

# Efficiency and Effectiveness of Weigh Station Management in Washington State

## *Kickoff Meeting*

*presented to*

**Washington State Joint  
Transportation  
Committee**

*presented by*

**Cambridge Systematics,  
Heine McKenzie, Ph.D.  
Nicholas Vlahos, Ph.D.**

**Barry Mason, BGM Consulting**



**July 31, 2015**



Transportation leadership you can trust.



# Agenda

- **9:00 Welcome and Introductions**
- **9:10 Presentation of Project Workplan and Schedule**
- **10:20 Break**
- **10:30 Review of Data Collection and Interviews**
- **10:50 Next Steps**

# Introductions and Project Roles

# Introduction to the Cambridge Systematics Team



## » Management Team:

- Elaine McKenzie, Project Manager
- Nick Vlahos, Principal-in-Charge

» Our team specializes in commercial vehicle operations (CVO) products, management, and technical support services to states, regions, and U.S. DOT

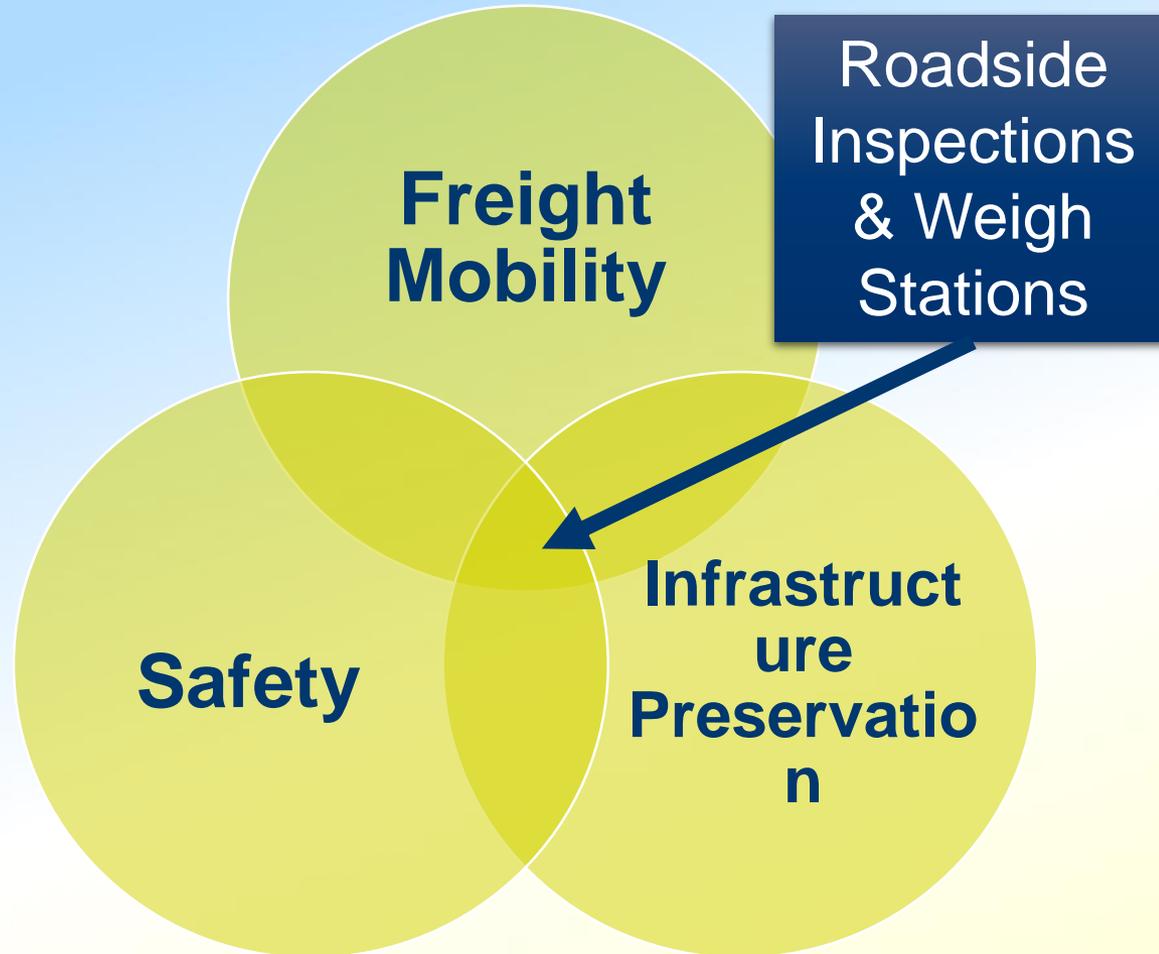
» CVO is part of our broader national freight operations and planning practice, which is part of a broader international transportation practice



» Barry Mason, Lead technical expert. 20+ years in weigh station operations, technology, and management



# Weigh Stations Serve Several Critical Functions



# Purpose of this study

- **Washington needs an effective review of processes and investments in CVO enforcement, infrastructure, capital assets, technology**
  - » We will review State, Federal, and other documentation, interview stakeholders, and synthesize information into easily digestible formats to support decision making
- **A strategic approach to manage the truck enforcement and weigh station system for the future**
  - » We will document past and ongoing practices in Washington and develop targeted recommendations based on best practices
- **To meet the policy goals of the Washington State Legislature**
  - » We will communicate regularly with JTC, utilize policy experts throughout the study, and present to the House and Senate Transportation Committees in 2016, if requested

# Project Workplan and Schedule

# Overview of Project Tasks



# Task 0 – Kickoff meeting

- **Objective: Expedite the project schedule with a targeted multi-day effort**
- **Timeline: Jul 29 - 31**
- **Action Items:**
  - » **Review and revise the project work plan and schedule, and discuss project deliverables**
  - » **Begin data collection process**
  - » **Conduct interviews with the Washington DOT (WSDOT) and Washington State Patrol (WSP) to gain a strategic understanding of the system**
  - » **Visit weigh stations to understand day-to-day operations**
  - » **Hold a kickoff meeting to engage key staff and stakeholders**

# Task 1 – Overview of Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Programs

- **Objective:** Develop a high-level overview of the Washington State CVO program and weigh station network
- **Timeline:** August - September
- **Task 1A Action Items:**
  - » Review Federal and State-level CVO best practices
  - » Benchmark Washington against neighboring and peer states (e.g. FL, ID, OR, AL, KY)
- **Task 1B Action Items:**
  - » Review the WA CVO program and collect information from WSDOT, WSP, and other agencies
  - » Develop an Electronic Map of weigh stations summarizing key information into a single resource (see handout)

**Deliverables:** White papers and electronic map

# Task 2 – Review of WSDOT and WSP Operations and Capital Assets

- **Objective:** Review the Washington State weigh station program, at a system level
- **Timeline:** August - October
- **Action Items:**
  - » Review information on weigh station operations and capital assets
  - » Review WA statutes and regulations pertaining to CVO
  - » Evaluate system-level effectiveness, e.g. inter-agency coordination, use of technology, availability of information.
  - » Conduct a case study of the currently closed Federal Way SB Station
  - » Evaluate potential for siting weigh stations on highway medians

# Task 3 – Identification of Best Practices

- **Objective: Identify and document weigh station best practices**
- **Timeline: August - October**
- **Action Items:**
  - » **Review Federal and State documentation (in conjunction with Task 1A)**
  - » **Conduct interviews with other states who are leaders in weigh station enforcement (in conjunction with Task 1B)**
  - » **Identify new and emerging practices at the state, national, and international level**
  - » **Hold a roundtable with the Washington Trucking Association and industry representatives to understand the user perspective**

● **Deliverable: White paper**

# Task 4 – Findings and Recommendations

- **Objective: Synthesize findings and develop targeted recommendations**
- **Timeline: October - November**
- **Action Items:**
  - » **Synthesize information from Tasks 1-3 into most relevant and tangible findings**
  - » **Develop system-level and/or “cluster-level” recommendations based on findings from Tasks 1-3**
  - » **Build a foundation that can be used to develop targeted implementation plans**
- **Deliverable: White paper**

# Tasks 5 and 6 – Draft Final Report and Presentations

- **Objective:** Document the study, findings, and recommendations into a final report and legislative presentation.
- **Timeline:** November - December
- **Draft Final Report Contents**
  - » 1-2 page, “briefing style” executive summary
  - » 20 page summary report
  - » Tasks 1-4 white papers included as appendices



# Project Schedule



- Kickoff Meeting, Interviews, and Site Visit
- Final Report
- White Paper
- ◆ Draft Presentation
- Legislative Presentation Time-Frame

## Critical Project Milestones

July 29 – 31: Task 0	Kickoff meeting, site visits, and interviews
November 17: Task 5	Draft Report Presentation to JTC
December 14: Task 5	Draft Final Report
January – March, 2016: Task 6	Legislative Presentation (if requested)

# Discussion and Questions

# Break

# Data Collection and Interviews

- **Data Requests (see handout)**
- **Interviews conducted/scheduled**
  - » **Washington DOT**
  - » **Washington State Patrol**
- **Interviews TBD**
  - » **Washington State Trucking Association**
  - » **Peer and neighboring states**
  - » **Other stakeholders, e.g. industry, ports, or local municipalities**

# Next Steps

- **Continue collecting and synthesizing data**
- **Begin developing background material for white papers and electronic map**
- **Conduct interviews**
- **Review materials on Federal Way weigh station for case study**

# Discussion and Questions