



Resource Center Freight Services

Technical Assistance & Training

October 2019

This document was developed to provide a reference tool for FHWA Division Freight specialists on available freight technical assistance and training resources. These are resources that the RC TPM/AM/Freight (RC TAF) Team can deliver/deploy upon FHWA Division Office request. They are intended to support the freight professional capacity needs of Division Office staff as well as state DOTs and MPOs. For more information on whether a resource may be appropriate to meet partner needs, please contact the RC staff lead for that particular offering. For general questions on training and technical assistance services from the RC TAF team, please contact Lisa Randall (lisa.randall@dot.gov), Technical Director.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA)

The Resource Center offers a variety of technical assistance on freight topics in support of FHWA Division, State DOT and MPO needs. These include tailored workshops, overview webinars, on call technical assistance and program/process reviews. RC staff leads can help you scope the needs of your office and your partners, and can help identify options that might help meet your requirements. If you have a need for technical assistance on a freight topic that you do not see listed or are not sure who to contact, please reach out to Lisa Randall (lisa.randall@dot.gov), Technical Director.

Forms of Technical Assistance

The Resource Center offers a variety technical assistance strategies to support customer needs on topics related to freight. Examples of types of technical assistance that the RC can make available, include:

- technical reviews and technical support for:
 - *state freight plans;*
 - *regional freight plans*
 - *freight corridor studies;*
 - *truck parking plans etc*
- freight project (capital) reviews related to traffic and land use forecasts;
- stakeholder engagement strategy review (especially with the private sector)
- freight bottleneck analysis;
- freight leadership briefings; and
- other forms of customer defined assistance

Tailored in Person Workshops or Webinars

The Resource Center offers tailored workshops and technical assistance based on the specific needs and issues each customer identifies. Based on the scoping of the challenge, RC specialists work to develop a unique solution that establishes specific outcomes and objectives.

Tailored workshops are flexible and customer driven. The RC has a wide range of freight technical training modules and exercises that can be “mixed and matched” based on customer need and interest. For tailored workshops, the customer’s need drives the length of each workshop. Presentations by state, local and regional participants are encouraged as part of the design of each tailored workshop.

In addition, in person workshops, the Resource Center TAF team also provides a number of knowledge transfer activities through a webinar format. These can be high level overviews of a particular topic or a more detailed examination of a technical or program area. These webinar sessions are led by a RC TAF team member and include a mix of training, discussion and web based interactivity. Sessions are generally one to 4 hours in length but can be shorter or longer based on customer need and interest.

Below is a subset of possible freight topics that the RC TAF team offers in the areas of freight. If you do not see a topic where your organization has a specific challenge or need, please contact Lisa Randall, the team’s Technical Director, to see what options might be available.

Tailored in Person Workshop or Webinar	Description	RC POC
Truck Parking	<p>Tailored workshop with resulting action plan or webinar. Length varies.</p> <p>Builds awareness of the needs, issues, funding approaches and effective practices in truck parking through a multi-disciplinary interactive forum. Outcomes includes an action plan to support the advancement of truck parking solutions in a region or state. Participant presentations with information on local issues and needs set the context for this workshop.</p>	Tom Kearney Nick Renna Christina Leach
Truck Size and Weight	<p>Tailored workshop with resulting action plan or webinar. Length varies.</p> <p>Builds awareness on a range of truck size and weight issues, practices and requirements. Identifies specific state and local issues and strategies for improved practices and approaches. Can include a specific module on bridge loading rating if needed.</p>	Tom Kearney Nick Renna
Using Automated Technologies to Support Effective Truck Size and Weight Enforcement	<p>Tailored workshop with resulting action plan or webinar. Length varies.</p> <p>Builds knowledge and awareness of the range of current and emerging freight technologies (including but not limited to: multimodal freight operational issues; port and rail connections; CV/AV issues in freight etc) and how they impact and enhance freight projects and programs.</p>	Tom Kearney Nick Renna
Advancing Freight Performance Management: <i>Targets, Measures and Bottlenecks</i>	<p>Tailored workshop with resulting action plan or webinar. Length varies.</p> <p>Builds awareness of the federal performance management requirements for freight, including discussion of freight bottlenecks. Highlights key issues and considerations. Identifies examples and case studies from various DOTs and MPOs..</p>	Eric Pihl Nick Renna Tom Kearney
Advancing Freight Performance Management: <i>Using Reliability Data and NPMRDS to Enhance Transportation Decision Making</i>	<p>Tailored workshop with resulting action plan or webinar. Length varies.</p> <p>Builds awareness of issues and considerations related to NPMRDS and congestion targets and measures for freight performance management <i>as well as</i> an overview of how reliability data can be used to support a range of freight transportation decisions across multiple program areas. Identifies examples and case studies and approaches that DOTs and MPOs can use to improve their use and application of this type of data.</p>	Eric Pihl Nick Renna
Advancing Freight Solutions: <i>Using Freight Data to Support Transportation Decision-Making</i>	<p>Tailored workshop with resulting action plan or webinar. Length varies.</p> <p>Build knowledge and awareness of the range of freight data sources and their applications for specific freight needs, issues, programs and projects—including in development of state and regional freight plans. Recent workshop deliveries often combine a mix of modules on freight planning and programming along with a discussion on analytical approaches for freight decision-making. (based on customer need/interest).</p>	Eric Pihl Nick Renna Tom Kearney
Advancing Freight Solutions: <i>Effective Freight Planning and Programming Practices</i>	<p>Tailored workshop with resulting action plan or webinar. Length varies.</p> <p>Builds knowledge and awareness of the range of freight planning and programming issues—including but not limited to: state and regional freight plans, freight financing and funding; freight and land use; freight and performance management; freight and community impacts; freight and economic development etc. Recent workshop deliveries often combine a mix of modules on freight data and freight analysis to support discussions and needs related to freight planning and programming (based on customer need/interest).</p>	Tom Kearney Eric Pihl Jocelyn Jones Christina Leach
Applying Freight Solutions: <i>Analytical Tools, Methods and Approaches for Freight Projects and Programs</i>	<p>Tailored workshop with resulting action plan or webinar. Length varies.</p> <p>Builds knowledge and awareness of the range of freight analytical approaches and tools their applications for specific freight needs, issues, programs and projects. Recent workshop deliveries often combine a mix of modules of the</p>	Eric Pihl Vidya Mysore Nick Renna

	freight data sources that these analytical tools and approaches rely upon as well as a discussion of how different freight analytical approaches can be used for different types of freight planning/programming needs and products (based on customer need/interest)	
Enhancing Freight Solutions: Stakeholder Engagement Strategies	Tailored workshop with resulting action plan or webinar Length varies. Builds knowledge and awareness of strategies and effective practices to engage and sustain the involvement of a variety of public and private stakeholders in freight planning and programming. Includes focus on freight advisory committees. Also includes a focus of fostering sustainable coordination approaches between state DOTs and MPOs on freight programs and projects.	Jocelyn Jones Christina Leach
Advancing Freight Solutions: Connections Between Land Use Considerations and Freight	Tailored workshop with resulting action plan or webinar. Length varies. Builds knowledge and awareness of the range of land use issues, considerations and impacts to freight projects and programs at various levels.	Jocelyn Jones Eric Pihl Christina Leach

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NHI TRAINING

NHI Training Courses

The FHWA National Highway Institute (NHI) offers a variety of *foundational*, in person (instructor led training—ILT), blended (both in person or another format) or web based courses on various freight topics. These courses are generally fee based. More information on these courses is available at: <https://www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov/home.aspx>. Customers request NHI courses through the NHI website. Staff from the FHWA Resource Center typically deliver many of the instructor led (ILT) NHI courses. For questions about the content and focus of a specific course, please contact the overall RC point of contact or the contacts listed on the NHI website.

Course Title	Format	Description	RC POC
TPM for Congestion (including Freight) (NHI-138010)	Blended	Provides an overview of the provisions of the Congestion (including Freight) Performance Measures Final Rule	Eric Pihl Nick Renna
Fundamentals of Freight Data (NHI-139011)	ILT	Provides an overview of a broad array of freight data sources and their applications for transportation programs, projects and policies.	Eric Pihl Nick Renna Tom Kearney
Engaging the Private Sector in Freight Planning (NHI 139009)	ILT	Provides techniques and strategies to help practitioners establish and strengthen relationships with the private sector in support of freight planning and project development.	Jocelyn Jones Christina Leach
Freight and Land Use (NHI 139008)	ILT	Provides an in-depth, hands-on understanding of the land use needs of freight-generating facilities; the potential impacts freight land uses can have on the transportation system, communities, and the natural environment; strategies that can reduce or mitigate the impacts of freight land uses; and the roles stakeholder groups can play in implementing those strategies.	Jocelyn Jones Christina Leach