



# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



## TXDOT'S FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION PLANNING INITIATIVES

**Alliance for I-69 Board Meeting  
San Antonio  
January 6, 2014**



# TxDOT'S ROLE IN FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

- Consider Freight in the Transportation Planning Process
- Incorporate Freight Issues into Planning Activities
- Identify Measures and Goals for Freight System Performance
- Develop Freight-Oriented Data Collection and Modeling to Identify Issues and Solutions
- Define Elements of the State's Transportation System that are Critical for Efficient Movement of Freight
- Create a Statewide Freight Advisory Committee to Address Freight Issues
- Develop Texas Freight Mobility Plan



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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**Partnering and Collaborating with the Private sector to  
Address Texas' Freight Needs and Challenges**

# TEXAS FREIGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

- Created in January 2013 by the Texas Transportation Commission
- Evolved out of the Panama Canal Stakeholder Working Group
- Membership Includes Private and Public Sector Freight Stakeholders
- Committee Meets Quarterly
- 2013 – Met 5 times
- 2014 – Next Meeting on Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> in Dallas





# COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

## Sectors Represented

- Economic Development
- Railroads
- Trucking
- Agriculture
- Ports
- Manufacturing
- Air Cargo
- Inland Port
- 3PLs
- Exporters and Importers
- Shippers and Receivers
- Retailers
- Public Sector
- Ocean Carriers

- Comprise of 24 Members and Affiliates
- Represents a Cross-Section of Freight Industry in Texas



# IMPORTANCE OF THE COMMITTEE



- Essential Component of TxDOT's Comprehensive and Multimodal Freight Planning Program



- Freight Transportation is Driven by the Private Sector, and Requires a Mix of Public and Private Stakeholders



- Enable TxDOT to Better Plan for Freight Transportation Mobility



- Help TxDOT to Identify Freight Transportation Networks that are Critical to the State's Economic Growth and Global Competitiveness



# COMMITTEE PURPOSE

## Advice

- Contribute to the Development of Statewide Freight Policies
- TxDOT on Freight Priorities, Issues, Projects, and Funding
- Contribute to Development of Multimodal Texas Freight Mobility Plan
- Strengthen Collaboration Between TxDOT and Freight Industry

## Assist

- TxDOT to Understand Concerns of the Freight and Business Community
- Foster Dialogue Between TxDOT and Freight Industry
- Communicate and Coordinate Priorities with Other Agencies
- Shape the Future of Texas Freight Transportation System

## Support & Advocate

- Provide a Common Voice for the State's Freight Issues
- Promote the Role of Freight to the States' Economic Competitiveness
- Become Freight "Champions"

# COMMITTEE MISSION

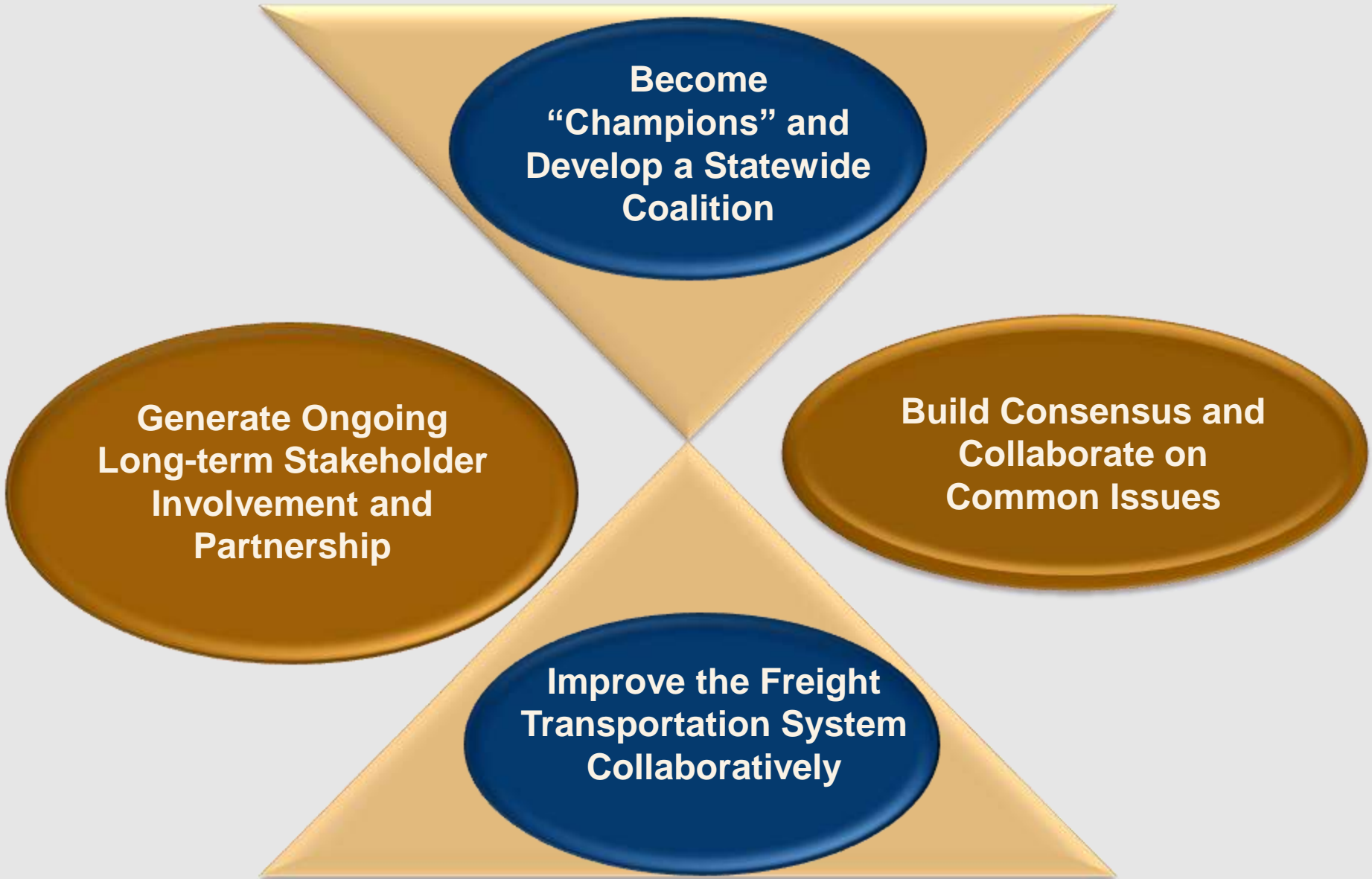


**Advise TxDOT on Freight Issues, Priorities, Projects, Funding Needs for Freight Improvements, and Elevate Freight Transportation as a Critical Component of the State's Economic Vitality and Competitiveness.**





# COMMITTEE GOALS



# COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES

- Ensure **Participation of Private Sector** Freight Stakeholders in TxDOT's Freight Planning Process

- Ensure Freight Transportation is Addressed in TxDOT's Transportation Planning, Programming, Investments, and Implementation Processes

- Assist TxDOT to **Identify and Prioritize Strategic Freight** Transportation Projects that Facilitate **Safe and Efficient Freight Movement**

- **Improve the Condition and Performance** of the Texas Freight System to Facilitate Texas' Ability to **Compete in a Global Economy**



# TXFAC ROLE IN TEXAS FREIGHT MOBILITY PLAN



# COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2013

## Identified Strengths and Weaknesses

- **Strengths**
  - Modal Availability
  - Economic Factors
  - Public Sector Responsiveness
- **Weaknesses**
  - Infrastructural
  - Policy
  - Performance

## Identified Needs and Challenges

- System Capacity
- System Operations
- Safety
- Connectivity
- NAFTA and Border Crossings
- Institutional Issues
- Education & Public Awareness
- Funding Challenges

## Draft Freight Network

- Cornerstone of the Texas Freight Mobility Plan
- Defines an all-mode Texas Freight Network:
  - Transportation corridors
  - Key freight generators and gateways

## Draft Freight Performance Measures

- Operations
  - Reliability
  - Customer Satisfaction
  - Connectivity
- Mobility
  - Accessibility
  - Competitiveness
  - Supply Chain
- Safety
  - Accidents
- Preservation



# 2014 COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

## Develop Recommendations

- Policy Strategies
- Investment Strategies

## Set Priorities and Funding

- Project Prioritization
- Funding

## Develop Implementation Plan

- Short, Mid, and Long-term Strategies
- Schedule for Proposed Strategies
- Funding Plan

## Final Texas Freight Mobility Plan

- Study Findings
- Plan Recommendations
- Plan Implementation

# 2014 MEETING DATES

1. **February 20** – Dallas/Fort Worth
2. **May 8** – East Texas, Nacogdoches or Lufkin
3. **August 14** – Midland/Odessa
4. **November 13** - Houston



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# TEXAS FREIGHT MOBILITY PLAN

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**Addressing Texas' Freight Mobility  
Needs and Challenges**

# PURPOSE OF THE TEXAS FREIGHT MOBILITY PLAN

- Assess Impact of Freight Movement on Texas and its Economy
- Identify Freight Mobility Issues and Needs
- Define and Develop Freight Policies and Strategies for Texas
- Guide Immediate and Long-range Planning and Investments for Freight Projects

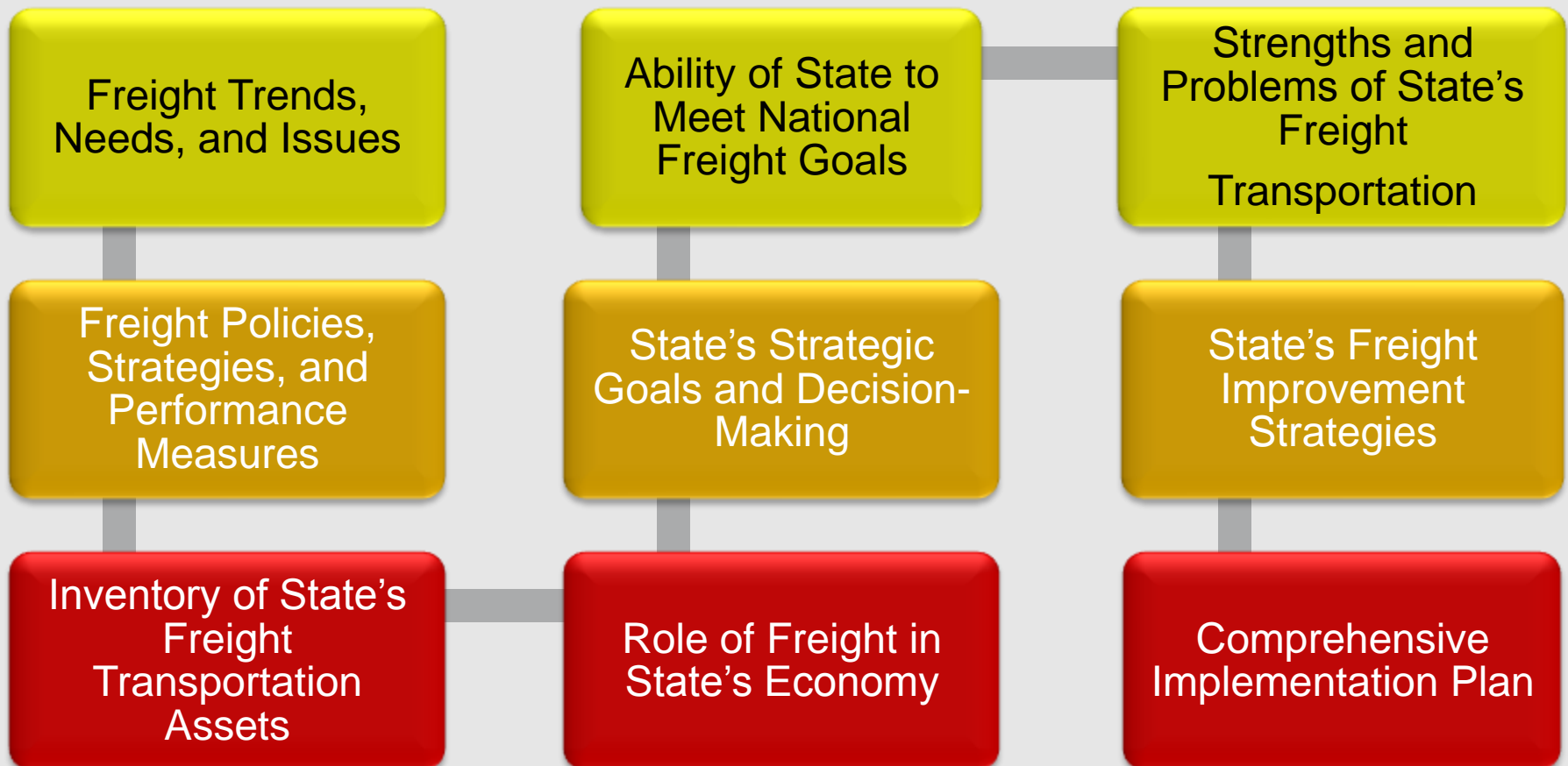
## Requirements

- Align with Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan
- Meet Requirements of MAP-21
- Support National Freight Policy Goals





# KEY TEXAS FREIGHT MOBILITY PLAN ELEMENTS



# COMPREHENSIVE STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH



- Held 11 Listening Sessions Across the State – June, 2013
  - Over 400 Participants
  - Over 1,000 comments received to-date
- Held Video Teleconference Listening Session – August, 2013
  - Over 120 Participants
- Identified Freight Mobility Needs, Challenges, and Opportunities



# KEY FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION NEEDS AND ISSUES IN TEXAS

## System Capacity Issues

- Congestion and Bottlenecks
- Lack of Alternate Routes
- Rail Capacity Limitations

## Safety Issues

- At-Grade Rail Crossings
- Lack of Truck Parking
- Poor Roadway Geometrics

## Institutional-Interagency-Industry Coordination

## Education and Public Awareness

## Funding Challenges

- Need to Think Differently
- Need to Focus Funding on High Priority Freight Corridors
- Need to Balance Existing Funding Needs

## Energy/Environment

- Need for alternative fuel sources

## System Operational Issues

- Aging Infrastructure –Bridges, roadway design
- Oversize/Overweight /Over Dimensional Freight Issues
- Lack of Statewide Strategic/Priority Freight Network
- Incident Management and Freight Traveler Information

## Connectivity

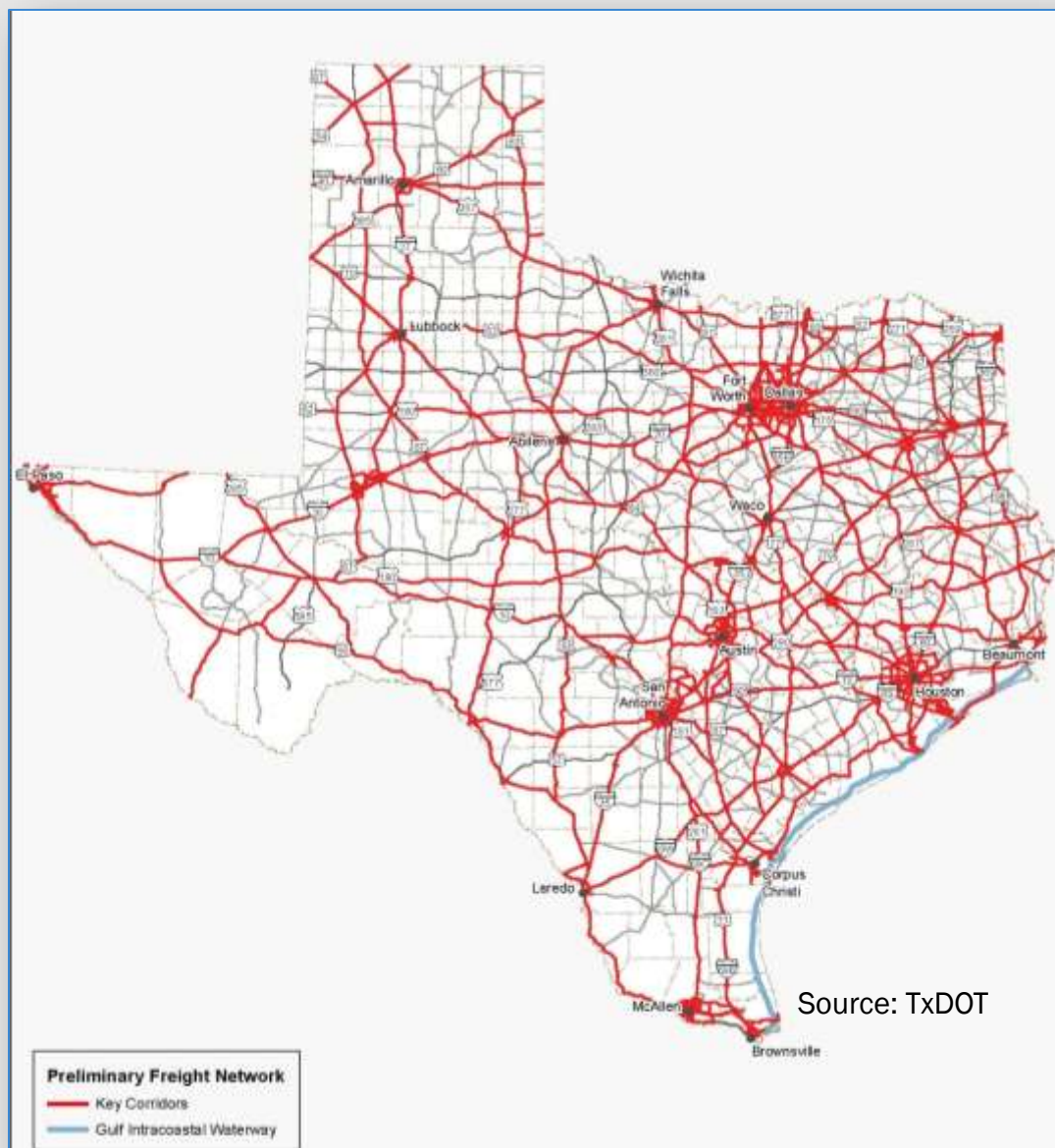
- Intermodal Connectivity
- Rural Connectivity
- Designation of State Freight Network
- Port-Rail Connection

## NAFTA and Border Challenges

- NAFTA Impact – Freight Growth
- Mexico Trade and Relationship
- Border Crossing Congestion and Operational Issues

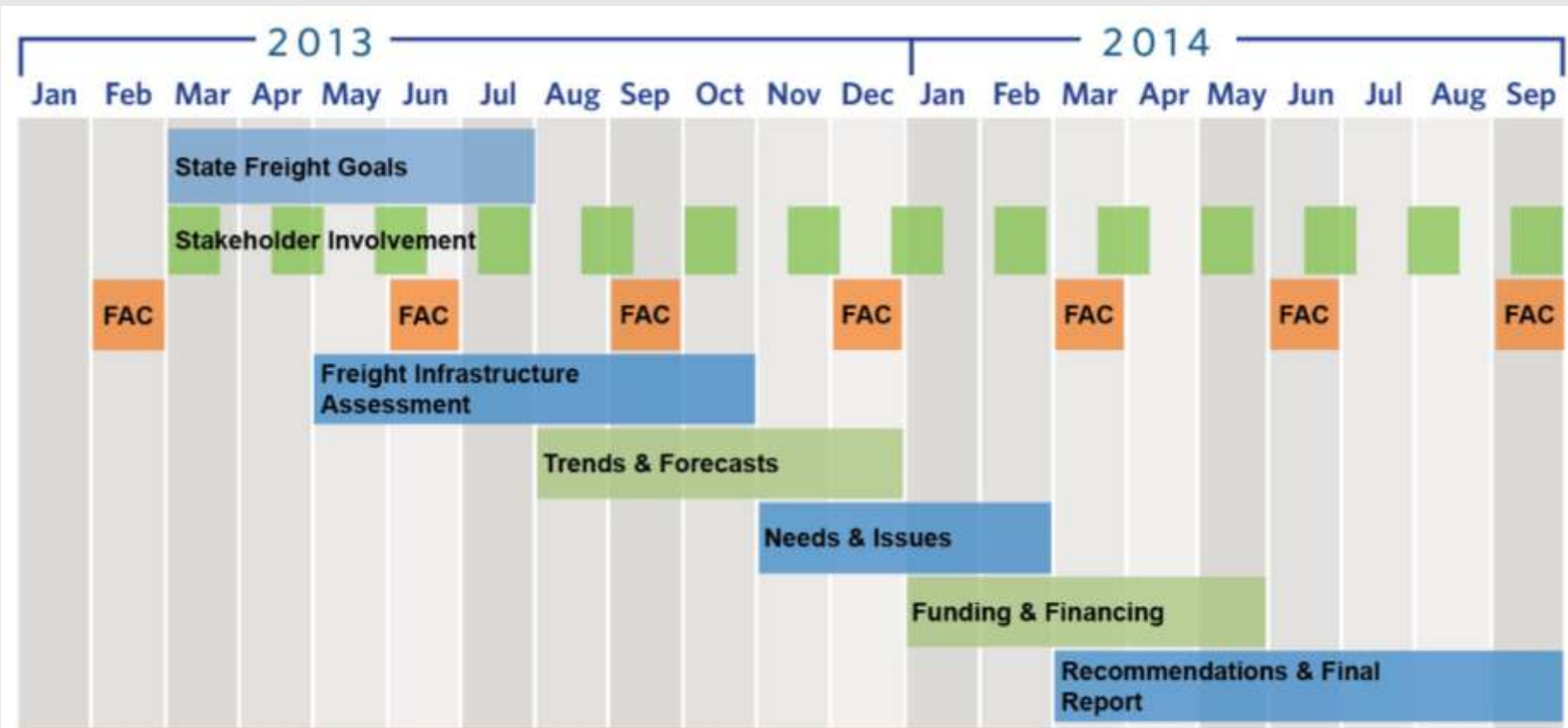
# PRELIMINARY TEXAS HIGHWAY FREIGHT NETWORK

- Cornerstone of the Texas Freight Mobility Plan
- Defines an all-mode Texas Freight Network:
  - Transportation corridors
  - Key freight generators and gateways





# TEXAS FREIGHT MOBILITY PLAN SCHEDULE AND TIMELINE



# TEXAS FREIGHT MOBILITY PLAN - 2014





[www.MoveTexasFreight.com](http://www.MoveTexasFreight.com)

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