

Chapter 11

Recommendations

Southbound traffic on Route 33 south of Stockertown

The recommendations were developed in an effort to address the trends, needs and issues identified and meet the regional freight goal and accompanying policies. These high level policy recommendations are designed to ensure the safe, efficient movement of freight in the future. Further analysis can be undertaken to identify specific projects that can help achieve these policy recommendations. The recommendations are grouped under the policy they help to accomplish.

Implementation of this plan will require further action and follow-up by LVPC members, committees and staff, including potential adoption of additional policies and guidance.



Marking on traffic safety signage at Traffic Services in Allentown

SAFETY

- Eliminate at-grade rail crossings at critical rail and highway freight corridors.
- Identify and analyze potential new truck parking locations.

MOBILITY

- Develop and publicize alternative routes for heavily used freight corridors.
- Reduce congestion and bottlenecks at critical first/last mile connectors to major freight generators and gateways.
- Identify options for reducing bottlenecks and congestion along major regional freight corridors.
- Work with the private sector and educational institutions to highlight the issues related to driver shortages and impact of federal regulations.

SYSTEM PRESERVATION

- Develop a maintenance plan to address and prioritize critical bridge and roadway improvements on the regional freight network.
- Develop a regional rail plan to identify regional freight rail corridors, including those corridors at risk of abandonment.

STEWARDSHIP

- Incorporate freight issues into the *Long Range Transportation Plan* and project selection process, with accompanying freight-specific performance measures.
- Develop a data collection and storage initiative in order to serve as a freight data clearinghouse, analyze freight system conditions and performance, and track system performance measures.
- Continue to coordinate with PennDOT and other public agencies, economic development agencies and the private sector on regional freight mobility issues.