



# City of Seattle

Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

## Seattle Transportation

*Seattle  
Freight  
Mobility  
Advisory  
Committee*

January 29, 2008

Norman Abbott, SEPA Responsible Official  
Puget Sound Regional Council  
1011 Western Ave, Suite 500  
Seattle, WA 98104-1035

Peter Whitehead  
Nelson Trucking  
Co-Chair

Subject: Seattle Freight Mobility Advisory Committee scoping comments for the Destination 2030 Update

Pat Binion  
Alaska Distributors  
Co-Chair

Dear Mr. Abbott:

Warren Aakervik  
Ballard Oil

Thank you for the opportunity to guide the scoping process for the Destination 2030 Update. As the City of Seattle’s Freight Mobility Advisory Committee (FMAC), our role is to advise elected officials, SDOT and other agencies on measures to improve freight mobility and safety. The Committee is a public/private partnership with Seattle freight community stakeholders from the Ballard/Interbay/Northend Manufacturing Industrial Center (BINMIC) and the Duwamish Manufacturing Industrial Center. Our comment to you and your staff is simple:

Cliff Bates  
V Van Dyke Trucking

The Destination 2030 Update must include a freight plan with the information and tools required to:

Greg Blaine  
Continental Van Lines

1. Make rational, performance-based, and cost-effective decisions; and
2. Preserve and improve the existing regional freight system so that it can support our growing economy.

Andrew Johnsen  
BNSF Railroad

Since its inception in 2002, FMAC has reviewed numerous planning documents and project designs. Our members are increasingly concerned about their ability to move the freight our region’s economy is dependent on. Some questions that the region should be prepared to answer include:

Ed Shilley  
NUCOR Steel

What does the system currently look like, and what it will need to look like in the future? The Destination 2030 Update must provide that “system map”. There is a need to identify the existing freight routes, fill gaps, and address bottlenecks to maintain the continuity and capacity of the existing system. At the same time, population and economic growth will require that we identify and improve those corridors where increased throughput capacity is needed.

Kim Suelzle  
CityIce

What are the different needs of different industry sectors? Our committee members cover a broad range of industries, each with its own operational characteristics and freight needs. The region must gather the information necessary to understand the needs of different industries, and use it in turn to develop the future regional freight system.

Christine Wolf  
Port of Seattle

The Seattle Freight  
Mobility Advisory  
Committee advises

elected officials, SDOT  
and other agencies on  
measures to improve  
freight mobility and safety  
in Seattle.



Seattle Freight Mobility Advisory Committee scoping comments for the Destination 2030 Update

What are the physical attributes of the regional corridors needed to accommodate large trucks, both within local jurisdictions, and between urban and manufacturing industrial centers? How can we protect the functional integrity of regional facilities? Too often, the needs of other modes or urban design considerations focused on local interests take priority, even on major truck streets serving a regional function. One consequence is frequently that the safety of all modes is compromised.

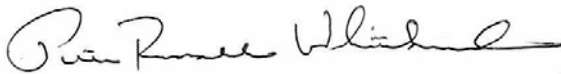
How can we fund the physical maintenance and preservation of the existing system? While we are encouraged that PSRC is listing preservation as one of the major transportation policy areas, there will need to be a greater focus on maintaining what we have.

What policies and performance measures would help guide the planning and project funding decisions of the PSRC and its member jurisdictions in order to protect and enhance the regional freight system? The Destination 2030 Update should serve as a guiding document helping both the region and local jurisdictions understand and meet freight mobility needs in a rational, cost-effective manner.

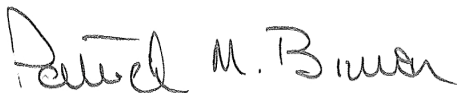
We sincerely hope that the Destination 2030 Update will address these problems to provide Puget Sound with the freight mobility system it needs to serve local and regional economies and be competitive in the global economy.

If you have any questions on the Freight Committee's comments, please contact Peter Whitehead at 206 947 6180. For comments or questions about the City of Seattle freight program, contact Ron Borowski, Seattle Department of Transportation at 206 684 8370.

Sincerely,



Peter Whitehead, Co-Chair  
Seattle Freight Mobility Advisory Committee



Pat Binion, Co-Chair  
Seattle Freight Mobility Advisory Committee

Cc:

Mayor Greg Nickels  
Councilmember Jan Drago, Chair Council Transportation Committee  
FMAC Members  
Grace Crunican, SDOT  
Ron Borowski, SDOT