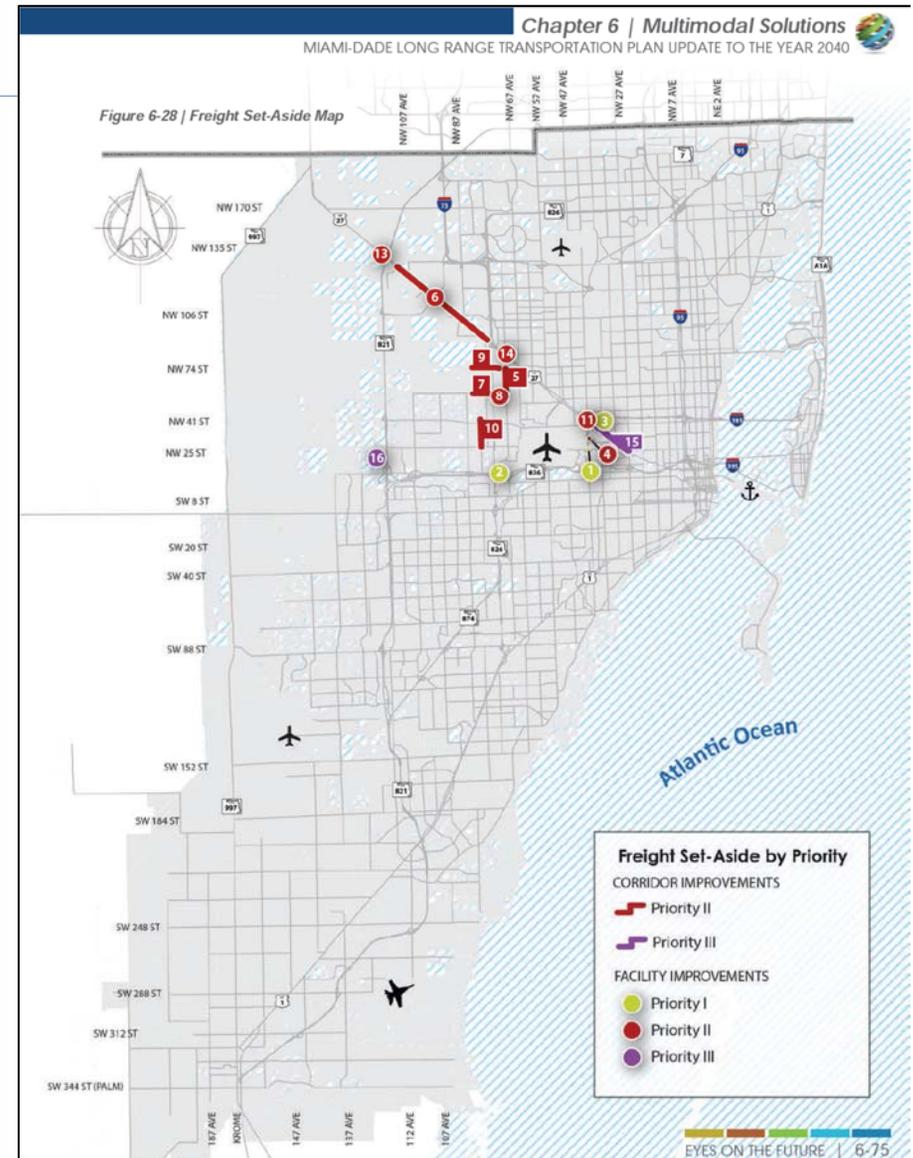
SEFTC's Project Prioritization Methodology

Seaport Projects

Category	Measure	Points
Project Type	Capacity	20
	Operations	10
	Maintenance	5
Type of Traffic	Freight	15
	Both	5
Project in Established Plan	Yes	10
	No	0
Level of Impact	High	15
	Low	0
Intermodal Connectivity	Rail	20
	Water	10
	Truck	5
Timeframe	Short	20
	Medium	10
	Long	5
Total		100

What programs do these priorities feed?

- Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTP)
- Regional Transportation Plans (RTP)
- Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP)
- Capital Improvement Plans (CIP) (airports, seaports, railroads)
- FMTP Freight Needs Database
- FDOT Work Program (SIS, Multimodal)



Is there consistency among MPOs? Should there be?

- Each MPO has developed its own project prioritization methodology
 - Some address freight and some don't
 - Partners often identify priorities
- Regional planning efforts have helped introduce consistency among MPOs
- MPO-specific freight priorities should feed into FDOT's process, where applicable
 - Does it matter how MPOs establish their priorities?

How does FDOT identify and prioritize freight projects today?

- Prioritization criteria were developed for each FMTP objective
- Freight projects can be suggested by any stakeholder and are scored based on data provided
- Priorities are based in part on data provided – not just project value
- Annual updates will improve quality of scoring

FMTP Objectives	Criteria Name with FMTP Strategy Number*	Prioritization Criteria
FMTP Objective 1 (5 Criteria)	Targeted Industry (1.6.1)	Project addresses a specific transportation challenge for an Enterprise Florida identified targeted industry.
	Freight Hub Access (1.1.3)	Project improves access to/from an existing or developing freight hub.
	Intermodal Logistics Center (ILC) Exports (1.2.3)	Project improves Intermodal Logistics Center's (ILCs) export capability/capacity.
	Unique Niche (1.1.1)	Project supports/strengthens the unique niche of a seaport, airport, spaceport, rail freight terminal, or Intermodal Logistics Center (ILC).
	Identified Market Need (1.1.2)	Project is in response to an identified market need.
FMTP Objective 2 (7 Criteria)	Florida Freight Network (2.1)	Project is on a facility designated as the Florida Freight Network.
	Freight Bottleneck (2.5.1)	Project eliminates a freight bottleneck.
	Dedicated Freight Facility (2.5.2)	Project provides a dedicated freight facility or freight shuttle that restores capacity for freight movement.
	Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) (2.4)	Project uses Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technology to improve system operations.
	Truck Parking (2.6.1)	Project improves a truck parking situation.
	Rest Stop Safety and Security (2.6.2)	Project improves safety and security at rest-stops/layover areas/other facilities.
FMTP Objective 3 (3 Criteria)	Marine Highways (2.5.3)	Project stimulates use of marine highways/short-sea shipping.
	Empty Backhaul (3.5)	Project reduces empty backhaul movements to cut shipping costs.
	Alternative Fuels Access (3.1)	Project improves access to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)/Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) or other alternative fuels.
FMTP Objective 4 (1 Criteria)	Supply Chain Costs (3.5)	Project minimizes costs through the entire supply chain to support manufacturing.
	Private Funding Amount (4.2.2; 4.2.3 and 7.3.2)	Project private funding (applicant to provide percentage of private funding proposed).
FMTP Objective 6 (2 Criteria)	Local Freight Plans (6.3)	Project is in a local freight plan (applicant must cite the local freight plan and any applicable project priority).
	Statewide Modal Plans (6.3)	Project is consistent with a statewide modal plan (applicant must cite the statewide modal plan and any applicable project priority).
FMTP Objective 7 (3 Criteria)	Emerging Freight Facilities (7.1.4)	Project supports an emerging freight facility (spaceport, marine highway, etc.)
	Benefits (7.3.3)	Project benefits to taxpayers (applicant to provide detailed list of benefits).
	Intermodal (7.3.4.1)	Project provides significant intermodal benefits (multiple freight modes).
Best Practices (5 Criteria)	Cost	Project total cost (applicant to provide detailed total project cost estimate).
	Non-FDOT Funding Status	Funding Status (applicant to provide the current status of any non-FDOT sources of revenue committed or eligible-full/partial/eligible/unfunded).
	Timing and Readiness	Project timing and readiness (applicant to provide project status).
	TIP/STIP	TIP/STIP Inclusion (applicant must cite the plan).
	Dependency	Dependency (applicant to provide list of any associated projects)

What role should MPOs take in state freight priorities?

- State freight priorities should address the most strategic freight needs (major freight hubs, corridors, connectors)
- MPOs drive project development and priorities within their urban settings
- Some of these projects have statewide significance
- How can MPOs communicate critical priorities to the state?
 - Ensure completion of all fields in FMTP database?
 - Communicate key priorities through District Freight Coordinators?
 - Formal submission of MPO priorities to FDOT?
 - Other ideas?

How should off-state-network projects be addressed?

- FMTP needs database and priorities address state eligible facilities
- MPO freight plans identify all freight needs; not all are eligible for state funding
- How can these “off-state-network” needs be addressed?
 - New connector designation criteria?
 - ILC Grant Program?
 - Freight Logistics Zones?
 - Recognition of regional freight networks and priorities?

What have we missed?

- MPOAC policy for freight needs prioritization?
- Minimum freight needs screening and prioritization by all MPOs?
- Modifications to FDOT process?
- Role of FDOT Freight Coordinators?





Questions & Discussion