Regional Freight Study

Transportation Policy Board

presented to

Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

presented by

Cambridge Systematics, Inc.

AAMPO

CAMBRIDGE SYSTEMATICS

October 27, 2025

Agenda

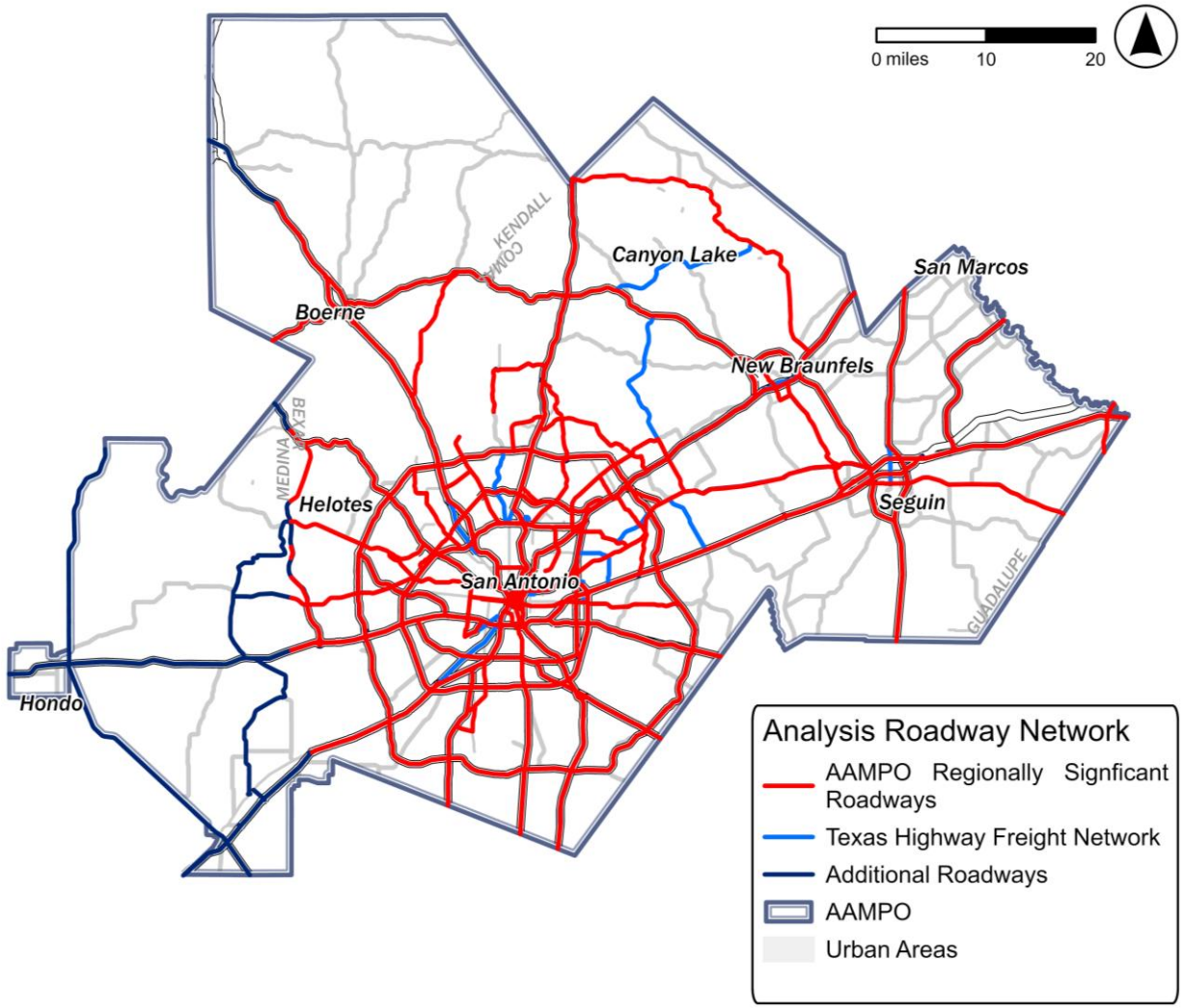
- Overview
- What We've Heard
- Freight Study Recommendations
- Next Steps

AAMPO

Regional Freight Study

Objectives of Study

- ✓ Provide overview of **freight activity** and **demand**
- ✓ Provide overview of existing **multimodal freight network** and **assets**
- ✓ Assess the **conditions and performance of the freight network** for all modes, including highways, rail, aviation and pipelines
- ✓ Identify the freight system's **key needs and vulnerabilities**
- ✓ Develop a **list of potential strategies AAMPO can pursue** to address key needs and vulnerabilities



Significance of the AAMPO Region for Freight

AAMPO BY THE NUMBERS

2.9M
residents (2025)

88%
population growth by 2050

160M
tons of freight (2019)

330M
tons of freight by 2050

360+
warehouses

28%
of regional jobs freight-related

Freight is critical to the regional economy

- 360+ warehouses and almost 1/3 of all regional jobs tied to freight

Vital freight network

- Over 160 million tons of freight moving annually, and expected to more than double by 2050

Key intersection for freight, both domestic and internationally

- IH-10, IH-35 and IH-37

AAMPO Region Freight Flows

151,000 truck trips occur each day, both originating and destined for the AAMPO region

Significant truck travel patterns between AAMPO region and **Austin**, **Laredo & Webb County** and **North Texas** regions

Source: Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). Texas Truck Analysis Tool (2022).

Regional Freight Study Schedule

TASK 2: RESEARCH & BACKGROUND

Defining goals & objectives of the study, data inventory, previous plan review, & research freight & freight related land use trends, stakeholder involvement plan

TASK 3 – NEAR TO MID-TERM IMPLEMENTATION

Projects & programs prioritization, implementation strategy with costs, timeframe and responsible party

TASK 4 – LONG RANGE STRATEGIES & POLICIES

Menu of long-range policies & programs, Freight advisory committee development

TASK 5 – FINAL REPORT

Telling the story of the significance of the AAMPO region in freight transportation & priorities for meeting key needs

MONTH 1 | MONTH 2 | MONTH 3 | MONTH 4 | MONTH 5 | MONTH 6 | MONTH 7 | MONTH 8 | MONTH 9 | MONTH 10 | MONTH 11 | MONTH 12 | MONTH 13 | MONTH 14 | MONTH 15 | MONTH 16 | MONTH 17 | MONTH 18

Task 1 - Project Management

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING (OCTOBER 2024)

Defining goals & objectives of the study

TAC/TPB

Project Update

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING (JAN 2025)

Freight trends

FREIGHT INDUSTRY FORUM (MAR 2025)

Transportation priorities, needs & concerns

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING (APR 2025)

Existing conditions, trends in freight transportation, freight industry needs & priorities

FREIGHT INDUSTRY OUTREACH

Long-term freight needs & priorities

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING (AUG 2025)

Long-term freight industry needs & priorities, priority policies & recommendations

FREIGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Review draft plan & charter for future advisory group

TAC/TPB

Action on Executive Summary/Final Report

Sharing MPO Best Practices Nationally

Integrating Freight into MPO Planning Process: Case of the AAMPO Region

Multi-tiered Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

Project-related Stakeholder Engagement Strategies

Oversight Committee

- ✓ November 2024
- ✓ January 2025
- ✓ May 2025
- ✓ August 2025

Targeted Stakeholder Engagement

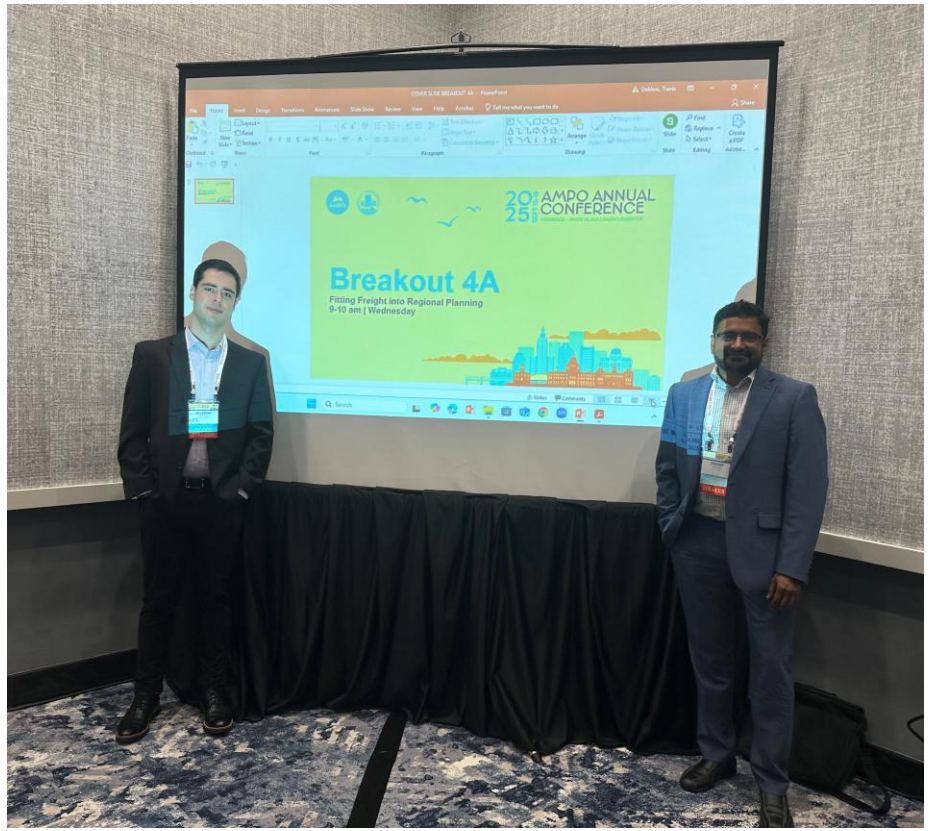
- ✓ Regional Freight Industry Forum
- ✓ Survey
- ✓ Two whitepapers
- ✓ Targeted meetings with:
  - Texas Trucking Association
  - San Antonio Transportation Association Presentation
  - Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association Survey

Long-term Strategy

Recruiting for Freight Advisory Committee

- ✓ Charter developed detailing roles, responsibilities and membership for FAC

AAMPO on the Agenda



2025 Annual Conference of Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations – Providence, Rhode Island

What We've Heard

Freight-Specific Outreach

"Reducing congestion of trucks improves regional air quality and public health, particularly in neighborhoods."

- Freight Industry Forum Comment

"Our largest inhibitor to addressing known issues in the city with rail crossings is connecting with and coordinating with UP. Having increased or coordinated support from our regional and state agencies would be very helpful as we move forward."

- Freight Industry Forum Comment

KEY ENGAGEMENT TOUCHPOINTS

Four Oversight Committee meetings
(Oct 2024, Jan 2025, May 2025, Aug 2025)

Freight Industry Forum
(March 2025)

Follow-up trucking industry survey
(98 responses)

Targeted industry meetings
(e.g., Texas Trucking Association)

TAC and TPB briefings

AAMPO

FREIGHT WORKSHOP

We are excited to invite you to participate in a freight industry forum in support of the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's (AAMPO) Regional Freight Study. AAMPO has begun a region-wide freight study to enhance the future mobility of freight in the AAMPO Study Area that includes Bexar County, Comal County, Guadalupe County, and a portion of Kendall County, including the City of Boerne. The freight study will build off previous regional and statewide planning efforts and influence future transportation investments in support of freight and goods movement.

To RSVP, request translation services, or provide initial feedback use the following link www.surveymonkey.com/r/AAMPOFreight_RSVP by Friday, March 21, 2025

The freight industry forum will take place on:

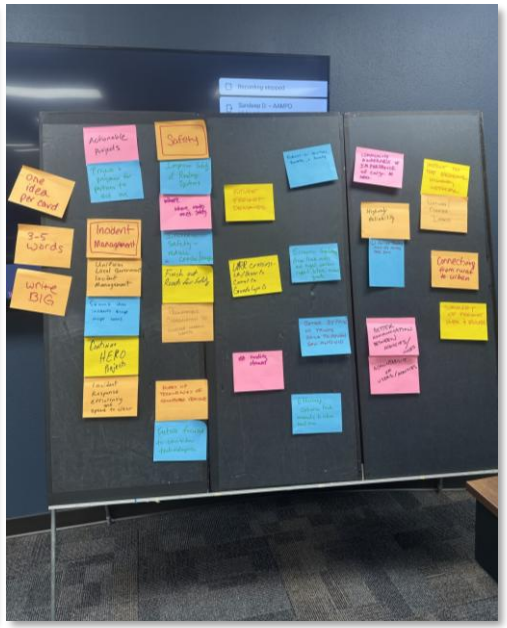
March 27, 2025
10AM – 12PM

Northeast Service Center – Tool Yard
10303 Tool Yard
San Antonio, TX 78233

DAVID EDWARDS DRIVE
TOOL YARD
TOOL YARD
PARKING
NORTHEAST SERVICE CENTER

Please sign-up for our email list to stay involved in this very important process using the following link: www.surveymonkey.com/r/AAMPOFreight. Come learn more about current/future freight volumes and values, freight corridor safety, land use and future needs.

We look forward to your participation!



Industry Survey

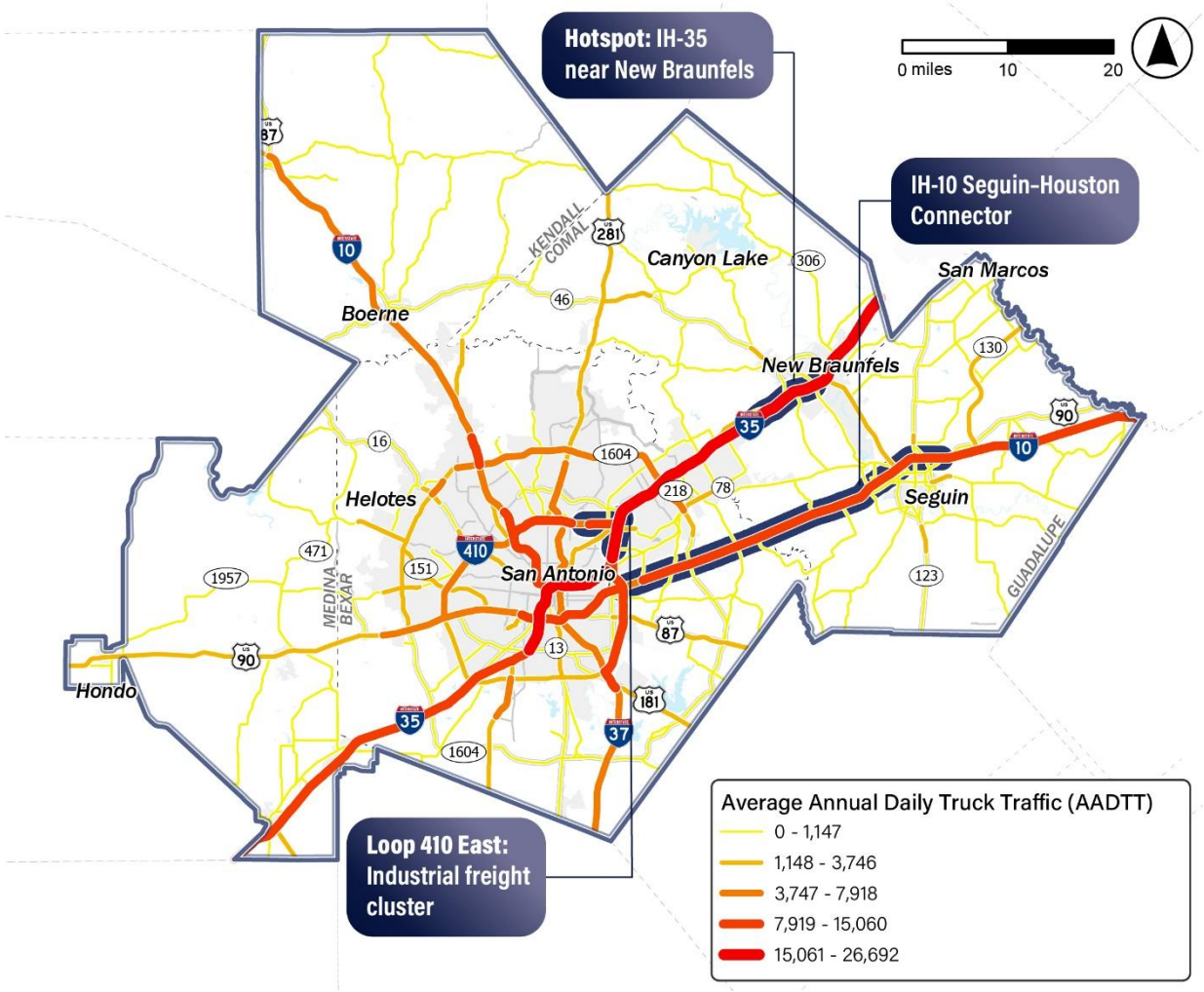
98 Total Reponses

Freight need most important for the region to address in the near term:

#1 Congestion

#2 Safety

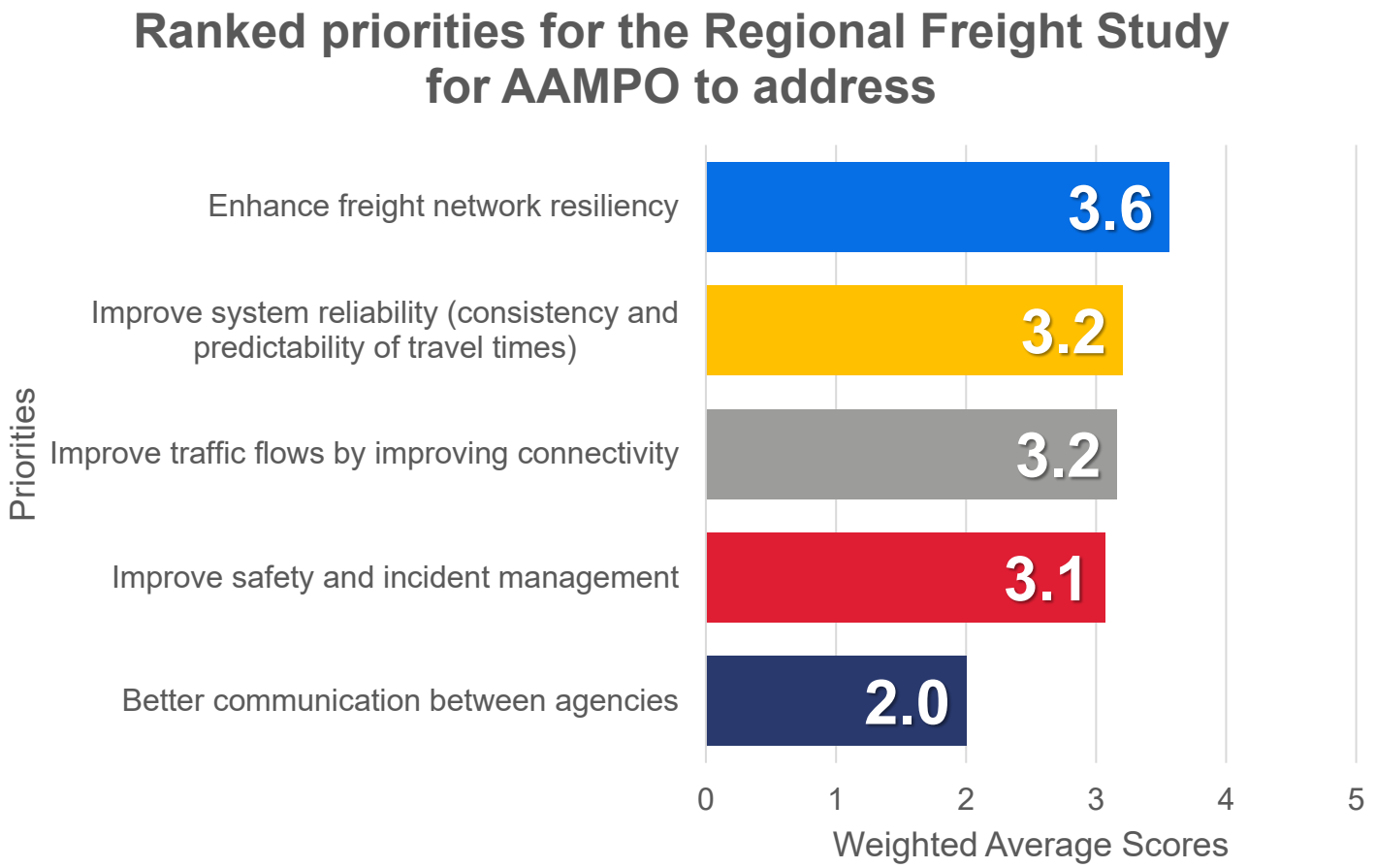
#3 Truck Parking



Source: AAMPO Stakeholder Survey, Summer 2025

Industry Survey

98 Total Reponses



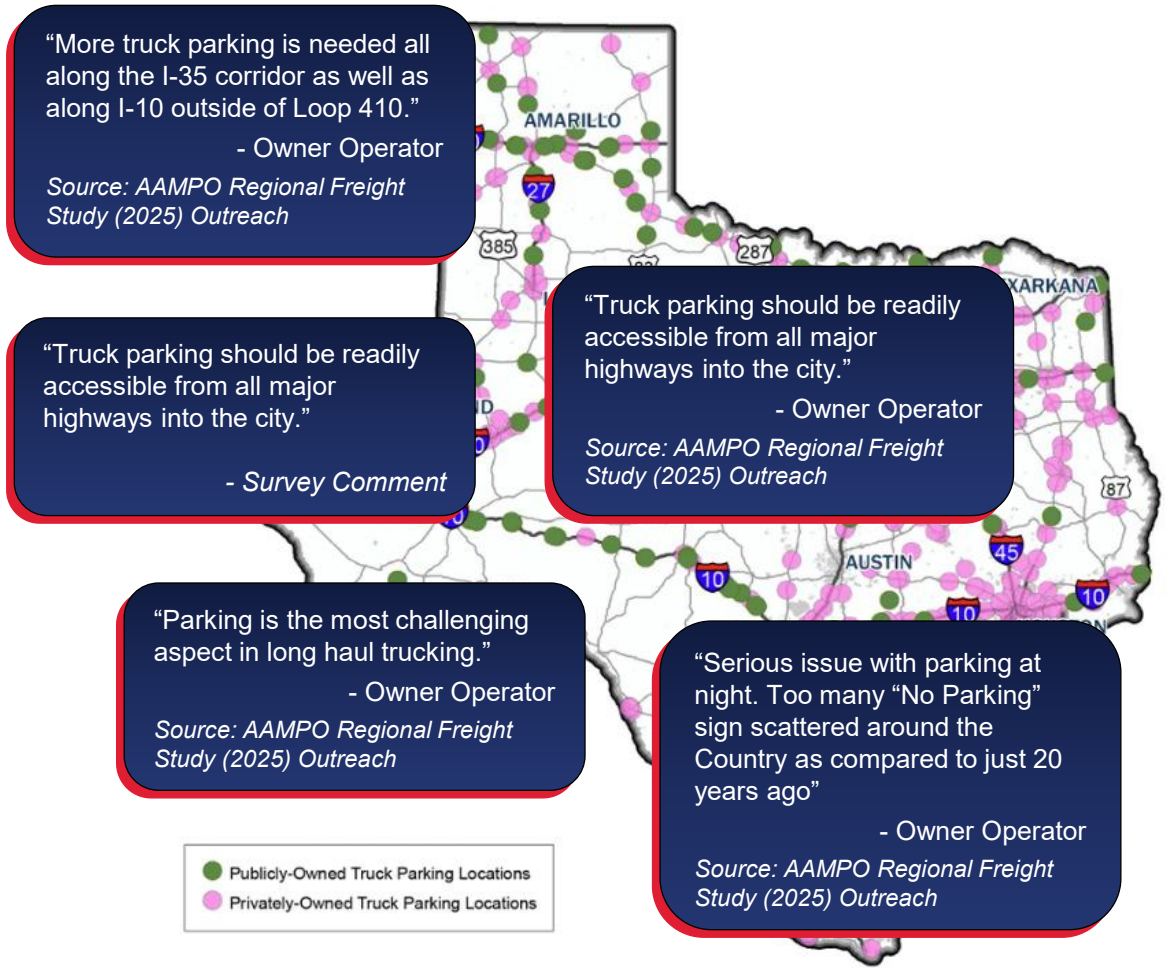
Source: AAMPO Stakeholder Survey, Summer 2025

Truck Parking Concerns

21 truck parking facilities in the TxDOT San Antonio district are near or over capacity

An average of over 100 trucks per weekday are parking illegally in the TxDOT right-of-way along I-10 and I-35 in the region

Truck Parking Supply in Texas



"More truck parking is needed all along the I-35 corridor as well as along I-10 outside of Loop 410."
- Owner Operator
Source: AAMPO Regional Freight Study (2025) Outreach

"Truck parking should be readily accessible from all major highways into the city."
- Survey Comment

"Truck parking should be readily accessible from all major highways into the city."
- Owner Operator
Source: AAMPO Regional Freight Study (2025) Outreach

"Parking is the most challenging aspect in long haul trucking."
- Owner Operator
Source: AAMPO Regional Freight Study (2025) Outreach

"Serious issue with parking at night. Too many "No Parking" sign scattered around the Country as compared to just 20 years ago"
- Owner Operator
Source: AAMPO Regional Freight Study (2025) Outreach

Source: 2020 Texas Statewide Truck Parking Study.

Recommendations

Policies and Programs

Policy

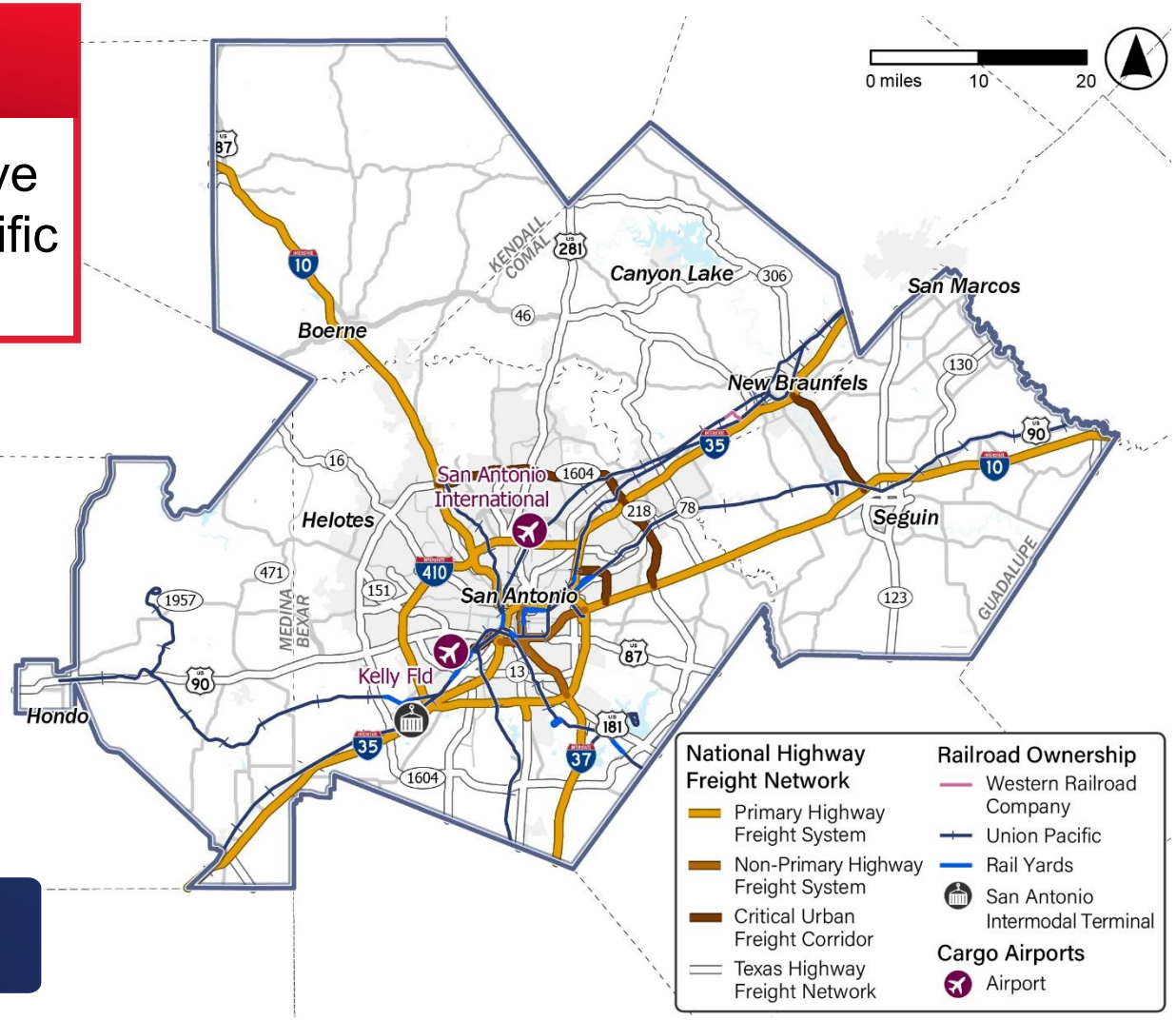
» A one-time decision about how AAMPO conducts business

Program

» An ongoing initiative to advance a specific objective

Policies and programs guide:

- How AAMPO operates and makes decisions
- Coordination of related projects and initiatives
- Which projects are advanced and when
- How and when projects are funded



Top 6 Recommendations

CATEGORY	Safety
STRATEGY	**Coordinate with rail partners to identify mutually beneficial improvements that eliminate at-grade crossings, reduce at-grade crashes, minimize roadway delays from blocked crossings, and address steep crossing profiles.**
TYPE OF STRATEGY	Program
COST	$
FIRST STEP(S)	Engage rail partners during scoping and delivery of Regional Railroad Crossing Study to encourage active partnership from industry.

Top 6 Recommendations

CATEGORY	Congestion, Efficiency
STRATEGY	**Prioritize future bridge clearance improvements based on oversize truck volume and providing alternatives to currently used routes.**
TYPE OF STRATEGY	Program
COST	$
FIRST STEP(S)	Update project evaluation criteria and engage TxDOT Freight Branch to routinely receive OS/OW route data.

Top 6 Recommendations

CATEGORY	ITS, Technology
STRATEGY	**Deploy bridge height safety warning detection systems to prevent bridge strikes and communicate safe routes to drivers.**
TYPE OF STRATEGY	Program
COST	$
FIRST STEP(S)	Conduct a regional inventory of bridge strike incidents to prioritize locations for targeted investments.

Top 6 Recommendations

CATEGORY	Congestion, Efficiency
STRATEGY	**Coordinate with municipalities to align local truck routes and truck restrictions across municipal boundaries.**
TYPE OF STRATEGY	Policy
COST	$
FIRST STEP(S)	Request truck route or restriction documentation from cities and counties to examine consistency at boundaries.

Top 6 Recommendations

CATEGORY	Safety
STRATEGY	**Identify location-specific strategies to reduce or mitigate truck-involved crashes, especially those related to speed or work zones.**
TYPE OF STRATEGY	Program
COST	$$
FIRST STEP(S)	Include truck-specific analysis in the Best Practices for Coordinating of Transportation Construction Activities effort.

Top 6 Recommendations

CATEGORY	Truck Parking
STRATEGY	**Facilitate development of truck parking locations to accommodate rest breaks during long-haul trips as well as short-term staging for distribution activity.**
TYPE OF STRATEGY	Program
COST	$$
FIRST STEP(S)	Complete Regional Truck Parking Study.

Next Steps

Freight Advisory Committee – Goals

Platform to advise, support, and promote:

- Implementation of freight-related plans, programs, and investment strategies
- Ongoing freight-related dialogue
- Coordinated priorities with organizations affecting or affected by freight mobility
- Learning and sharing of information between private and public
- Consistency of regional freight planning efforts with regional freight plans, state freight policy goals, and funding eligibility criteria

FAC Leadership Team

Chair
Vice Chair

Committee Coordinator

Public Sector Members

1. AAMPO representatives
2. Texas Department of Transportation
3. Local Government Agencies
4. Airports

Private Sector/ Industry Members

1. Freight carriers and logistics providers
2. Shippers and major freight generators
3. Freight-forwarding and third-party logistics
4. Trade associations or industry groups
5. Rail and pipeline operators

Other Members

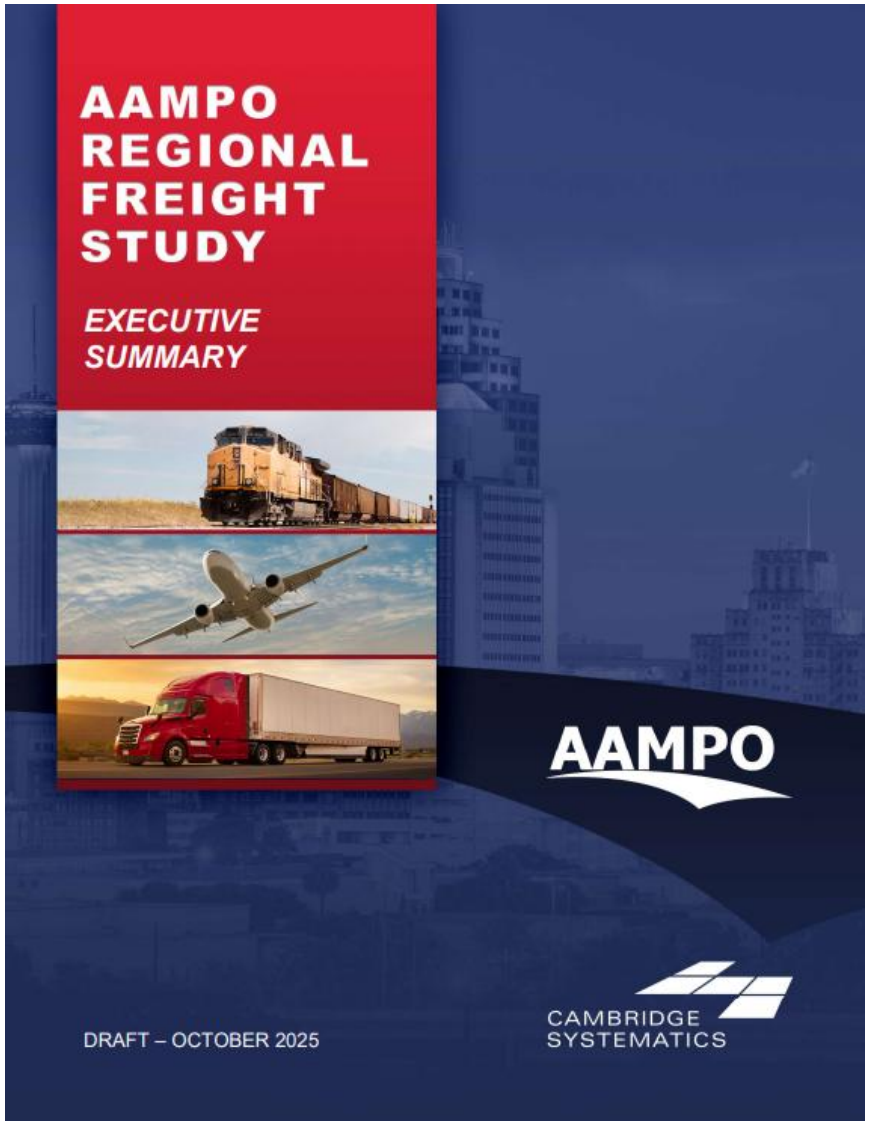
1. Independent Transportation Authorities
2. Safety Partners and Advocates
3. Environmental Agencies
4. Economic Development Agencies
5. Representatives of Communities/Populations Potentially Affected by Freight Movement
6. Workforce Development partners/Higher Education Institutions

Next Steps

- Freight Advisory Committee Kick-Off Meeting
  - Held October 3, 2025
- Requesting Action: Approval of final Executive Summary at AAMPO Transportation Policy Board (Oct 27)
- Approval of final consolidated study Appendices at December TAC & TPB
- Study contract expires on December 1, 2025

Action Requested

Motion to approve the Regional Freight Study Executive Summary and for the full final study report to be placed on the consent agenda for December.



Thank you!