

The background image is a photograph of a historic brick building, likely a school or institutional structure, featuring a prominent clock tower on the left side. The building is multi-storied with numerous windows. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent green filter. The word "Economy" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font across the lower half of the image.

# Economy





## 2. Economy

The economic vitality of Illinois is key to the well-being and quality of life for businesses and residents throughout the state. Illinois' geographical location near the center of the nation and the diversity of statewide transportation options have made the Illinois multimodal transportation network an economic keystone and a vital hub for national and regional travel and freight movement. Over the past century, Illinois businesses, residents and visitors have benefited from the steady development of one of the largest and most effective multimodal transportation systems in the nation, including roadways, passenger and freight railroads, transit and commuter services, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, airports, waterways and canals, port districts, and intermodal facilities.

While Illinois' central location will continue to play a major role in its economic achievements, location alone will not guarantee Illinois' success long term. The movement of people and goods must occur efficiently and cost-effectively in order for Illinois to remain a desirable place to live and do business. IDOT will need to

### GOAL

**Improve Illinois' economy by providing transportation infrastructure that supports the efficient movement of people and goods.**



### WHAT IS THE ECONOMY?

The economy, in the broadest sense, can be described as "the organized system of human activity involved in the production, consumption, and distribution of good and services." The vitality, or health, of all economies are intricately linked to how people and goods are moved, or rather, how well the mobility of people and goods occurs. How well or effective the mobility of people and goods are impacts production, consumption and distribution; all three of the main tenets of the definition of the economy. The overall effectiveness of the transportation system has a direct impact on the mobility of people and goods, and therefore it has a direct impact on the economy. If the transportation system does not provide seamless linkages between modes, adequate multimodal options, safety and security, resiliency to disruptions, or the system is in significant disrepair, then people and goods do not move efficiently and cost-effectively. If people and goods do not move efficiently and cost-effectively, then the economy either suffers or does not prosper as a result.

adjust transportation planning processes and policies to consider changes in current and emerging demographic trends, travel trends and freight movement so that it can effectively determine where reinvestment, maintenance and strategic expansion projects will best support economic growth throughout the state. IDOT must also examine these changes to support economic and community diversity throughout different parts of the state.

## 2.1 ECONOMY AND IDOT

Today, economic vitality and competitiveness remain key to the future of the state. Illinois is the center of the nation's Class I Railroad system, the interstate highway network and the North American inland waterway system. Chicago O'Hare Airport is one of the world's top three busiest airports, handling the complex needs of domestic and international travelers and freight shippers. Illinois is host to several large inland intermodal ports, such as CenterPoint Intermodal Center in Joliet/Elwood, one of North America's largest master-planned inland ports, which encompasses more than 6,500 acres of rail- and highway-adjacent land and includes both Burlington Northern – Santa Fe and Union Pacific intermodal parks.

Illinois is a leading state in agriculture, industrial production, business services and higher education. Annually, Illinois is a national leader in corn and soybean production. The state is also a national leader in pork production.<sup>1</sup> In 2014, Illinois ranked third among states in manufacturing production with over \$99 billion in total output. The state is home to 34 Fortune 500 corporate headquarters, including economic giants like ADM, Allstate, Boeing, Caterpillar, John Deere, McDonalds, Mondelez International, State Farm, United Airlines and Walgreens. The diversity of these major companies ranges from major manufacturers to national retail operators to agricultural processors. Illinois serves as a global market center for corporate finance, national wholesale business, warehousing/logistics and international commodity trading. Over the past two decades, IDOT has worked closely with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and the Illinois Department of Agriculture to identify key elements of the transportation system that can improve the state's global competitiveness and support the location or retention of jobs in Illinois communities.

In the future, connected and autonomous vehicles (C/AV), 3D printing, automation and other advanced technologies will have the potential to change all aspects of mobility – from the way we commute to how we plan and develop freight movement and economic vitality for Illinois. While there may be many safety benefits associated with C/AV and other new technologies, they also have the potential to disrupt traditional transportation modes and the current way we do business. Disruptions like this have the potential to create both positive benefits and to have negative impacts that must be mitigated or managed. As an example, in addition to the potential safety benefits of C/AV, a few other examples of positive changes include better first-mile/last-mile connectivity, the ability for people to work while commuting and reduction in waste due to less personal vehicle-ownership. Some of the negative impacts could include vehicle parking, increased VMT, curb-side management, potential idling and air quality impacts. The positive and negative aspects of these large-scale changes need to be examined, understood and addressed with the appropriate policy changes, all while considering the impacts they have on our economy.

It is the role of IDOT to provide reliable and effective access for Illinois residents, communities and businesses. At the network level, IDOT is responsible for the state highway system and the quality of roadways needed to deliver products to economic markets and consumers. At the local level, IDOT works with local governments to provide access to regions, communities and sites that provide opportunities for immediate economic development and employment growth. At this local level, IDOT works with local providers to improve access to rail services, ports, air transportation, transit services and local highway access. Where it can, IDOT assists communities pursuing economic development opportunities by resolving key transportation issues due to the location or expansion of industrial activity that will result in significant employment gains or retention.

<sup>1</sup> Facts about Illinois Agriculture", Illinois Department of Agriculture, 2017.

Beyond economic development, transportation provides significant benefits to the quality of life in Illinois communities. IDOT must also consider that residents and visitors need suitable access to health care services, education, job opportunities and social activities, such as entertainment and recreation. IDOT evaluates these benefits when it works to improve and enhance its existing system, and also endeavors to improve safety by reducing the number of fatalities/ injuries through funding assistance to local agencies working to improve local streets and roads, transit services, and pedestrian and bicycle access.

### 2.1.1 PERFORMANCE BASED PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

The success of Illinois largely depends upon the ability for people and goods to move throughout the state, but increasing funding constraints have hampered IDOT's ability to perform system expansion work. Due to limited resources, IDOT needed to establish a process by which strategic system expansions could be evaluated, so that those with the most benefits could be considered. IDOT developed the Performance-Based Project Selection (PBPS) tool to help evaluate capacity enhancement projects. Economic impacts rose to the top of the criteria IDOT chose to include in the PBPS for project evaluations. In 2017, IDOT utilized this tool to evaluate and prioritize major expansion projects within the FY 2018-2023 Multi-Year Highway Improvement Program (MYP). The PBPS tool includes the following performance measures for considering economy in project evaluations:<sup>2</sup>


- ✓ Travel time reliability
- ✓ Intermodal accessibility
- ✓ Freight hours of delay
- ✓ Economic development proximity index

## 2.2 IMPACT OF TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT

The most direct impacts of transportation investments that support the economy are improved safety, operating efficiency of the transportation system, increased capacity to meet travel demand, and new access to places, services and markets. More importantly, these impacts improve the quality of life for the average resident of Illinois and support the state's economy. Having good transportation access creates jobs and business opportunities, while access to healthcare, educational institutions and government services provide opportunities to improve quality of life across communities statewide.

Because Illinois benefits from being a national transportation hub with an extensive multimodal transportation system, the cost of shipping and receiving goods are reduced for both businesses and consumers. On a daily basis, the state's multimodal transportation system provides vital linkages for workers to jobs, students to schools, families to shopping, and individuals to health care providers. IDOT works in conjunction with and provides funding for other modal providers, such as public transit and aeronautic providers, as well as local government agencies, to ensure these needs are met with dependability and responsiveness.

## 2.3 OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

IDOT has developed five objectives to guide its investment decisions to support the economy. Each objective contains recommended actions/strategies, performance measures, data sources and implementation strategies that IDOT will pursue. The LRTP content, as a whole, will be considered policy guidance for programming decisions; however, each objective below also denotes some of the more specific recommended actions/strategies that will be used to guide programming decisions. These have been denoted with  in Section 2.3.1.

<sup>2</sup> Transportation Investment Performance Selection presentation, May 17, 2017.



The five objectives are:



### 2.3.1 OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES, PERFORMANCE MEASURES, AND IMPLEMENTATION

#### OBJECTIVE 1.

*Encourage regional coordination in the identification of solutions to transportation problems to provide for efficient movement of freight, people and services supporting economic growth.*



#### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS/STRATEGIES:

- **Support multimodal transportation projects that create growth and employment opportunities throughout the state.** 

To maintain Illinois' position as a vital hub for national and regional transportation, IDOT must continue to invest in the state's multimodal transportation system to enhance the state's economic advantage and expand and retain economic development and employment. This includes supporting projects and programs that improve access to Illinois jobs and that improve and maintain transportation to Illinois businesses and industries, attracts interstate and international trade, and grows tourism by providing access to recreational, cultural and entertainment locations across the state.

- **Enhance coordination and collaboration in planning, programming and implementation activities with regional and local partners.**

A key component of directing the transportation investments that support the Illinois economy is effective coordination with the metropolitan planning organizations, local governments, transportation agencies, modal and transportation industry representatives, businesses and institutions, and residents and users of the state's transportation system. The need for enhanced coordination and collaboration is especially true in this environment of limited resources.

- **Ensure the development of state multi-year and annual multimodal plans and programs includes consultation and coordination with regional and local planning partners.** 

The Illinois transportation system is a complex combination of public and private services and facilities. In developing state multimodal plans and programs, it is imperative that close, effective coordination with regional and local planning stakeholders, including adjacent states, occurs to ensure understanding of needs, priorities, constraints, and resources to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of IDOT's plans and programs.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURES:**

- ✓ **Support the incorporation of freight movement and economic vitality objectives within IDOT-funded regional studies**

To ensure consistency with IDOT goals, IDOT will support the inclusion of economic vitality objectives, including the movement of goods, as part of local, regional and statewide studies that include IDOT funding.

- ✓ **Regular IDOT participation in regional planning and programming meetings held by the state's 16 MPOs**

To ensure coordinated planning and programming consistent with IDOT goals, IDOT will actively participate in the regional planning and programming meetings for all of the state's MPOs.

- ✓ **Ensure preparation of state multi-year and annual multimodal plans and programs includes consultation and coordination with regional and local planning partners**

IDOT will continue to enhance their public involvement process to provide timely and meaningful consultation and coordination with regional and local planning stakeholders as part of the development process for the state's multi-year and annual multimodal plans and programs.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- ✓ **Commit IDOT staff to participate in the planning and programming processes of the 16 MPOs to support projects consistent with IDOT goals, including economic growth**

**Lead:** IDOT Districts, IDOT Office of Planning and Programming, IDOT Office of Intermodal Project Implementation

**Partners:** MPOs

- ✓ **Expand consultation, coordination and outreach for development of multiyear plans and programs**

**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming, IDOT Office of Communication, IDOT Districts, IDOT Office of Intermodal Project Implementation

**Partners:** Illinois State Freight Advisory Council, MPOs, other planning partners

- ✓ **Conduct before-after studies of IDOT supported transportation projects and their economic impacts**

**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming

**Partners:** IDOT Office of Highway Project Implementation

- ✓ **Enhance the measurement of mobility-related objectives in the PBPS tool by developing a statewide traffic model**

**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming

**Partners:** IDOT Districts, MPOs, other planning partners

## OBJECTIVE 2.

*Support projects that improve connectivity and coordination of services to enhance continuity and accommodate the efficient movement of people, goods and services across all modes to address intermodal efficiency.*



### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS/STRATEGIES:

- **Review and evaluate intermodal connections across the state.** 

IDOT will work with its partners to identify and evaluate the performance of intermodal connections in the state and identify needed improvements. There are approximately 140 designated National Highway System Intermodal Connectors in the state that provide access from the highway system to major intermodal facilities (transit, truck, rail, aviation, port terminals, and multimodal passenger facilities). There are also over 200 intermodal freight facilities (connections between some combination of air, rail, truck, waterway and pipeline).

- **Improve efficiency of transfers of freight and passengers between modes.** 

Intermodal transportation improves the efficiency of the overall transportation system. By improving intermodal connections that are designed to improve the flow of people and goods movement, the service efficiencies of each system are incorporated. The objective is to work towards a seamless intermodal transportation system.

- **Work collaboratively with ports and waterways stakeholders to identify and address issues related to transporting commerce via navigable waterways.**

The Illinois waterway system provides a relatively low cost means of transporting heavier lower-valued commodities, such as coal and agricultural products. IDOT will work closely with stakeholders, including the Illinois State Freight Advisory Council and port districts/terminals, agriculture and energy industries,

- **Advocate for the success of Illinois' passenger rail program.**

The State of Illinois provides financial support for 30 daily Amtrak trains that travel to Milwaukee, St. Louis, Quincy and Carbondale. Higher speed rail is in the final phase of implementation from Chicago to St. Louis with new or upgraded train stations in Dwight, Pontiac, Normal, Lincoln, Springfield, Carlinville and Alton. IDOT will continue to advocate for enhancing the state's passenger rail program.

- **Identify shifts in population and employment centers and ensure that there are adequate airport services provided to those population and employment centers.** 

Illinois has nearly 830 aviation facilities (including heliports, seaplane, balloon, glider, and ultra-light facilities and grass landing strips), including 110 publicly-owned aviation landing facilities. These aviation facilities provide connections between communities large and small, allow for rapid medial transport, and serve aviation enthusiasts across the state. IDOT will continue to monitor the state's aviation facilities and demographic shifts to ensure access is provided.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURES:**

- ✓ **Prepare regular assessment of performance of designated National Highway System (NHS) intermodal connectors**  
To identify needs and monitor performance, IDOT will regularly assess the performance of designated NHS intermodal connectors across the state.
- ✓ **Number of aviation, highway, and rail program investments that support improved use, safety and ease of access to intermodal facilities**  
IDOT will track the number of intermodal project and program investments.
- ✓ **Prepare regular waterborne commerce report assessing the utilization of port districts and other port terminals**  
IDOT will prepare a waterborne commerce report regularly that tracks the utilization and expansion plans of port districts and other major port terminals in the state.
- ✓ **Increased education and marketing of passenger rail options and transfer options between modes**  
To support the state's investments that are improving intercity passenger rail, IDOT will increase coordination and support for education and marketing of passenger rail options, including transfer options.
- ✓ **Percent of population and employment with drive access to a commercial airport**  
To ensure statewide access to aviation facilities, IDOT will evaluate the percentage of population and employment within a reasonable drive of a commercial airport.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- ✓ **Develop regular report on Illinois National Highway System Intermodal Connectors**  
**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming  
**Partners:** IDOT Districts, Illinois State Freight Advisory Council, MPOs, other planning partners
- ✓ **Develop regular report on Illinois Waterborne Transportation**  
**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming  
**Partners:** Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Army Corps of Engineers, Illinois State Freight Advisory Council, Port Districts/Terminals
- ✓ **Develop new marketing campaign for intercity passenger rail**  
**Lead:** IDOT Office of Communications  
**Partners:** IDOT Office of Intermodal Project Implementation



## OBJECTIVE 3.

*Support land use and transportation connectivity.*

### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS/STRATEGIES:

- **Support land use and transportation connectivity, especially in and near intercity passenger rail and commuter rail stations, through planning studies, project analyses and public education programs.** 

To better capitalize on transit investments in passenger rail stations, it is desirable to bring potential riders closer to these stations to increase ridership. This requires planning and public education to encourage denser, livable mixed-use and a walkable pattern of development around passenger rail stations. By coordinating land use projects with investments in transportation, communities can better manage growth and improve the quality of life for their residents and workers.

- **Enhance consideration of land use and transportation connectivity through coordination and collaboration in planning and programming efforts.** 

Transportation investment decisions should consider the effects on land use and development, including consistency with applicable short-range and long-range land use and development plans. This requires increased coordination with agencies and local jurisdictions to ensure transportation planning and programming decisions are compatible with the surrounding community.

- **Enhance performance-based project selection process and accompanying tools to ensure consideration of land use and transportation connections.** 

There are many benefits to incorporation of land use and transportation connectivity. These benefits include improved mobility options, improved public security, increased transit ridership, and reduced air pollution and energy consumption. IDOT will continue to enhance their PBPS tool to better consider land use and transportation connectivity benefits.



**PERFORMANCE MEASURES:**

- ✓ **Amount of funds supporting land use and transportation connectivity and the number of funded studies**  
IDOT will track the amount of funding and the number of studies that include consideration of land use and transportation connectivity, including transit-oriented development and context-sensitive and complete street studies.
- ✓ **Regular participation in MPO and regional planning and programming efforts that implement land use and transportation connectivity**  
To ensure coordinated planning and programming consistent with IDOT goals, IDOT will increase their participation in MPO and regional planning and programming efforts that address land use and transportation connectivity.
- ✓ **Additional factor(s) within performance-based project selection tool to address land use and transportation connections**  
To improve the alignment of IDOT goals and their programming priorities, IDOT will identify and implement additional factors within their PBPS tool that address the benefits of land use and transportation connectivity.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- ✓ **Develop regular report on land use and connectivity**  
**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming  
**Partners:** IDOT Districts, MPOs, other planning partners
- ✓ **Enhance the measurement of land use and connectivity-related objectives in the PBPS tool**  
**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming  
**Partners:** IDOT Districts, MPOs, other planning partners

**OBJECTIVE 4.**

*Identify and address issues affecting freight commerce and passenger services.*

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS/STRATEGIES:**

- **Collaborate and consult with freight and passenger stakeholders to address regional, statewide and multi-state freight and passenger transportation issues.**

It is critical to actively involve freight and passenger stakeholders to identify and address transportation issues at local, regional, and state levels, including multi-state efforts. In fact, IDOT is required by state law to use the principles of Context Sensitive Solutions for their projects, which includes stakeholder involvement from the earliest stages of a project and for the entire life of these facilities. In support of this type of collaboration and consultation IDOT created the Illinois State Freight Advisory Council (ISFAC,) comprised of freight industry and public sector representatives, economic development organizations, academics, and industry (agricultural, manufacturing, energy) representatives. IDOT has also been an active participant in the Mid-American Freight Coalition (formerly the Mississippi Valley Freight Coalition) since its founding in 2006. The Coalition consists of ten states that cooperate in the planning, operation, preservation, and improvement of freight transportation infrastructure. IDOT is also a key partner in the Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) program with USDOT, Amtrak, the nations freight railroads and the City of Chicago, and the Will County Freight Advisory Council with the Will County Center for Economic Development, USDOT, the Illinois Trucking Association, Midwest Truckers Association, and others.

IDOT also coordinates with passenger rail stakeholders such as the States for Passenger Rail Coalition, the Midwest Regional Rail Initiative, the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission, Amtrak, Midwest High Speed Rail Association, and other passenger rail stakeholders.

- **Provide investment and technical support to transportation projects that improve freight and transportation connectivity through the integration of multimodal service options. **

The efficient use of the state's transportation system requires intermodal and multimodal connectivity. To achieve the goal of seamless integration requires continued investment and technical support for effective and efficient projects that improve this connectivity.

- **Support new technologies that provide improved operational efficiencies and travel/ route planning and safety. **

Over the past few years, there has been tremendous growth in new technology. An example is the dramatic growth of transportation network companies that provide user-friendly apps that connect riders to drivers using their own personal vehicle who are providing real-time ridesharing services – such as Uber and Lyft. The availability of real-time travel information extends to when packages are going to be delivered, to when the next bus or train will be arriving, to dynamic route navigation that provides the shortest travel time route. As technology continues to advance, it will be very beneficial to employ technologies that can provide improved operational efficiencies and effectiveness.

- **Support state funding to public aviation facilities to assist the local community efforts to keep and attract additional business to their communities. **

Public aviation facilities play a critical role for passenger travel and air cargo, and can attract and retain businesses to their communities. With steady demand for aviation services likely to continue, IDOT's role includes encouraging, fostering and assisting in the development of aeronautics in the state. IDOT should continue and expand its financial assistance, its safety and education programs, and its inspections and other technical oversight.



- **Address policy and planning implications of autonomous vehicles being introduced within both passenger and commercial/freight fleets.** 

The rapid advancement of autonomous vehicle technology will result in driverless vehicles being introduced for both passenger and freight movement. IDOT and its planning stakeholders need to closely monitor these advancements and the associated policy and planning implications. This includes understanding evolving issues regarding regulation, safety, testing and deployment, coordination with autonomous vehicle stakeholder, support for testing activities, and consideration of the future implications of autonomous vehicles.

#### PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

- ✓ **Amount of funding specifically for freight and/or passenger connection improvement projects**  
IDOT will track the funding and the number of intermodal/multimodal freight and/or passenger connection improvement projects.
- ✓ **Amount of funding for innovative freight vehicle improvement studies and tests**  
IDOT will track the funding and the number of studies and tests involving innovative freight vehicle improvement, including digital communications and vehicle-embedded automated systems.
- ✓ **Measure the progress toward full implementation of the web-based roadway information system**  
IDOT will continue to monitor progress of implementing the web-based roadway information system, including information needs and speed of information being delivered to all service areas in the state.
- ✓ **Amount of funding for improved airport access**  
IDOT will track the amount of funding and number of projects that improve airport access.
- ✓ **Number of new policies and/or processes to address autonomous vehicles**  
IDOT will track the implementation of new policies and processes on driverless vehicles utilizing the transportation system.

#### IMPLEMENTATION:

- ✓ **Continued participation and consultation with freight and passenger transportation industry partners through the Mid-America Freight Coalition, Illinois State Freight Advisory Council, Will County Freight Advisory Council, and other stakeholder groups**  
**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming  
**Partners:** IDOT Districts, Illinois State Freight Advisory Council, Mid-America Freight Coalition, MPOs, other planning partners
- ✓ **Develop and implement Illinois Competitive Freight Grant Program**  
**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming  
**Partners:** IDOT Districts, Illinois State Freight Advisory Council, MPOs, other planning partners
- ✓ **Develop research program with Illinois Universities targeting innovative freight vehicle improvement**  
**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming  
**Partners:** Illinois Universities
- ✓ **Establish Illinois State Autonomous Vehicle Advisory Council**  
**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming  
**Partners:** IDOT Districts, autonomous vehicle representatives, safety and insurance representatives

**OBJECTIVE 5.**

*Support economic development in Illinois communities.*

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS/STRATEGIES:**

- **Support Illinois communities through economic development grants under programs like the Economic Development Program.** 

IDOT will support economic development in Illinois communities by encouraging new or expanded development through grant programs that improve access. IDOT's Economic Development Program provides state assistance for improving highway access to new or expanding industrial, distribution or tourism developments. The program provides state funds to support the construction of direct highway access improvement projects for imminent development projects that will expand the state's job base.

- **Invest in transportation projects that improve access to intermodal facilities in order to improve economic competitiveness.** 

Improved access to intermodal facilities (air, rail, truck, water and pipelines) is critical to improving the movement of goods in Illinois. IDOT will support transportation projects that provide more efficient access to intermodal facilities across the state.

- **Invest in intermodal projects that meaningfully increase and improve access to economic growth opportunities.** 

IDOT will support increased economic growth opportunities in Illinois communities through support of intermodal projects. This support includes transportation improvement projects for better access, reduced travel times, and improved safety.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURES:**

- ✓ **Number of communities that benefit and the number of jobs supported (created/retained) from IDOT economic development grants**  
IDOT will track the number of jobs that are created and the number of communities that benefit from the IDOT Economic Development Program and similar economic grant programs.
- ✓ **Number of highway and transit investments that improve access to intermodal and multimodal facilities**  
IDOT will track the number of projects that improve access to airports, river ports, heavy traffic generators, rail passenger stations and intermodal facilities.
- ✓ **Number of freight related projects that enhance access to supply chains or that enhance access to economic growth opportunities**  
IDOT will track the number of airport, rail, port or intermodal projects that enhance access to markets and suppliers, or that enhance access economic growth opportunities.
- ✓ **Number of studies funded that support economic development**  
IDOT will track the amount of funding and the number of studies that support economic development in the state.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- ✓ **Commit IDOT staff to supporting economic development through transportation improvement projects and economic development grant programs**  
**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming  
**Partners:** IDOT Districts, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, economic development groups
- ✓ **Develop regular report on the economic benefits of Illinois transportation infrastructure investments**  
**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming  
**Partners:** IDOT Districts, IDOT Office of Intermodal Project Implementation
- ✓ **Enhance the measurement of economy-related objectives in the PBPS tool using REMI and state traffic model development**  
**Lead:** IDOT Office of Planning and Programming  
**Partners:** IDOT Districts, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, MPOs, Other planning partners



### 2.3.2 IMPLEMENTATION SUMMARY

The implementation actions to align transportation investments with the economy goal to achieve these practical improvements and efforts is essential to the success of this LRTP. The following (**Table 2.1**) are proposed to successfully implement the overarching economy goal and its five objectives:

TABLE 2.1: Implementation Actions

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION	LEAD EQUITY	PARTNERS
<b>Encourage regional coordination in the identification of solutions to transportation problems to provide for efficient movement of freight, people and services supporting economic growth.</b>		
Commit IDOT staff to participate in the planning and programming processes of the 16 MPOs to support projects consistent with IDOT goals, including economic growth	IDOT Districts, IDOT Office of Planning and Programming, IDOT Office of Intermodal Project Implementation	MPOs
Expand consultation, coordination and outreach for development of multiyear plans and programs	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming, IDOT Office of Communication, IDOT Districts, IDOT Office of Intermodal Project Implementation	Illinois State Freight Advisory Council, MPOs, other planning partners
Conduct before-after studies of IDOT supported transportation projects and their economic impacts	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming	IDOT Office of Highway Project Implementation
Enhance the measurement of mobility-related objectives in the PBPS tool by developing a statewide traffic model	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming	IDOT Districts, MPOs, other planning partners
<b>Support projects that improve connectivity and coordination of services to enhance continuity and accommodate the efficient movement of people, goods and services across all modes to address intermodal efficiency.</b>		
Develop regular report on Illinois National Highway System Intermodal Connectors	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming	IDOT Districts, Illinois State Freight Advisory Council, MPOs, other planning partners
Develop regular report on Illinois Waterborne Transportation	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming	Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Army Corps of Engineers, Illinois State Freight Advisory Council, Port Districts/Terminals
Develop new marketing campaign for intercity passenger rail	IDOT Office of Communications	IDOT Office of Intermodal Project Implementation
<b>Support land use and transportation connectivity.</b>		
Develop regular report on land use and connectivity	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming	IDOT Districts, MPOs, other planning partners
Enhance the measurement of land use and connectivity-related objectives in the PBPS tool	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming	IDOT Districts, MPOs, other planning partners
<b>Identify and address issues affecting freight commerce and passenger services.</b>		
Continued participation and consultation with freight and passenger transportation industry partners through the Mid-America Freight Coalition, Illinois State Freight Advisory Council, CREATE program, Will County Freight Advisory Committee, and other stakeholder groups	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming	IDOT Districts, Illinois State Freight Advisory Council, Mid-America Freight Coalition, CREATE program partners, Will County Freight Advisory Council, MPOs, other planning partners

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION	LEAD EQUITY	PARTNERS
Develop and implement Illinois Competitive Freight Grant Program	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming	IDOT Districts, Illinois State Freight Advisory Council, MPOs, other planning partners
Develop research program with Illinois Universities targeting innovative freight vehicle improvement	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming	Illinois Universities
Establish Illinois State Autonomous Vehicle Advisory Council	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming	IDOT Districts, autonomous vehicle representatives, safety and insurance representatives
<b>Support economic development in Illinois communities.</b>		
Commit IDOT staff to supporting economic development through transportation improvement projects and economic development grant programs	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming	IDOT Districts, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, economic development groups
Develop regular report on the economic benefits of Illinois transportation infrastructure investments	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming	IDOT Districts, IDOT Office of Intermodal Project Implementation
Enhance the measurement of economy-related objectives in the PBPS tool using REMI and state traffic model development	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming	IDOT Districts, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, MPOs, Other planning partners