



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

U.S. Department of Transportation Releases Historic National Freight Strategic Plan

The United States Department of Transportation (DOT) made history on September 3, 2020 by unveiling the National Freight Strategic Plan (NFSP).

The DOT developed the NFSP through a multi-agency effort involving freight stakeholders in both the public and private sectors, with the intent to boost the U.S. economy by streamlining the U.S. multimodal freight system through significant investments in infrastructure and reductions in regulations.

According to a statement issued by Elaine L. Chao, U.S. Secretary of Transportation: *“As freight demand continues to grow and shifting trends strain parts of the freight system, the Department seeks to lay out a strategic plan to maintain and improve the competitiveness of America’s freight system.”*

As demands for freight increase, and recognizing its significance to the U.S. economy, it is vital that investments in infrastructure and operational improvements be made to support the U.S. freight industry and that regulatory and other barriers to the freight industry be eliminated. To help overcome these barriers, in 2008, the Government Accountability Office recommended that the Secretary of Transportation release a national freight strategy that defines the federal role in, and develops a national strategy for, freight transportation in order to improve freight mobility throughout the U.S. In section 8001 of the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act, Congress required the establishment of the NFSP.

The NFSP will be used by the DOT as a plan to guide national freight policy, programs, initiatives, and investments, and for establishing systems for increased cross-sector, multijurisdictional, and multimodal coordination and partnerships. The goals of the NFSP are to:

- Improve safety, security, and resilience of the national freight system;
- Modernize freight infrastructure and operations to grow the economy, increase competitiveness, and improve quality of life; and
- Prepare for the future by supporting the development of data, technologies, and workforce capabilities that improve freight system performance.

The complete NFSP can be found at
<https://www.transportation.gov/freight/NFSP/fullreport>

About Anthony J. Vizzoni, Esq.:



Anthony J. Vizzoni is a partner in the firm and serves as Co-Chair of the firm's Trucking and Logistics Group and also as Chair the firm's Business Services Group. He focuses his practice on working closely with the firm's clients on complex issues such as commercial real estate, financing and transactional matters. Prior to joining Becker, Mr. Vizzoni served as in-house counsel to a well-respected real estate development firm. In that capacity, Mr. Vizzoni gained vast legal, operational and business experience in all aspects of real estate investment, real estate financing and real estate development.

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