National Multimodal Freight Network

Overview

The National Multimodal Freight Network (NMFN) map is a map created by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) that outlines the critical routes for moving freight across the country, encompassing highways, railways, waterways, airports, and marine ports, designed to help states prioritize where to allocate federal funds for infrastructure improvements to facilitate efficient movement of goods using multiple transportation modes. Essentially, it shows the most important transportation corridors for freight movement across the nation, considering intermodal connections between different modes of transport.

Facts

The NMFN map includes ports that handle 1.5 million tons or more in 2022 as recognized by the Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center (WCSC).

According to WCSC, there are roughly 350 public ports in the United States and only 138 of them are listed on DOTs draft NMFN map.

Issues

Exclusion from the NFMN map, could potentially impact availability to discretionary grant funding, state freight planning and more. IRPT believes that all ports are crucial to the communities they serve and customers that use those ports and their impact to our nation.

A Maritime Administrator has not been appointed within the Department of Transportation, meaning maritime representation at the table at the Office of Multimodal Freight. Excluding the voice of one mode during national freight decisions is dangerous.

Call to Action

Pause the National Multimodal Freight Network map production and decision on future uses until maritime representation is included at the table.

Include all ports as recognized by WCSC.

Inland Rivers, Ports & Terminals