

Freight News and Notes

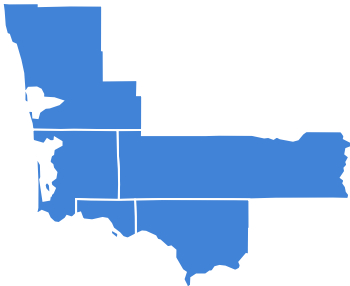
Spring/Summer 2022



Cowlitz-Wahkiakum
Council of Governments
TRANSPORTATION



Moving Forward 2050: A Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Plan under development



The Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments is currently developing an updated long-range transportation plan, for the five (5)-county, bi-state Metropolitan and Regional Planning area covering Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Lewis, Pacific, and Wahkiakum Counties in Washington and the City of Rainier, Oregon. This transportation plan will help identify the priorities for future transportation investments across the region and provide a vision for the next two decades and beyond.

Ongoing stakeholder and public involvement are critical parts of the planning process to identify transportation priorities and strategies and was kicked off recently with public and private freight stakeholder interviews. The interviewees were asked to identify priorities and talk about business challenges. Next up we will be conducting a public survey on overall transportation priorities to be launched soon, in early summer. *More details are forthcoming.* Virtual public open houses to discuss the key components of the plan development process and receive comments are planned. *Contact CWCOG today at cwcog@cwcog.org to receive early notification of these planned activities.*

Statewide Freight Systems Plan Update

Every five (5) years the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) develops an updated Statewide Freight System Plan (last updated in 2017). WSDOT is currently working on the new update and completion is anticipated for later in 2022 with a draft plan available by this summer.

The statewide planning effort plans for all modes of freight (truck, airplane, rail, ship). To keep updated please bookmark and check this website for up to date information.

(<https://wsdot.wa.gov/construction-planning/statewide-plans/freight-rail-plans/freight-system-plan>)

About Us

The CWCOG is a joint governmental agency composed voluntarily of local governments in Washington State's Cowlitz and Wahkiakum Counties and Oregon State's City of Rainier. CWCOG's mission is to efficiently utilize resources at a regional level to yield long-term benefits that enhance the quality of life for our local communities. It provides a forum for members to work together on issues which cross jurisdictional lines and require cooperative resolutions. In addition, the agency itself provides planning and technical services in the areas of transportation, economic development, community development, and project support to our members.

Title VI

CWCOG ensures all compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the provisions of benefits and services results in from its federally assisted programs and activities. For questions regarding CWCOG's Title VI Program, you may contact the Department's Title VI Coordinator at 360-577-3041.

USDOT Freight Facts

Trucking was the largest contributor to the US GDP in 2019.

**\$368.9
BILLION**

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics reported that trucking contributed the largest amount to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of all the freight modes for 2019.

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Highlighting Deep-Draft Port Successes in 2021



Port of
Longview

- The Industrial Rail Corridor Expansion continues:
 - In 2021 the project reached the 60% design level and 2022 should be at the 90% level.
 - Construction is scheduled to begin in 2024.
 - The USDOT awarded a \$16 million RAISE grant.
- North Rail Connection was completed, providing a critical link in the Port's rail system connecting the Industrial Rail Corridor from the mainline to the marine terminals and included 4,960' of new track and realigning another 1,540' of track.
- A new 40' wide private road between North Tie Road and International Way was constructed providing additional circulation for vehicle and equipment for Port operations, tenants, and neighbors.
- The Port was also able to close an at-grade rail crossing with the project.



Port of
Woodland

- Austin Point project work continued towards providing deep-draft facilities with 400 acres (including rail) and should wrap up 30% design plans for rail and 10% design for the dock by the end of this year.
- Martin Bar project work continued towards a 70-acre heavy industrial site within 2 miles of Interstate 5. The project has completed a feasibility study and is actively being marketed for a tenant.



Port of
Kalama

- Third largest export tonnage on the West Coast behind only Los Angeles and Long Beach, CA.
- Largest soybean exporter on the West Coast
- 65% of Port revenue was produced from ships visiting the marine terminal.
- Cruise vessel dock was constructed and estimated to bring in 24,000 travelers per year.
- Mountain Timber Market, a new public market, is under construction and due to open in 2023.
- New ADA-accessible pedestrian overpass is being designed to connect the Port to downtown Kalama.



Port of
Grays Harbor

- Helped support the City of Aberdeen's successful RAISE grant application to the USDOT that secured \$2.08 million for pre-design for the Aberdeen/US 12 Highway-Rail Separation Project.
- Satsop Business Park welcomed new tenants and Lynch Creek Farms expanded their operations at the business park with a new production facility.
- To accommodate future customer growth and anticipated increase in vessel calls the Port is welcoming two new pilot trainees.
- Received a \$50,000 Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB) planning grant to conduct the Westport Marina Modernization Plan.

Working together to enhance our region.