

**FREIGHT TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE HAMPTON ROADS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

JULY 14, 2010 MEETING

AASHTO UNLOCKING FREIGHT REPORT SUMMARY

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials “AASHTO” Released a July 2010 report on Unlocking Freight: The case for capacity to unlock gridlock, generate jobs, deliver freight and connect communities. A copy of the report is attached. A summary of findings follows:

1. By 2020 the trucking industry will haul 3 billion more tons of freight than today
2. By 2015 the Panama Canal may shift significant freight volumes to the Atlantic Coast
3. Exports are expected to grow at a rate faster than imports in the future
4. Truck hour delays at the top ten interchanges cost \$19 billion
5. More than 10 million Americans work in freight transportation related jobs
6. 32,000 lane miles are needed
7. 8,000 lane miles of truck only toll facilities are needed
8. 400 lane miles of port access are needed
9. Intermodal connection improvements are needed
10. Between 1990 and 2010 international trade increased 13% to 30% of the US economy
 - a. Investment in world class supporting infrastructure is critical
11. By 2035 railroads are expected to carry 38% of the nations freight
 - a. US rail infrastructure needs are \$148 billion
 - b. The private railroads are estimated to be able to cover about 70%
12. US seaports generated \$3.2 trillion in economic activity
 - a. Connections to the seaports are often the weak link
13. Few state agencies can address this problem, Federal assistance is needed
 - a. Create and fund a freight program