

# Freight Planning Update

October 24, 2019

# Responding to the Growth of E-Commerce



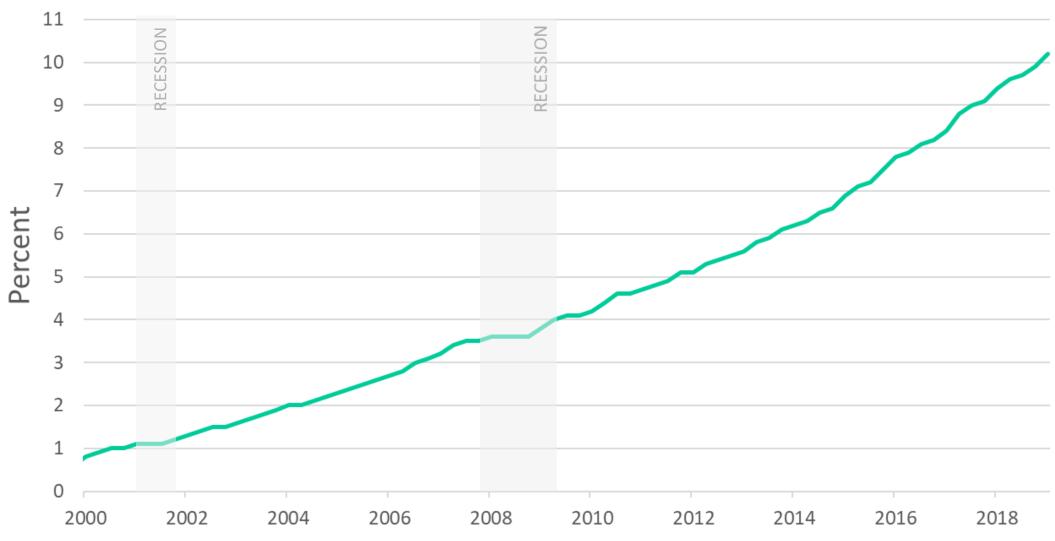
#### Goals

Understand the impacts that growing e-commerce may have on transportation, land use, fiscal condition, the environment, and the workforce

Develop local, regional, and state policies, investment strategies, and other responses to direct impacts and take advantage of opportunities



#### E-Commerce Retail Sales as a Percent of Total Sales



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

#### **Transportation Impacts**

**Urban VMT** 

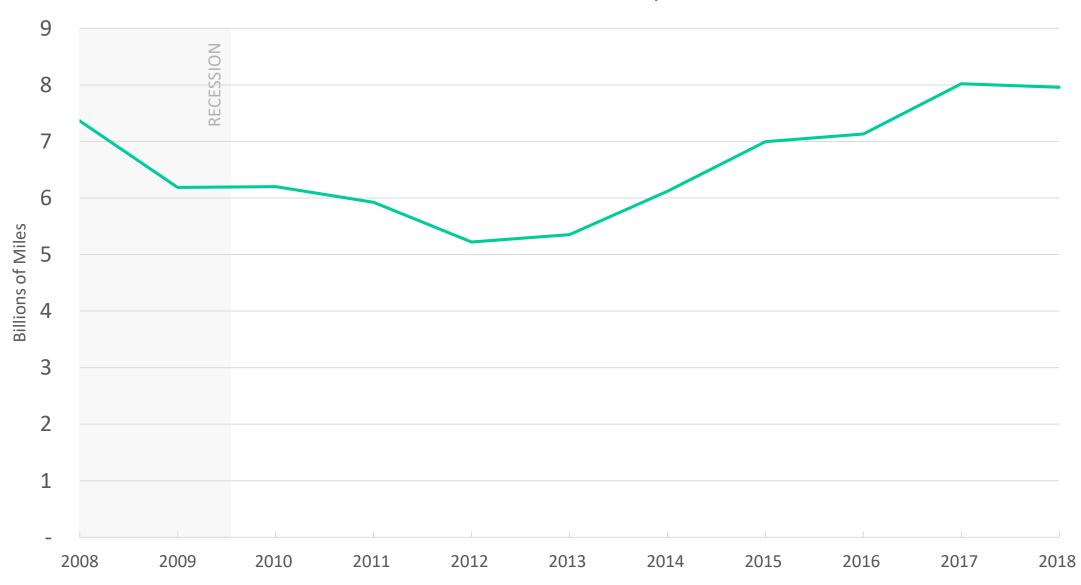
Roadway congestion

Wear and tear on roads

Curb congestion and use conflicts



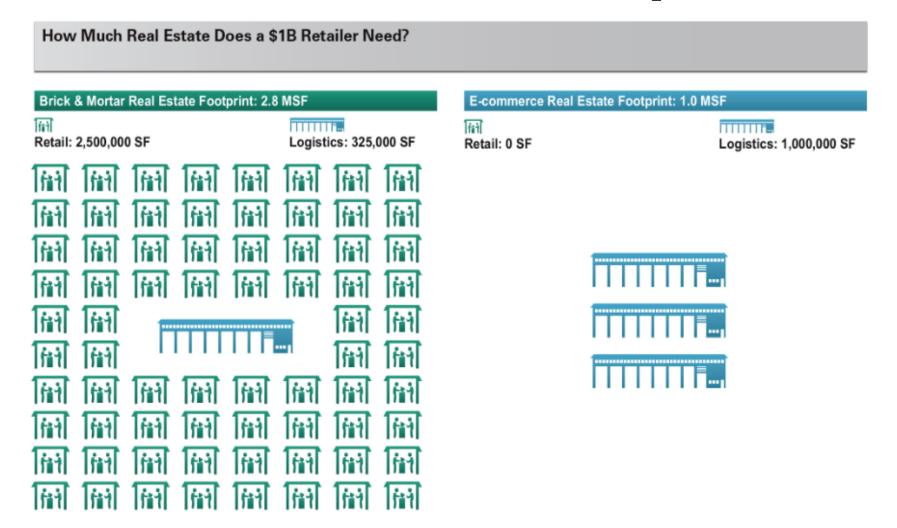
#### Annual Urban Truck VMT, Illinois







#### **Uncertain Land Use Impacts**





# Other impacts:

Communities

Environment

Workforce





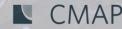
## The industry is changing

Increased omnichannel approaches (mix of physical and online outlets)

Adaptation by traditional brick and mortar retailers

Shifting distribution strategies and the addition of urban delivery hubs

Changing regulatory environment (sales taxes)



# Water Transportation Planning





#### **IIPD Master Plan**

#### **IIPD** properties

- Iroquois Landing
- Lake Calumet

Identify strategies to better utilize existing facilities.

Position the port to realize its full economic potential.

Provide workforce, community, recreational, and environmental benefits.



#### **IIPD Master Plan**

#### Phase I

- Examine existing conditions
- Perform market assessments
- Visioning

#### Phase II

- Scenarios for improvements and developments
- Identify key initiatives
- Identify a series of near- and long-term implementable actions

https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/programs/lta/iipd-master-plan



## Motorist Delay at Grade Crossings

Purpose of analyses
Estimating crossing delay
Prioritization of crossings
Feasibility studies



# Purpose of analyses

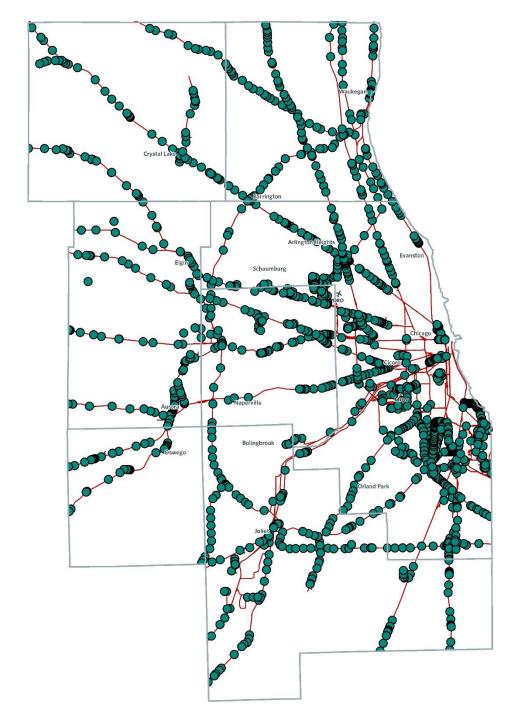


# **Highway-Rail Grade Crossings**

- Grade Crossings
- Railroads

Sources: ICC, FRA, CMAP

There are 1,646 highway-rail grade crossings in the 7-county Chicago region.



#### Regional Indicator

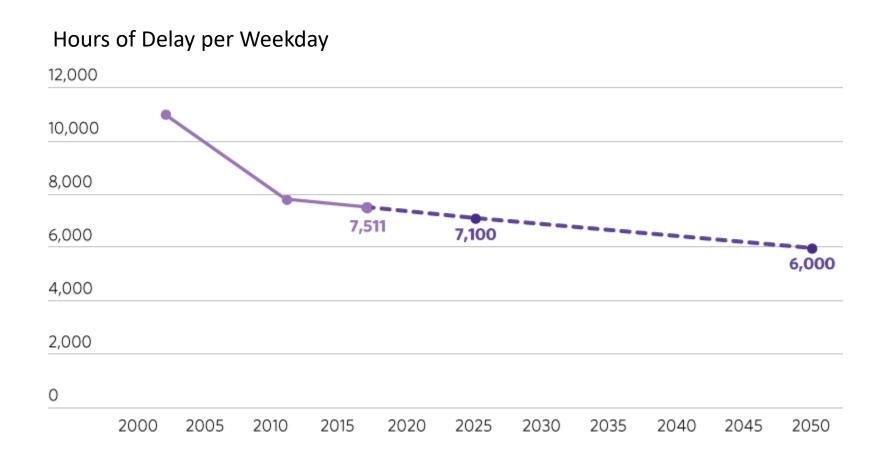
Indicator:
Motorist delay at highway-rail grade crossings

#### Key:



**Target** 

Source: CMAP analysis of Illinois Commerce Commission data





#### How to Reduce Crossing Delay

Improve rail-system performance (speed up trains).

- CREATE Program, e.g., WA-11 on Dolton and Riverdale
- Additional track (e.g., UP West Line), sidings, and crossovers
- Terminal improvements (reduce switching and dead-heads)

Consolidate problematic crossings

Reroute highway traffic to better-performing crossings

Grade separations



# **Estimating Crossing Delay**

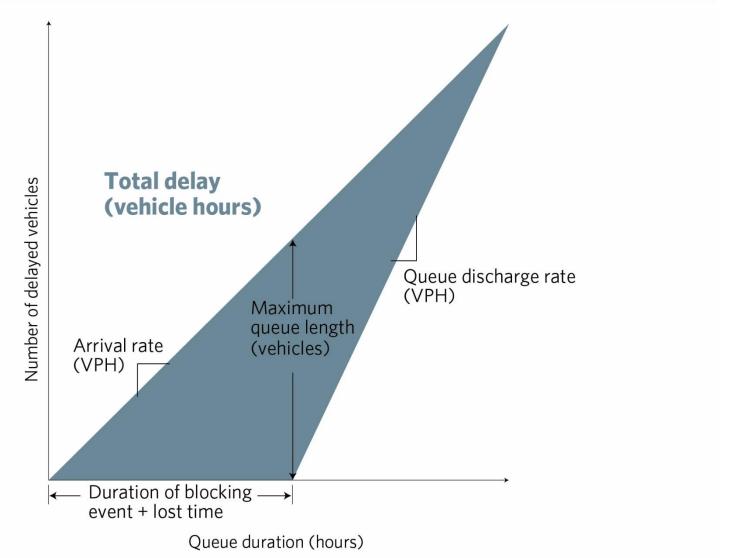


#### **New Method for Estimating Delay**

#### Estimating grade crossing delay

Note: VPH means "vehicles per hour."

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of Okitsu, Louie, and Lo, "Simulation-Free Railroad Grade Crossing Delay Analyses," 2010.



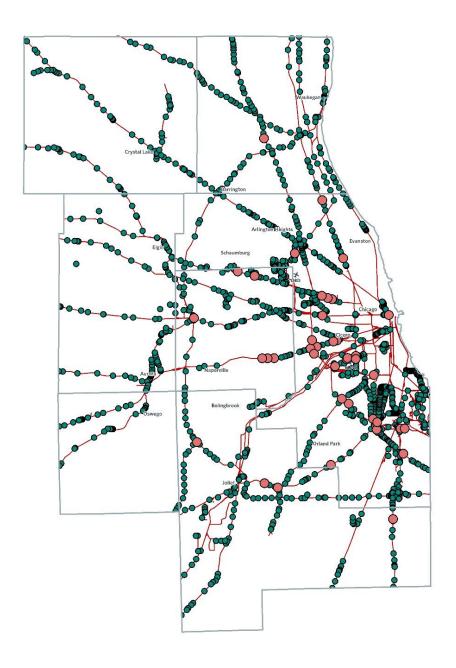


#### **Highway-Rail Grade Crossings**

- Grade Crossings
- Data Collection Sites
- Railroads

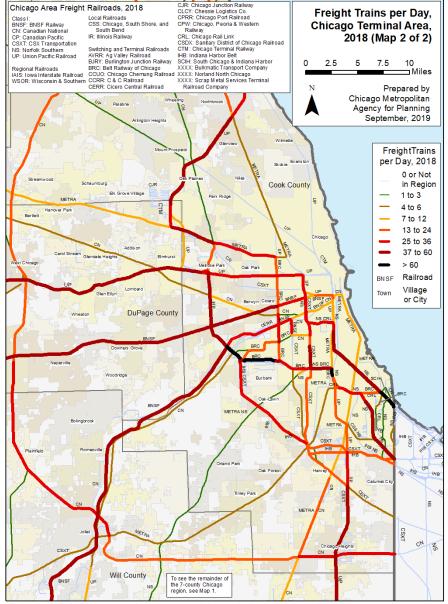
Sources: ICC, FRA, CMAP

Data was collected over two summers at 40 sites, primarily by summer interns.





New estimates of daily freight trains were required. CMAP compiled industry data supplemented by field data collection.



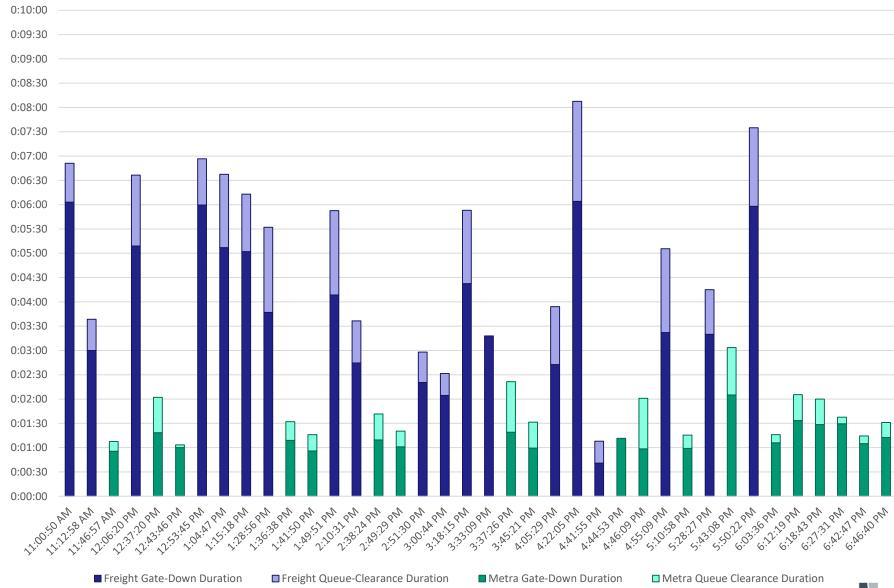
Estimate by CMAP represents the average weekday, excluding switching and equipment moves. Source: National Transportation Database (NTD), 2011, Updated with information from createprogram.org, NTD 2017, FRA and Illinois Commerce Commission Grade Crossing Databases, CN EJE Operations Monitoring, 75th CIP EIS, 2019 AAR Illinois Profile, Google Earth, field data collection, and personal communications. Missing data was interpolated. Note: Figures include overhead trackage rights for many railroads. See http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/mobility/freight/freight-data-resources

Crossings 174973G, 260541T - Washington St. UP/CN (West Chicago) Gate-Down and Queue-Clearance Durations by Type (Minutes, 2017)

Freight trains are slower than expected.

Queue-clearance times are substantial.

At this crossing, ICCestimated average gate-down times were 1:00 for Metra trains and 2:24 for freight trains.





# Results: Motorist Delay per Crossing

Average of Old Estimates of Delay

46 hours
per
weekday
Range 2 - 182

Average of New Estimates of Percent Change Delay

120 hours | 160% per weekday

Range 2 - 430



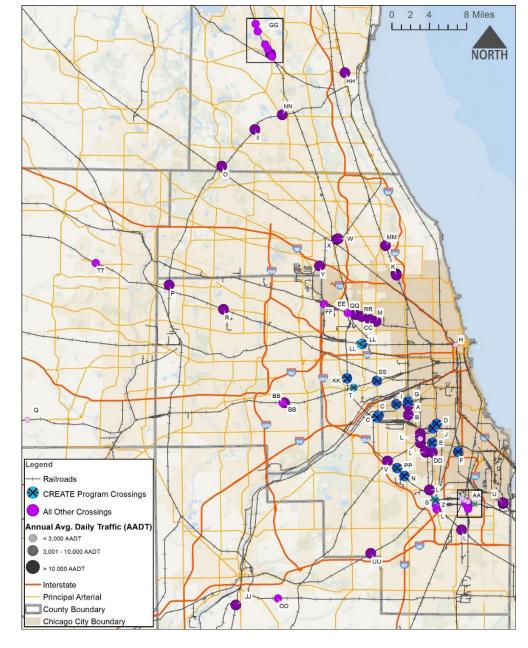
# Prioritization of Crossings



# **Grade Separation Prioritization**

#### Based on:

- estimate of crossing delay
- estimate of crash risk
- truck exposure
- transit impact
- initial analysis of likely impacts
- status of project development





# Feasibility Studies



#### **Grade Crossing Feasibility Studies**

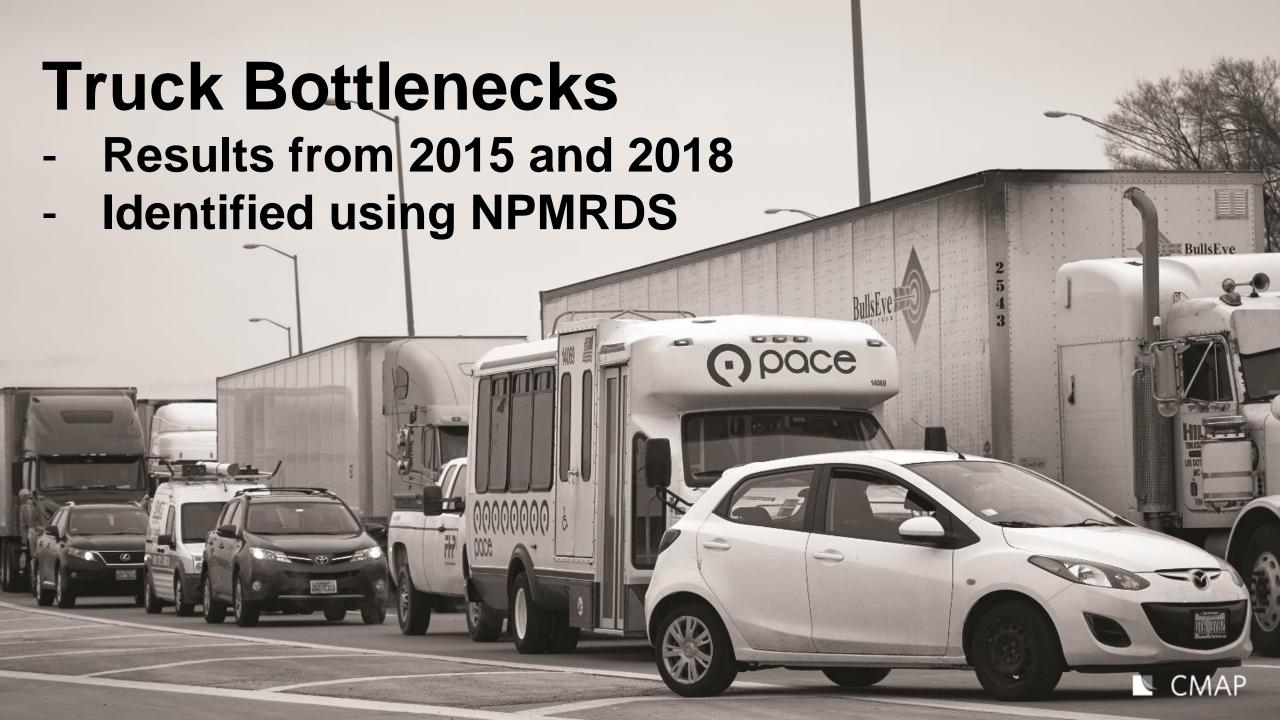
- Up to 5 crossings to be studied
- Outreach and engagement
- Existing conditions analysis
- Purpose and need
- Alternatives Screening and Feasibility Study
- Employing FHWA's Planning and Environmental Linkages process to prepare a purpose and need statement and screened alternatives for the preliminary engineering and environmental studies process.



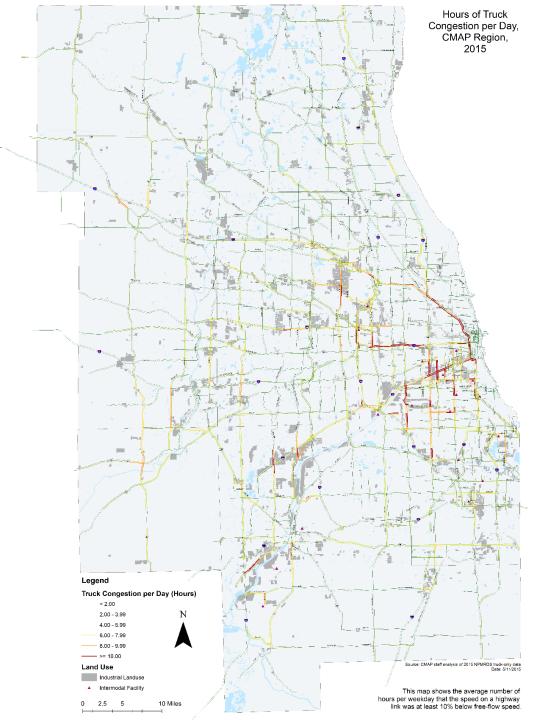
#### **Truck Studies**

- Truck Bottlenecks
- Truck Route Studies



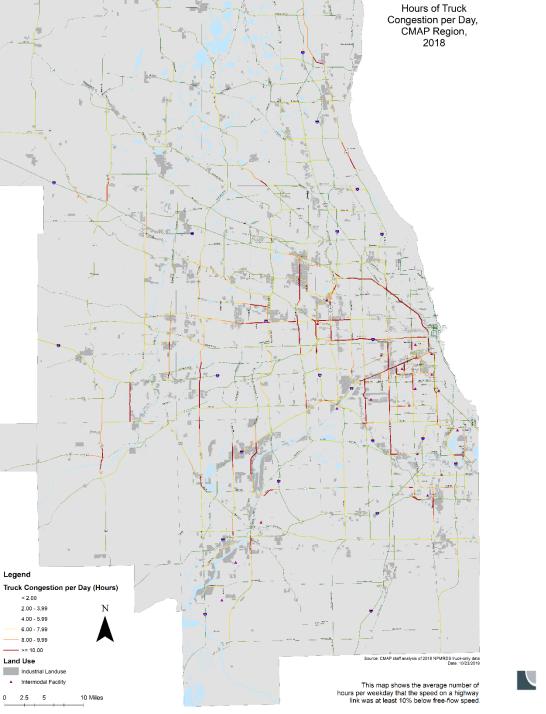


Hours of truck congestion per day, 2015

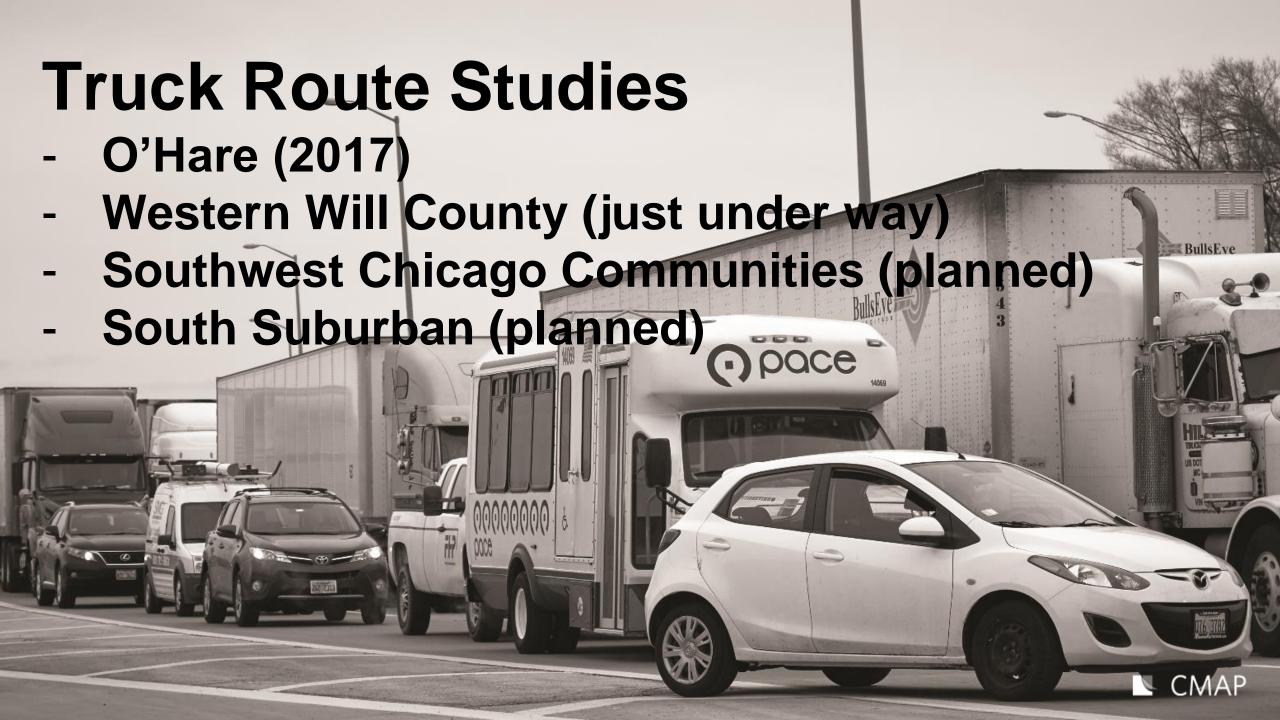




Hours of truck congestion per day, 2018





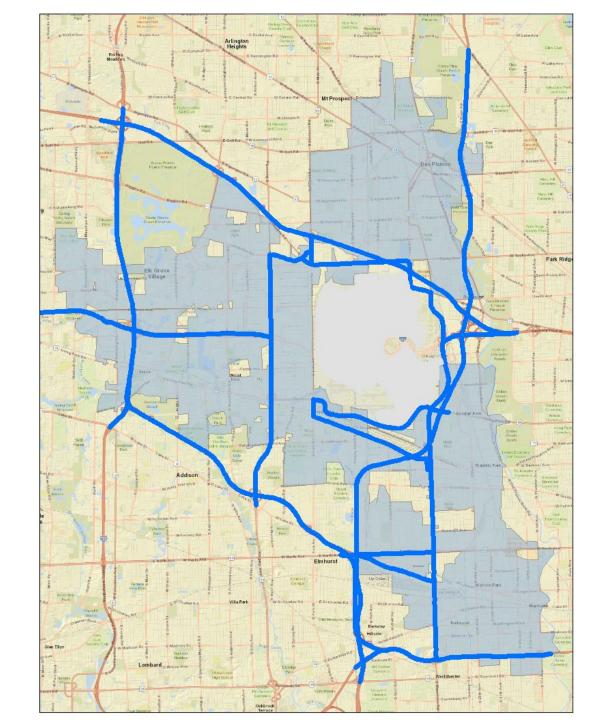


## Conceptual framework

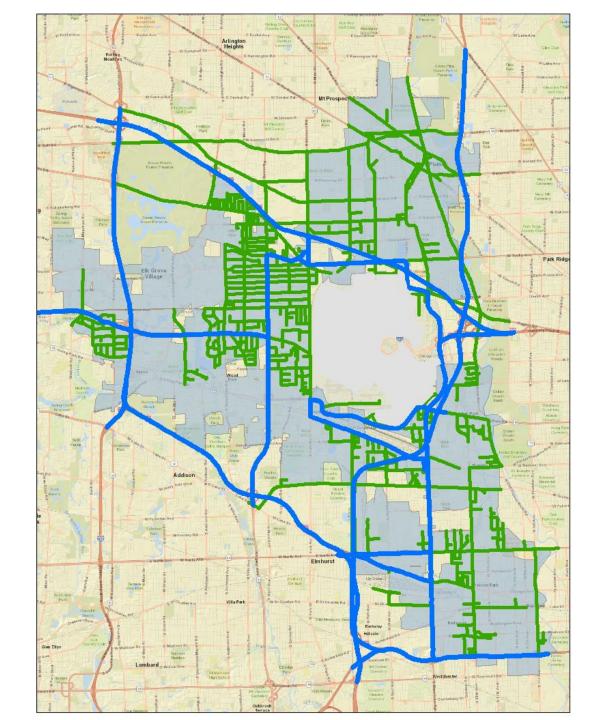
Road Level	Proposed Level A	Proposed Level B	Proposed Level C	Proposed Level D
Designate a Class I Truck Route?	Yes	No	No	No
Designate a Class II Truck Route?	Yes	Yes	No	No
Designate a Locally Preferred Truck Route?	No	No	Maybe (if allowed under IL law)	No
Undesignated Roads and Streets?	No	No	Maybe	Yes
Truck Route Sign?	Yes	Yes	Maybe	No
Truck Restriction?	No	No	Maybe (if allowed under IL law)	Yes
Truck Investment?	Yes (Prioritized)	Yes (Balanced)	Maybe (focus on small trucks)	No
Primary Investment Guidelines	AASHTO	AASHTO	AASHTO/ NACTO	NACTO / AASHTO
Included in a Truck Route Map?	Yes	Yes	Maybe (if allowed under IL law)	No



#### Level A

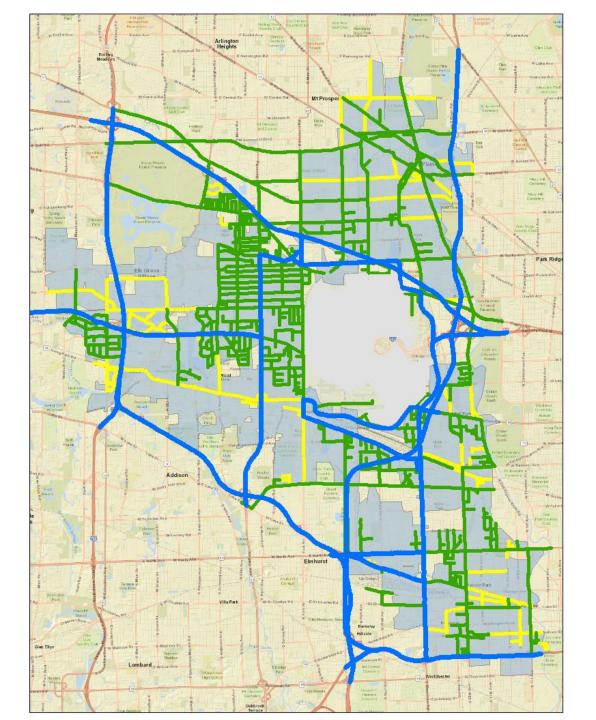


## Level A Level B



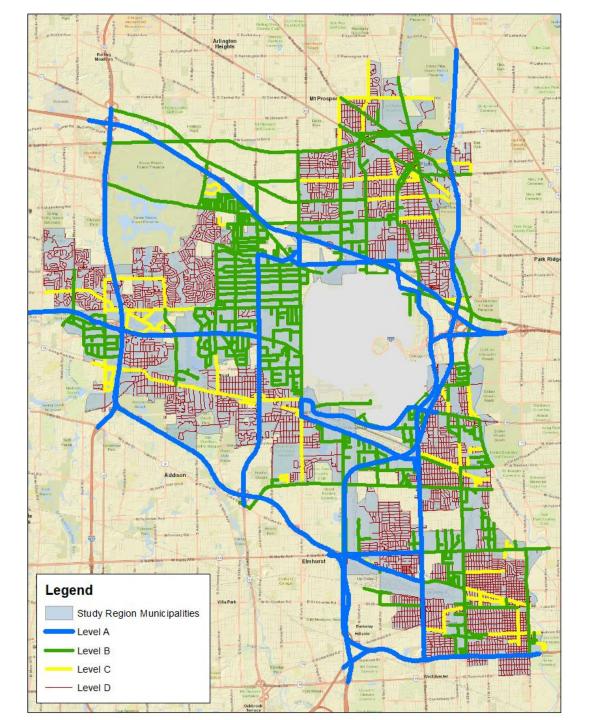


# Level A Level B Level C





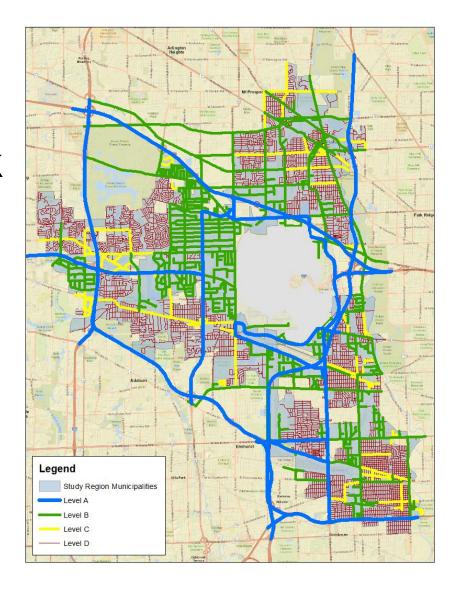
# Level A Level B Level C Level D





#### Recommended CMAP actions

- Assist local agency truck route designations.
- ✓ Collect and maintain truck restriction data (SB 1381 now PA 101-0328).







## Changes in highway designation law

Public Act 100-0343

625 ILCS 5/15-107(b) On all non-State highways, the maximum length of vehicles in combinations is as follows:

(1) A truck tractor in combination with a semitrailer may not exceed 65 <del>55</del> feet overall dimension. An agency or instrumentality of the State of Illinois or any unit of local government shall not be required to widen or otherwise alter a non-State highway constructed before [January 1, 2018] to accommodate truck tractors under this paragraph (1).



## Changes in highway designation law

#### Public Act 101-0328

- 5-mile access for the largest vehicles to all roads not otherwise restricted
- Access can be for food, fuel, loading, unloading, repairs, or rest
- Eliminates Class 3 truck routes
- Class II truck routes reported to IDOT, but signs are no longer necessary
- Truck restrictions may be reported to IDOT
- IDOT must post local truck restrictions to its web site



## Changes in highway designation law

#### Key takeaways:

- New laws better align with municipal practice
- New laws will place greater importance on getting restrictions right
- With greater legal access for large trucks on local roads, there will be more importance on assuring those roads are structurally suitable for large trucks
- New investments for trucks may be increasingly important

Will need to revisit specific O'Hare study recommendations. Will need to consider new law in the course of upcoming studies.





www.cmap.illinois.gov/onto2050 Tom Murtha 312.386.8649 tmurtha@cmap.lllinois.gov