



CONNECTING COOK COUNTY FREIGHT PLAN



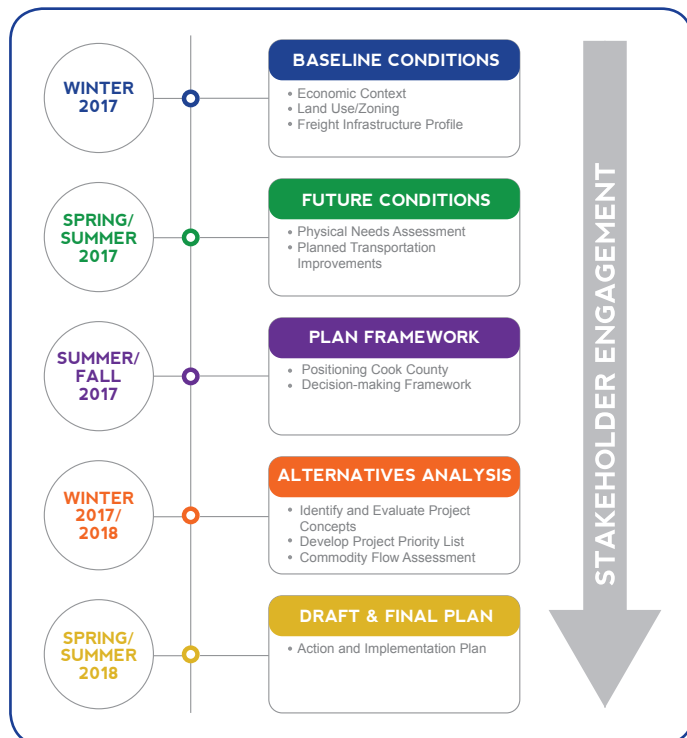
PURPOSE



Freight transportation has played a critical role in the development and continued prosperity of our region. To support the metropolitan area's role as North America's freight capital, the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (DOTH) is developing the Cook County Freight Plan (CCFP). The Freight Plan is a key recommendation from *Connecting Cook County*, the County's Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The CCFP will help determine the value of Cook County's freight assets to the region and beyond.

The purpose of the CCFP is to create a prioritized list of freight-specific policy, funding, and project recommendations that the County can implement to address existing deficiencies and projected future needs in the movement of goods. This plan will build on other freight planning work being done in the region to provide the County with a clear path toward ensuring the region's competitiveness in manufacturing, goods movement, and logistics and preserve our position as the busiest freight hub in the nation. The CCFP will also identify the partnerships and coalitions necessary to accomplish this.

PROJECT SCHEDULE



STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

Stakeholder input will be a key element in the development of the CCFP and will build off the success of stakeholder outreach efforts conducted during the LRTP process. The stakeholder engagement process will include:

- Advisory Committee consisting of state, regional, and local public and private freight leaders
- Internal Work Group representing key Cook County departments
- External Work Groups with manufacturing industry personnel and freight operators
- One-on-One Interviews with private sector developers and municipal leaders

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