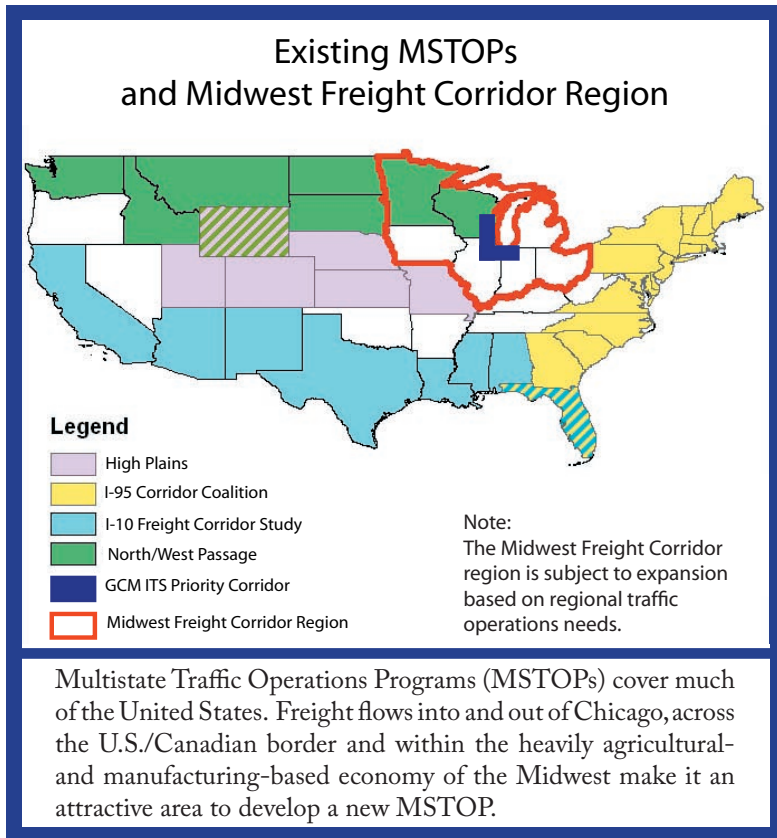


MIDWEST TRAFFIC OPERATIONS COALITION

Executive Summary



The **Midwest Freight Corridor Coalition** has identified need for and benefits associated with the development of a regional decision-making process for traffic and commercial vehicle operations in the Midwest. In the first quarter of 2006, a series of exploratory meetings were held with a collection of Midwest-based organizations with an interest in enhancing interstate traffic and commercial vehicle operations and sharing traveler information. The parent organizations committed to establish a **Midwest Traffic Operations Coalition**, using the participants, framework, and existing funding of the Midwest Freight Corridor Coalition as a launching platform. The proposed Midwest Traffic Operations Coalition would also use the Gary-Chicago-Milwaukee (GCM) ITS Priority Corridor as a guide, drawing on the exemplary work done by the organization and expanding GCM initiatives to a broader region. At a Columbus, Ohio workshop held in late April 2006, the organizations developed a Midwest corridor-oriented vision, needs and a list of potential activities that support a variety of traffic operations, safety and economic development

activities throughout the region. Immediate actions undertaken by this Coalition could include the sharing and publishing of regional clearance laws, emergency routes, road closure guidelines, and traveler information resources for the benefit of Midwest interstate highway shippers and the traveling public.

EXPECTED BENEFITS

- Reducing Crashes on Freeways
- Enhanced Freeway Safety
- Reducing Major Traffic Incident Clearance Times
- Ability to Route Interstate Traffic Around Major Traffic Incidents
- Continued Growth of Manufacturing Sector
- Cost Savings through State DOT Cooperation and Collaboration
- Better Working Relationship between Upper Midwest Traffic Operations Professionals

VISION

Develop and implement a regional transportation operations system in the Midwest with expected benefits of:

- Coordinating efforts to respond to and minimize non-recurring congestion and improve network reliability
- Sustaining and encouraging economic competitiveness of the region
- Reducing crashes, personal injuries, and fatalities
- Supporting national emergency preparedness

NEEDS

- Accelerate coordinated interstate highway system management and operations by facilitating deployments of cross-jurisdictional programs and services
- Provide a source of long-distance travel information to shippers and the traveling public
- Development of a mobility-oriented Midwest Regional Concept of Transportation Operations
- Creation of frameworks and guidelines that will:
 - Assist members with system management and operations
 - Support investment decisions
 - Select and define standards for information sharing
- Development and maintenance of strategic, performance-oriented business plans
- Organizational and technical support to foster learning and information sharing

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Parent Organizations



POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES

NO COST / LOW FUNDING SCENARIO

- Catalog Existing Emergency Alternative Routes (local/state)
- Define Interstate Alternative Routes
- Phone List/Routing Requirements
- Equipment Asset Maps
- Share Road Closure Guidelines
- Develop Methods for Best and Approved Product Sharing/Peer Exchanges
- Share Information on Traffic Incident Management-oriented Legislation (e.g., Vehicle Clearance and Emergency Vehicle “Move Over” Laws)

LIMITED FUNDING SCENARIO

- Combine State Static Closure Information
- Develop Midwest Concept of Transportation Operations
- Develop Annual Performance Measures Program

SIGNIFICANT FUNDING SCENARIO

- Midwest Connected Vehicle Pilot Integrating Vehicle, Transportation Infrastructure, Communication and Application/Service Domains
- Real Time Traveler Information
- Traffic Technology Test-bed
- Midwest Traffic Operations Center

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