

Strategic Plan for the Council on Water Transportation

As approved by the Strategic Management Committee, September 22, 2018

Goal 1: Lead and influence national policy related to water transportation

AASHTO members have an important stake in national water transportation policy. AASHTO will monitor national and state policy and legislative activities.

Strategy 1a: Support federal policies consistent with State water related interests

Implementation Actions:

- *Regularly monitor policy and legislative activities and inform membership of opportunities and threats*
- *Engage membership in presentation of national and regional transportation needs to Congress*

The Council will continue to advance water transportation as part of an integrated multimodal transportation system.

Strategy 1b: Advance water transportation as part of an integrated transportation system

Implementation Actions:

- *Collaborate with other AASHTO councils and committees to ensure a multimodal approach to transportation policy*

Goal 2: Strengthen the Council on Water Transportation's leadership role within AASHTO and among other national organizations, associations, institutions, and groups with complementary purposes and goals

Strategy 2: Continue to create and maintain partnerships with external organizations to effectively leverage the Council's resources and extend the Council's reach

Implementation Actions:

- *Convene two meetings/summits around key issues to collaboratively set water transportation priorities*

Goal 3: Identify and promote research and develop educational resources to support water transportation

Strategy 3: The Council will identify water research priorities to help member agencies develop and implement effective multimodal transportation solutions

Implementation Actions:

- *Identify research gaps in water transportation*
- *Work with other AASHTO councils and committees to develop and implement effective multimodal research*

Goal 4: Provide high quality technical assistance and support to State DOTs and State water-related agencies in their delivery of water programs

Strategy 4a: The Council will focus on identifying and addressing the needs of the organization’s members related to water transportation

Implementation Actions:

- *Share best practices for addressing Coastal, Inland, and Great Lakes waterways operations, funding, safety, and capacity needs*

Strategy 4b: The Council will work to strengthen the capacity of State agencies involved in water transportation decision making

Implementation Actions:

- *Encourage collaboration with federal, private, and other partners that builds understanding of industry practices*
- *Share educational and technical resources*

Goal 5: Increase the pool of State DOT professionals willing and able to work with the Council on Water Transportation and to serve in leadership roles

Strategy 5: The Council will focus on increasing participation among the member departments in general and among leadership positions

Implementation Actions:

- *Encourage State DOTs to name a member from their state to the Council*
- *Solicit nominations from members and select a Steering Committee*
- *Educate members and CEOs about available services and resources related to water transportation*