Freight Mobility Strategy

July 27, 2026

Port of Olympia Commission

THURSTON REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Why freight mobility matters

1. Freight underpins daily life and the regional economy
2. Reliability affects businesses, emergency response, and access
3. Freight movement shares space with communities and local streets
4. Decisions involve tradeoffs across mobility, safety, and livability





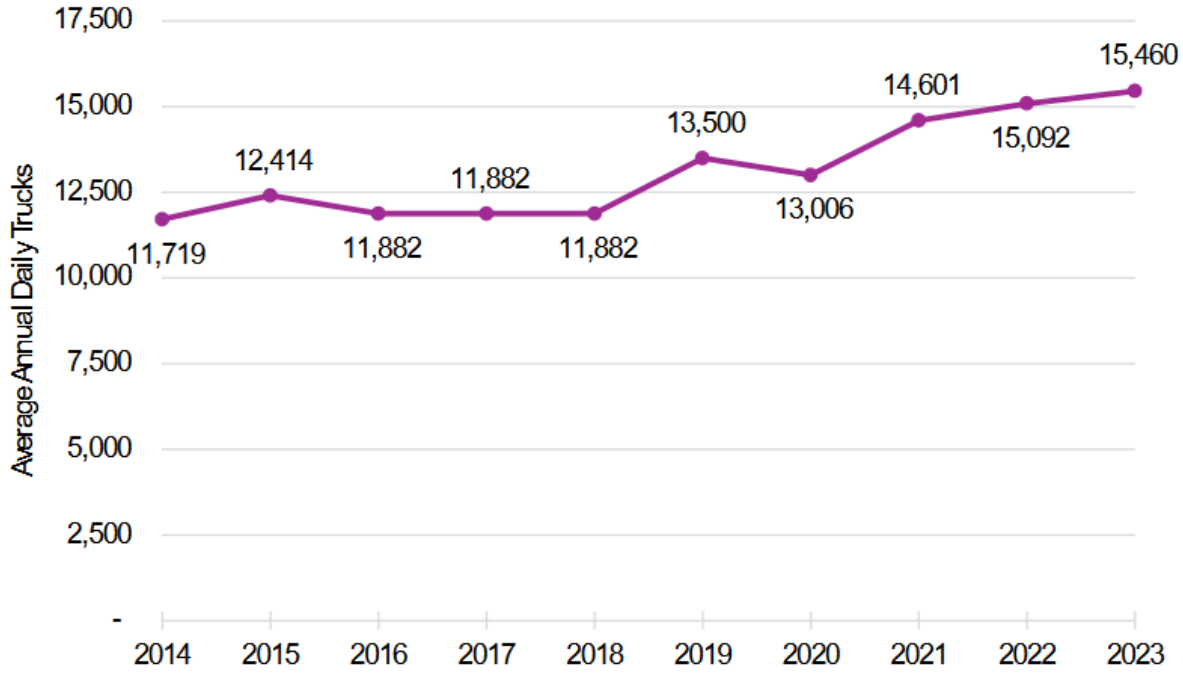
Thurston County's role in the freight system

- Located along a major **north–south freight corridor** (I-5)
- Connects **regional and local** freight movement
- Mix of **through traffic** and **local access needs**
- Connections to **freight generators**

Why now?

- Regional growth and development pressures
- Increasing demand on key corridors
- Ongoing work across partners
- Opportunity to align regional priorities & approach

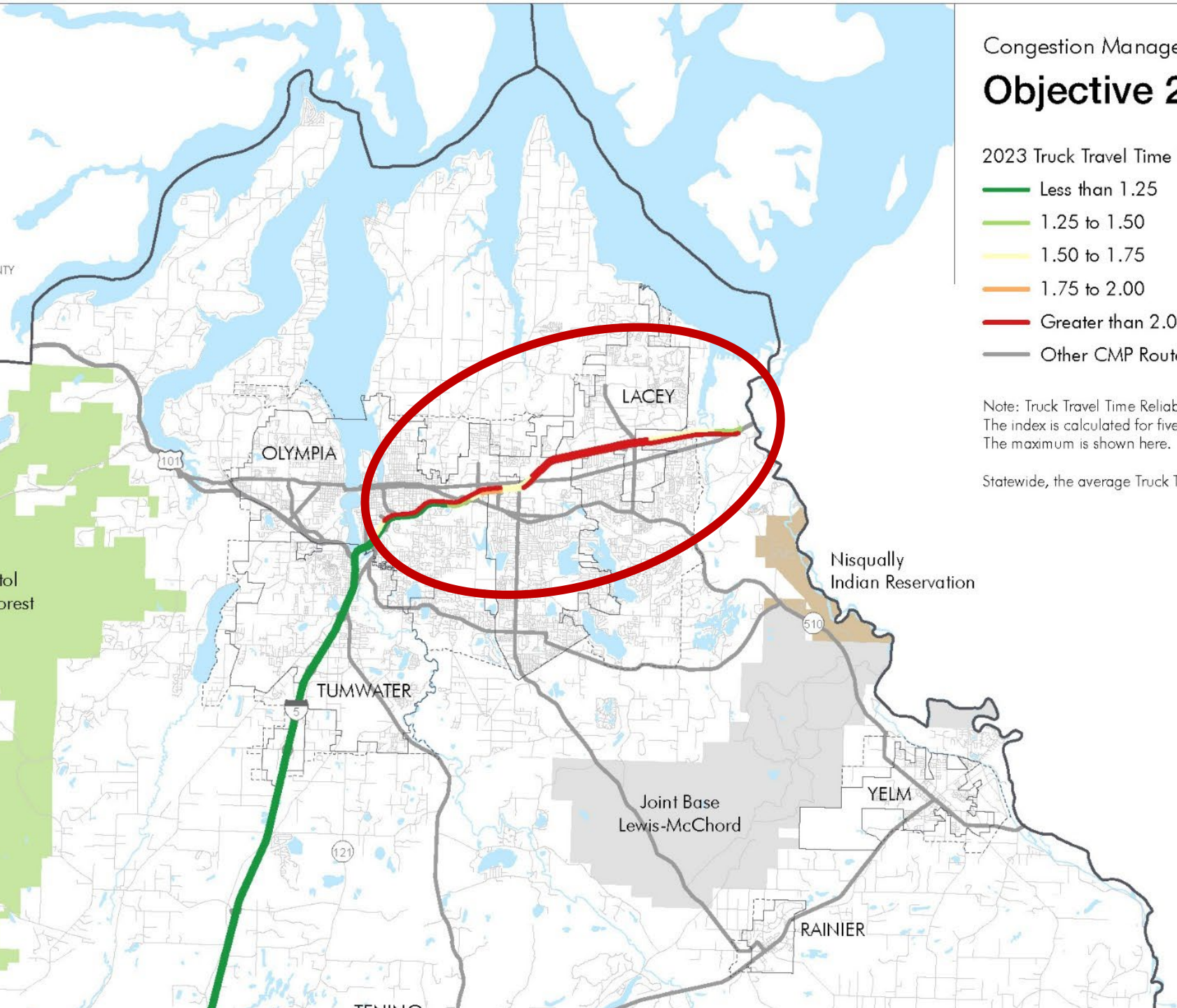
Figure 5-5: Average Annual Daily Truck Traffic on I-5 at the Nisqually River Bridge



Source: WSDOT

Congestion Management Process

Objective 2.4: Truck Travel Time Reliability



2023 Truck Travel Time Reliability

- Less than 1.25
- 1.25 to 1.50
- 1.50 to 1.75
- 1.75 to 2.00
- Greater than 2.00
- Other CMP Routes

Legend

- City Limits
- UGAs
- Tribal Reservations
- Joint Base Lewis-McChord
- State or National Forest

Note: Truck Travel Time Reliability Index is the ratio of the 95th percentile travel time to the 50th percentile travel time. The index is calculated for five time periods: weekday mornings, mid-days, and afternoons, overnight, and weekends. The maximum is shown here.

Statewide, the average Truck Travel Time Reliability Index across the network should not exceed 1.75.

thurston regional planning council

DISCLAIMER: This map is for general planning purposes only. Thurston Regional Planning Council makes no representations as to the accuracy

Project purpose

- Develop a clear picture of freight movement in the region
- Identify key system constraints and pressure points
- Assess future freight conditions and trends
- Define where regional coordination can improve outcomes
- Inform planning and investment that supports freight and economic vitality

What this project is … and isn't

This project is:	This project is NOT:
• A regional strategy focused on freight movement and supporting regional economic vitality • Intended to inform planning and investment decisions • Focused on the transportation system and grounded in TRPC's regional role	• Primarily a project list or near-term capital program • A replacement for work led by WSDOT or local jurisdictions • An evaluation of specific facilities or their long-term role in the region

Work completed to date

- Initial review of freight flows and system conditions
- Peer MPO research
- Initial stakeholder conversations
- Project introduction to Council
- Draft project goals





Goal 1: Understanding Current and Future Freight Demand



Goal 2: Reliable and Resilient Regional Freight Movement



Goal 3: Safe Freight System for All Users



Goal 4: Connected and Coordinated Regional Freight Network



Goal 5: Strategic and Implementable Freight Investments

Goal 1: Understanding Current and Future Freight Demand



Purpose

Develop a shared understanding of existing and future freight demand to inform regional planning and investment decisions.

Goal 2: Reliable and Resilient Regional Freight Movement

Purpose

Evaluate how well the regional transportation system supports freight movement under both everyday conditions and during disruptions.

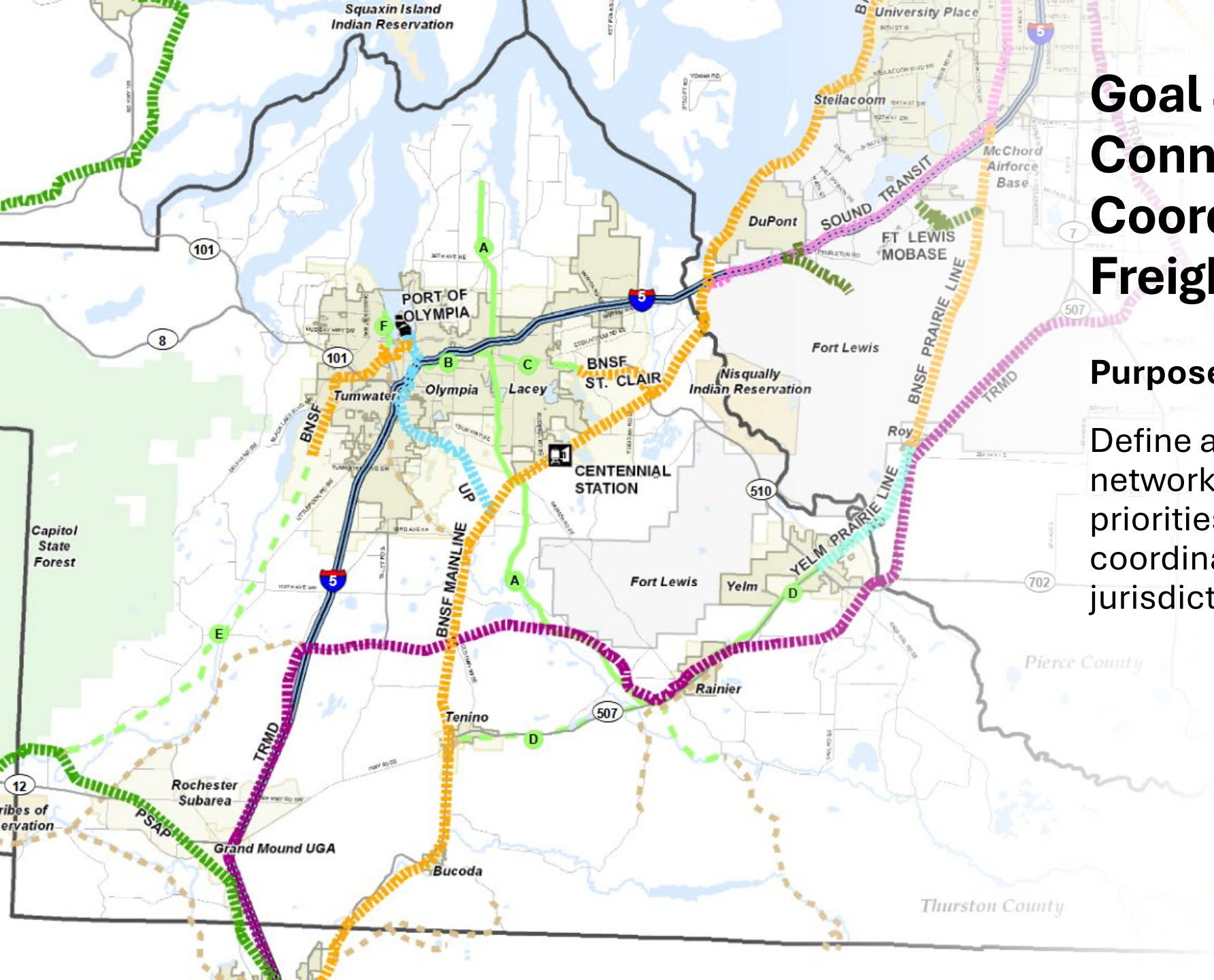




Goal 3: Safe Freight System for All Users

Purpose

Improve freight safety while supporting safe travel for all roadway users and considering surrounding communities.



Goal 4: Connected and Coordinated Regional Freight Network

Purpose

Define a shared regional freight network that reflects local priorities and strengthens coordination across jurisdictions.



Goal 5: Strategic and Implementable Freight Investments

Purpose

Identify practical strategies and investments that advance regional priorities, position the region for future funding opportunities, and support long-term freight system improvement.

 **Goal 1:** Understanding Current and Future Freight Demand

 **Goal 2:** Reliable and Resilient Regional Freight Movement

 **Goal 3:** Safe Freight System for All Users

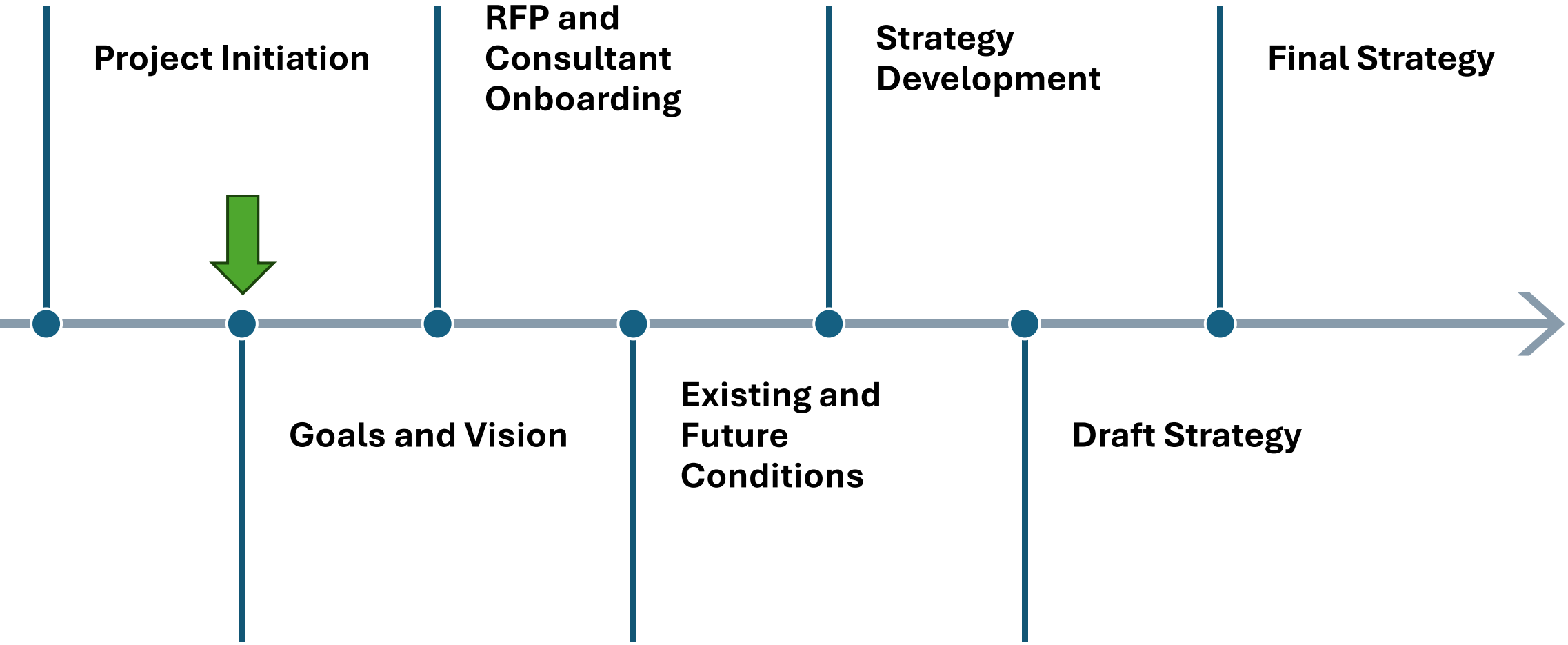
 **Goal 4:** Connected and Coordinated Regional Freight Network

 **Goal 5:** Strategic and Implementable Freight Investments

Discussion Questions

1. Do these goals capture the region's key freight priorities?
2. Are any important issues or opportunities missing?
3. Who should be involved in shaping and influencing this strategy?
4. What would success look like for this strategy?

Next steps


Project Initiation
Goals and Vision
RFP and Consultant Onboarding
Existing and Future Conditions
Strategy Development
Draft Strategy
Final Strategy

Thank you!

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