

# Regional Freight Coordination Initiatives: Intermodal Connectors in the Rickenbacker Logistics Area



Mid-Ohio Regional  
Planning Commission

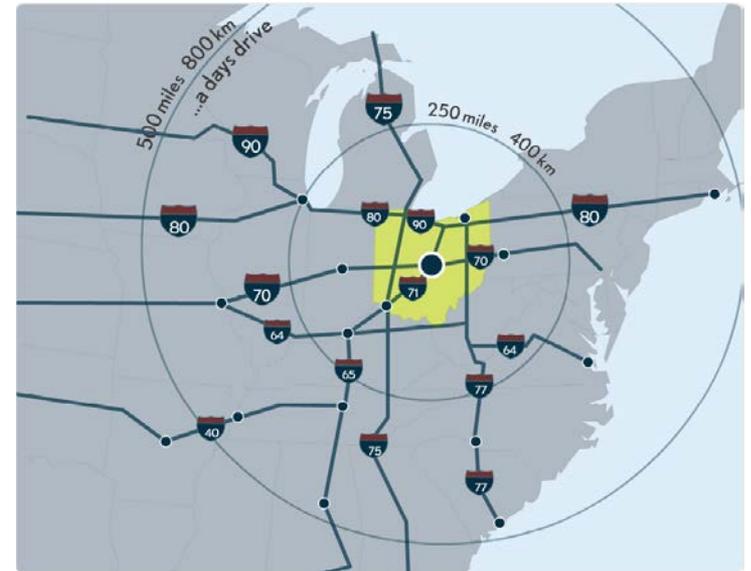
February 15, 2017

## Presentation Outline

- Freight Importance to Central Ohio
- Rickenbacker Area Overview
- Intermodal Assets
- Planning for Prosperity: Regional Planning Efforts in the Rickenbacker Area
  - 2018 Rickenbacker Area Comprehensive Study
  - Smart Columbus

## Freight Importance to Central Ohio

- Strategic location – 10 hour drive from:
  - 47% of US population
  - 44% of US manufacturing capacity
  - 48% of US corporate headquarters
  - 50% of Canadian population
  
- Increasing traffic from national and international freight infrastructure improvements
  - Panama Canal expansion
  - Heartland Rail corridor
  - Chicago's CREATE improvements
  - Port of Virginia



## Historic Overview: The Rickenbacker Area

**1942** – Lockbourne Army Base (AB) opens

**1974** – Lockbourne AB renamed to Rickenbacker Air Force Base (AFB)

**1978** – Phased realignment of Rickenbacker AFB begins

**1987** – Foreign Trade Zone #138 established under control of the Rickenbacker Port Authority

**1990** – Rickenbacker Inland Port concept developed for marketing purposes

**1994** – Rickenbacker Inland Port Commission established

**1996** – 1<sup>st</sup> Master Plan for Rickenbacker Airport completed

**1996** – 2,026 acre annexation makes the City of Columbus boundaries contiguous with airport property



*Lockbourne Air Force Base, 1945*



*Lockbourne Air Force Base, 1969*



*Rickenbacker International Cargo Airport, 2010*

## Historic Overview: The Rickenbacker Area

**2003** – Rickenbacker Port Authority merged into Columbus Regional Airport Authority

**2008** – Norfolk Southern's Rickenbacker Intermodal Facility opens

**2009-2012** – Significant infrastructure investments resulting from 2008 Rickenbacker Road Assessment

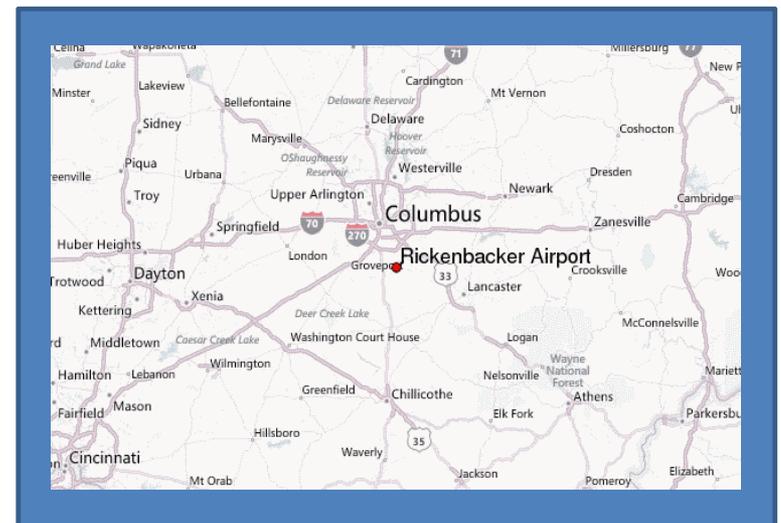
**2013** – First regularly scheduled import service begins at airport, Cargolux service from Hong Kong to Columbus

**2015** – Rickenbacker Intermodal/Pickaway East-West Connector opens

**2016** – New air cargo terminal opens to meet demand of regular international inbound flights

**2016** – Amazon Distribution Center opens

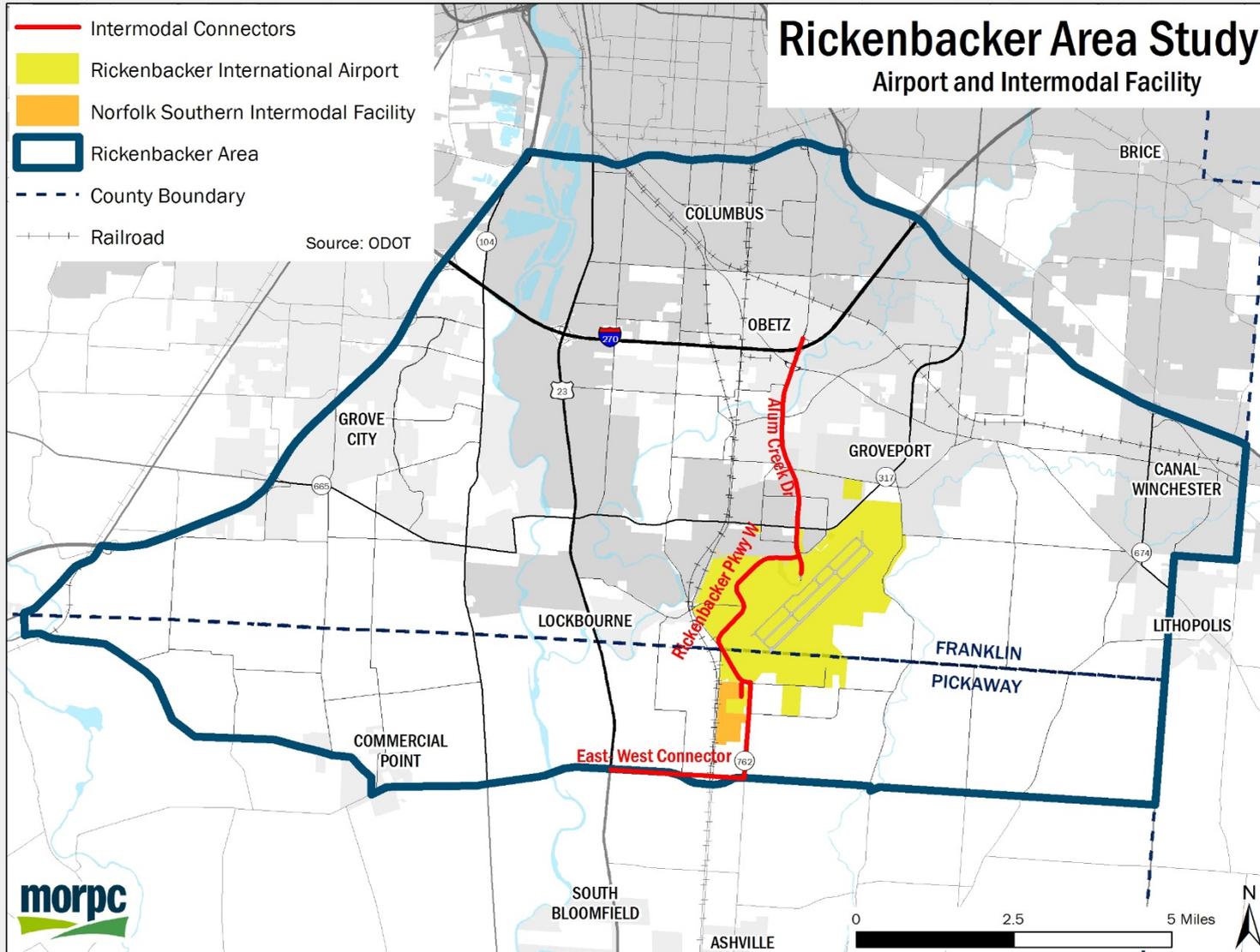
**2017** – Rickenbacker Intermodal begins expansion



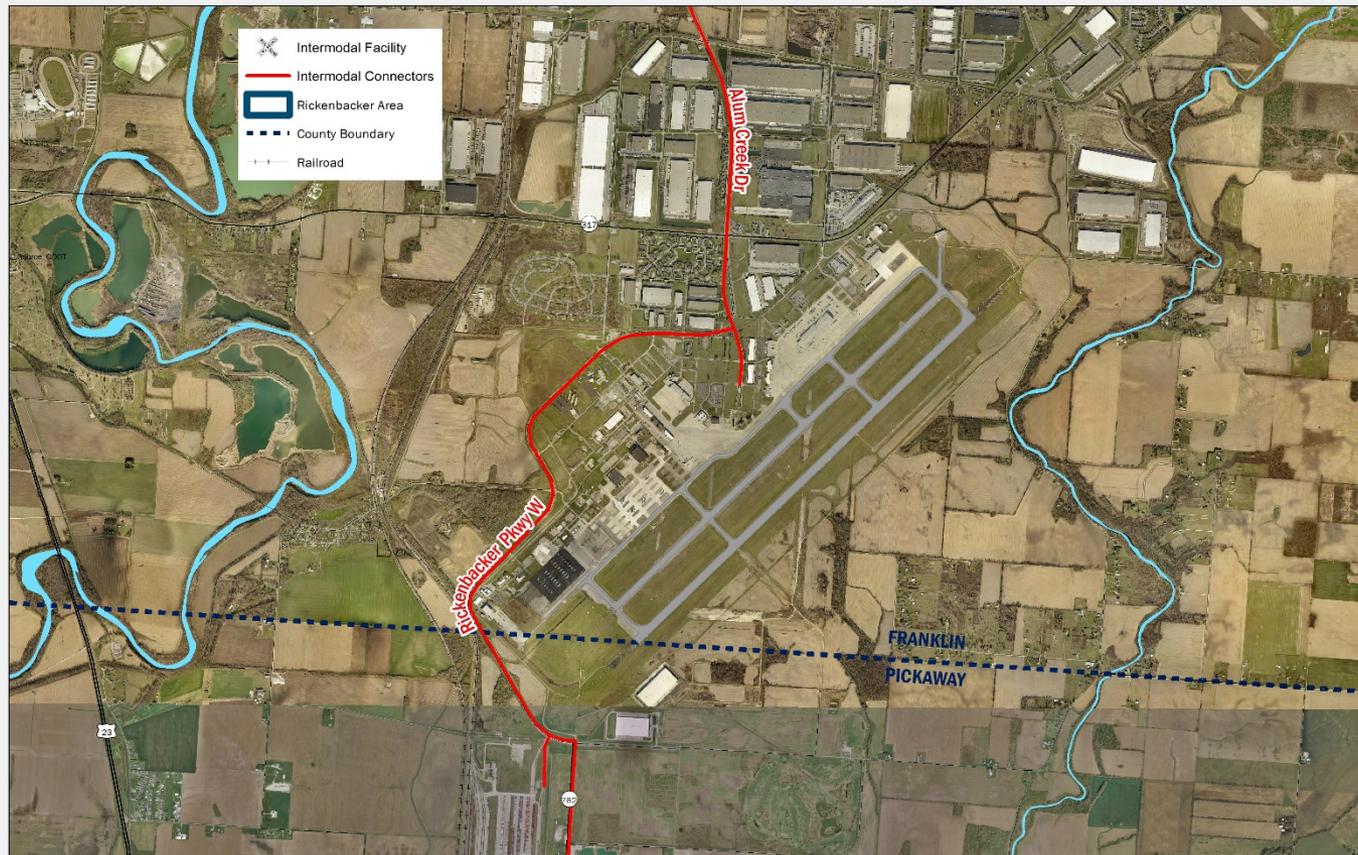
## Rickenbacker Intermodal Assets

- Ohio Department of Transportation designates intermodal connectors of statewide significance in the state's long range transportation plan (Access Ohio 2040)
- The Rickenbacker area has 3 significant intermodal connectors, connecting the NS intermodal yard and the Rickenbacker International Cargo Airport to the National Highway System

# Rickenbacker Intermodal Assets

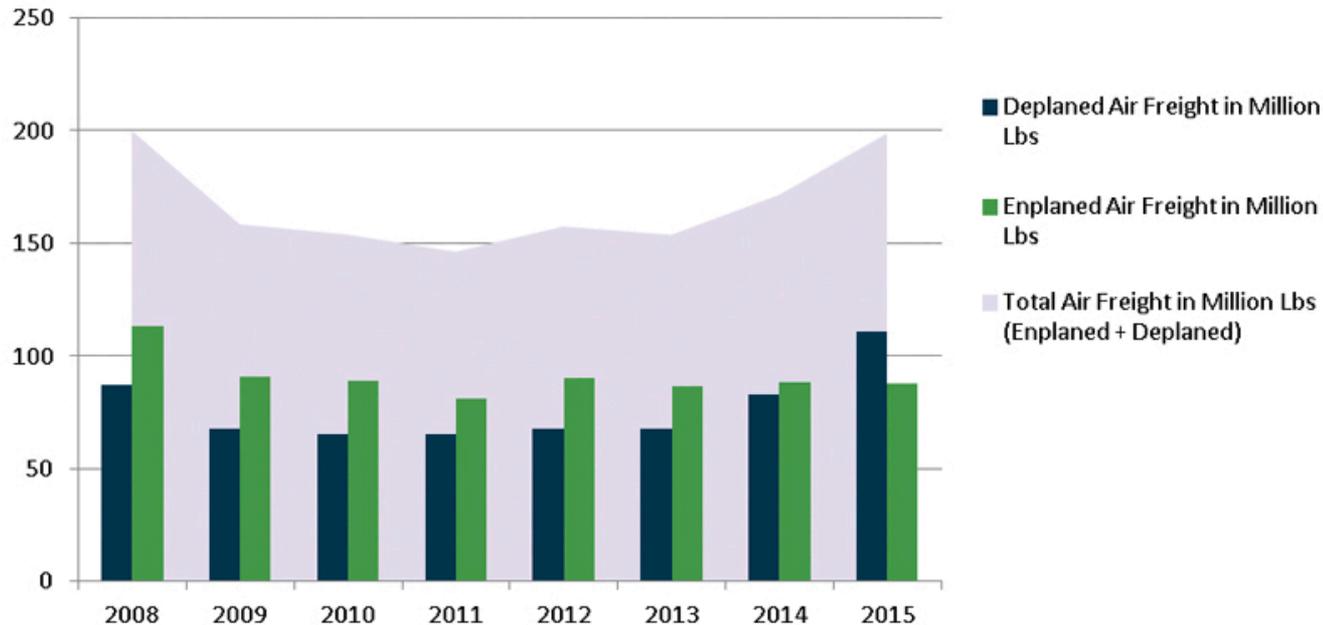


# Rickenbacker Intermodal Assets: Rickenbacker International Cargo Airport



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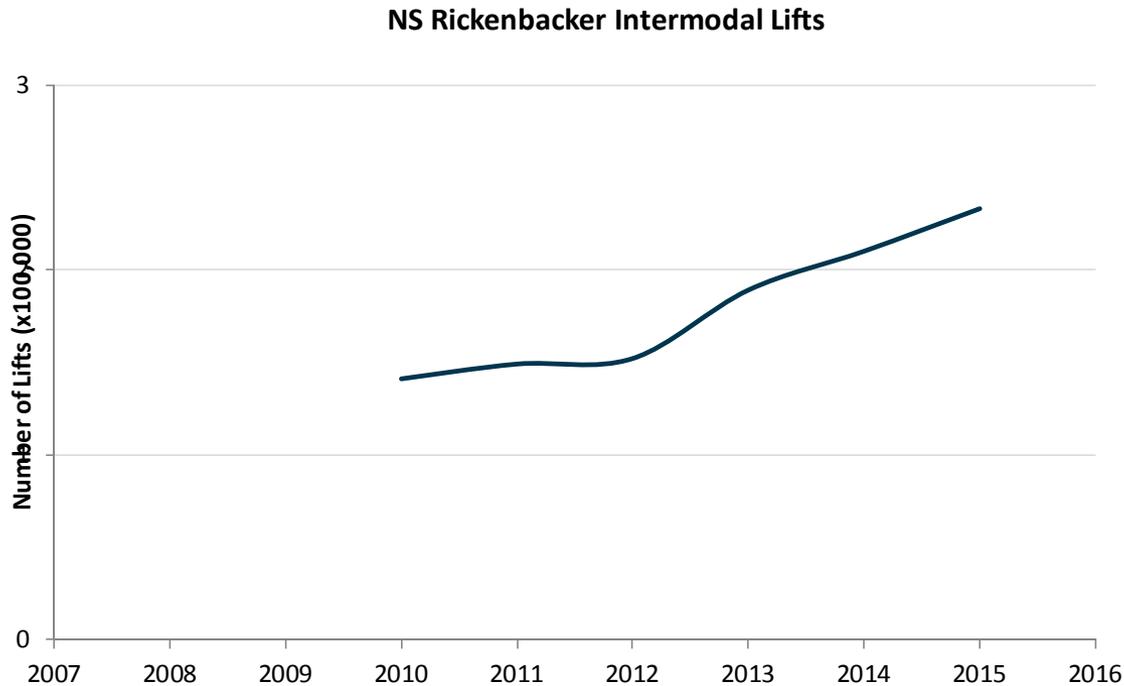
Air Freight in Million Lbs., Rickenbacker Airport



# Rickenbacker Intermodal Assets: Norfolk Southern Intermodal Facility



# Rickenbacker Intermodal Assets: Norfolk Southern Intermodal Facility



## Planning for Prosperity: MORPC's Ongoing Freight Program

- Providing input into State and Federal planning processes
  - ODOT's intermodal connector designation review
  - FHWA's Primary Freight Network designation process (ensured Alum Creek Dr. was included)
- Assisting MPO members in assessing improvement needs, as growth in Rickenbacker continues
- Facilitating innovation and new technology along intermodal connectors, where appropriate

## **Planning for Prosperity: Rickenbacker Area Comprehensive Study**

- Study of multifaceted existing factors and their projected growth potential
- Looks at the next 10 to 20 years
- Parallel to Airport Authority's 2018 Rickenbacker Airport Master Plan Update

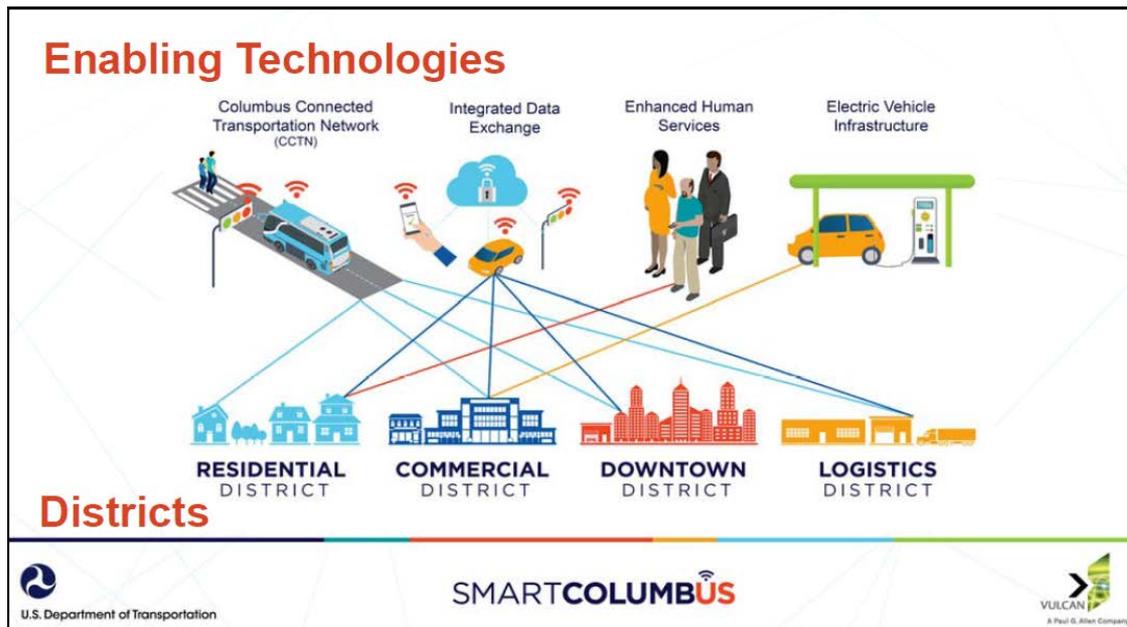


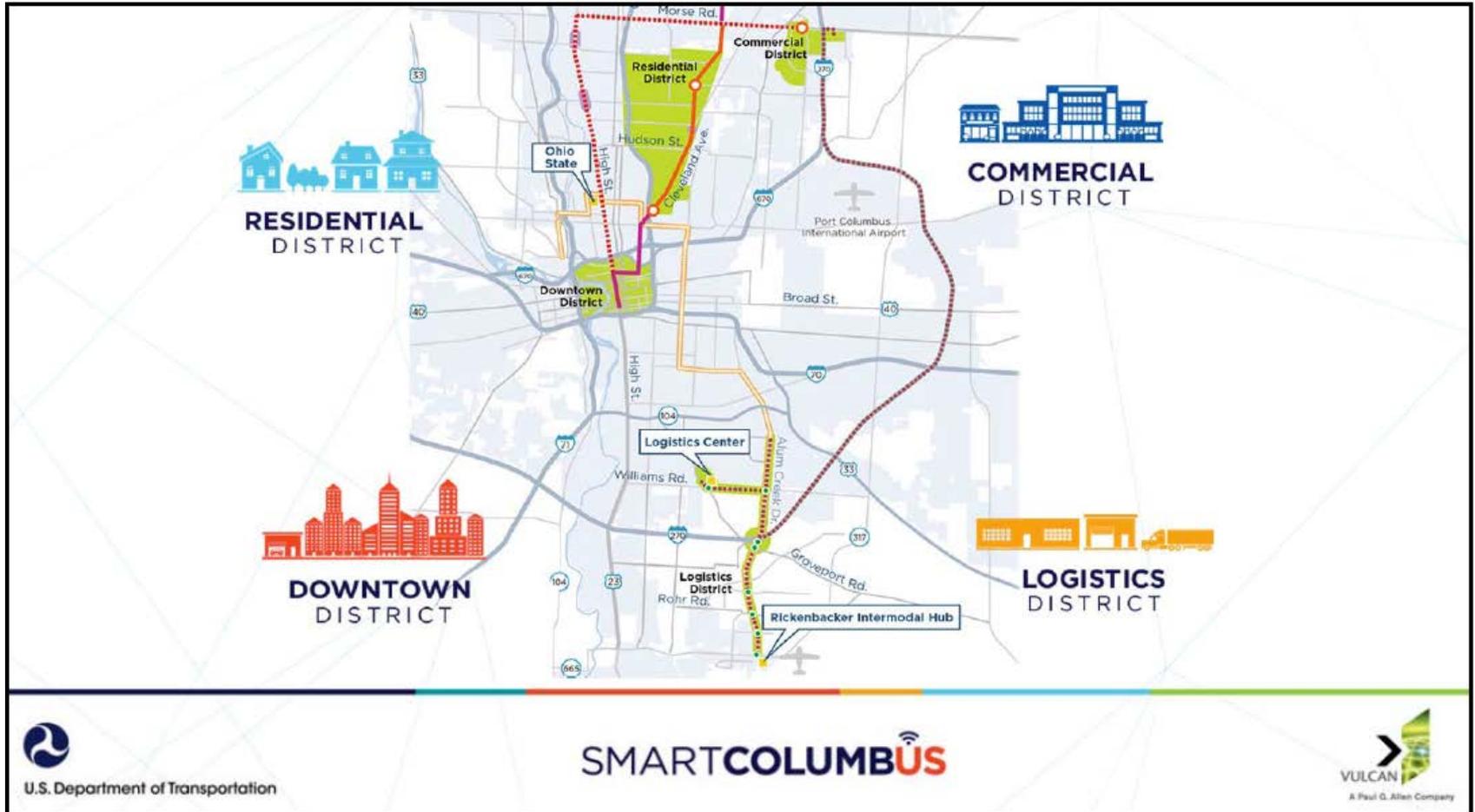
# Rickenbacker Area Study Primary areas:

- **Infrastructure**  
(highways, sanitary, water, broadband)
- **Housing**  
(review of existing conditions and identification of market relevant infill opportunities)
- **Energy**  
(savings and production)
- **Economic Development**  
(development potential, competitiveness, workforce access)
- **Placemaking**  
(unique identification regionally and internationally)
- **Continuance of Coordination**  
(MORPC, CRAA, Columbus 2020, Columbus Chamber and Local Governments)

# Planning for Prosperity: Smart Columbus Project

The City of Columbus won the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) \$40 million Smart City Challenge in June 2016. Columbus was also awarded a \$10 million grant from Paul G. Allen's Vulcan Inc. Foundation





**Smart Logistics Component:** To build on our strength as a global logistics hub by optimizing the movement and delivery of freight by providing real time traffic, weather and routing data for trucks



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