**Domestic Scan Proposal Form**

AASHTO is now soliciting proposals for a **Calendar Year 2019 US Domestic Scan Program** (NCHRP Panel 20-68A).

Selected scan topics will be investigated by one of three ways: (type 1) site visits to three to six locations for approximately a two week period or less, by webinar; (type 2) peer exchange; or (type 3) conducted by a group of eight to 12 transportation professionals with expertise in the selected topic area. Proposed topics should meet the following criteria:

* Address an important and timely need for information by transportation agencies;
* Are of interest to a broad national spectrum of people and agencies;
* Are complex and also “hands-on,” meaning they lend themselves particularly well to exploration through on-site visits; and
* Are sufficiently focused that the tour participants are able to investigate and understand key issues in the limited time available on the tour.

Before submitting your proposal it is highly recommended that you read [**What Makes a Good Scan Topic Proposal**](http://www.domesticscan.org/what-makes-a-good-scan-topic-proposal)[**http://www.domesticscan.org/what-makes-a-good-scan-topic-proposal**](http://www.domesticscan.org/what-makes-a-good-scan-topic-proposal)

This form is designed to collect the full length of your proposal. Sections requiring essays have unlimited space for you to use. Contact information has some limited text. ***Use your TAB🡪 key to advance to the area where you need to complete information.***

**Proposals should be returned no later than SEPTEMBER 28, 2018.**

**IMPORTANT NOTE on How to save your document**: ***LastNameFirst Initial, underscore\_Organization Acronym \_CY2019.***

***Saved Document Name Example: NgetheP\_AASHTO\_CY2019***

***If you have more than one, add a number after first initial: NgetheP1\_AASHTO\_CY2019***

**Domestic Scan Proposal Contact Information**

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| AASHTO Committee | Special Committee on Freight | Date of submission | 9/25/2018 |

**Title of Proposed Scan****:** Freight Industry Supply Chain Inefficiencies

**Problem Statement** (What topic is to be examined? What drives the need for the scan? Why now?)

Global supply chain dynamics have an effect on the economy with inefficiencies resulting in increased transportation demand. Examples of these dynamics include diversion to East Coast ports through the enlarged Panama Canal; changes to U.S. trade agreements with other nations; shortage of labor in freight and logistics industries; increased manufacturing in North America; demand for more time-sensitive freight services; expansion of petroleum production; and development of connected and autonomous transportation.

Planning for the freight system in Washington can be a challenge because much of the freight infrastructure, vehicles, and services are privately owned and operated. To do better planning and align resources to provide the most benefit, improved freight supply chain information is required.

**Scan Scope** (What specific subject areas are to be examined? Which cities and states might be visited? Which agencies/organizations (including specific departments or types of staff if applicable)?

The scan would examine Network Optimization Tools that may improve understanding of freight demands and needs including those that can quantify supply chain performance, foster the use of macro/micro level data with greater confidence and reliability, identify infrastructure and economic constraints that would result in practical solutions, and prioritize investment needs within the freight system. States that might be visited included Iowa (Iowa DOT-Office of Systems Planning completed a Statewide Freight Transportation Network Optimization Strategy in 2016) and California (to disseminate best practices from the major ports in the state and CALTRANS).

**Anticipated Scan Results** (What key information is to be gained? What information is to be shared after the scan? Who would the audience be for this information?)

The scan would result in information that would allow WSDOT develop a Statewide Freight Optimization Strategy to enhance the understanding of goods movement and inform decision making. The results of the scan can be shared with other State DOT freight offices interested in using Network Optimization Tools to identify and assess network constraints impacting their state freight networks.

**Benefits Expected** (Including potential impacts on current technology or procedures)

Benefits expected include better prioritization of investment opportunities and improvements to the freight network to minimize cost and travel time and improve supply chain efficiency.