### The Freight Shuttle System <u>A Private-Sector Freight Transportation Solution</u>

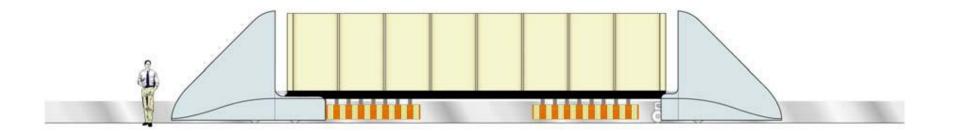
### Smart Border Coalition Stakeholder Working Committee Meeting

May 8, 2019





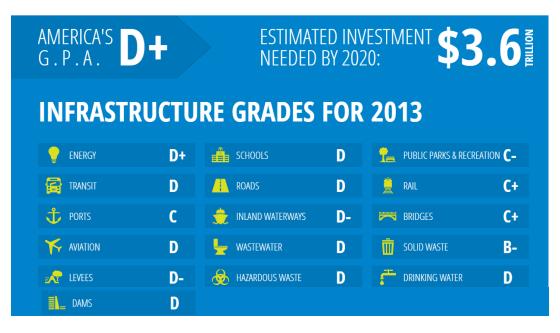
• The Freight Shuttle - 2004





# Why Now and Why This?

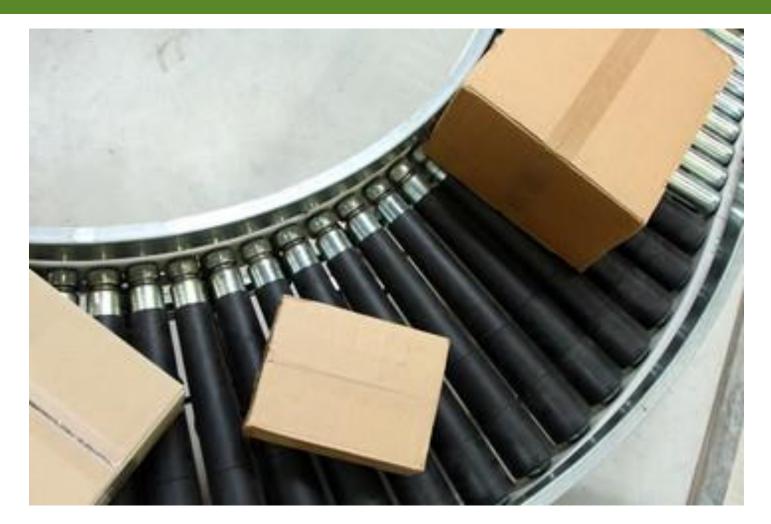
#### – Massive infrastructure spending shortfall.



Source: http://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/

ASCE 2017 Infrastructure Report Card calculates funding shortfall at \$4.59 Trillion

# A Rolling Conveyor for Freight





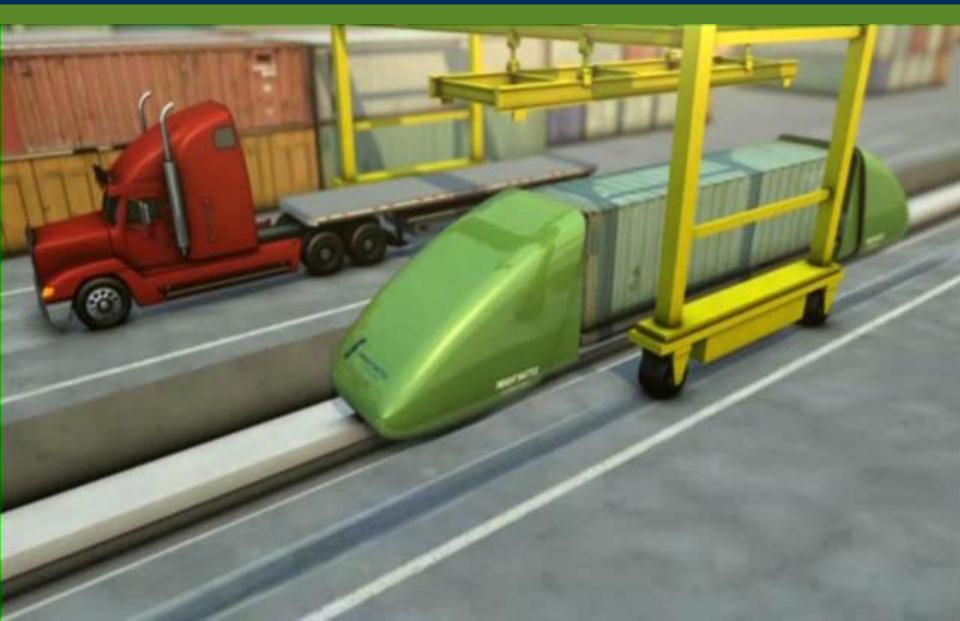
- Autonomous Freight Shuttles
  - Hybrid system; best features of truck and rail
    - Single-container transports
    - Steel-on-steel
  - Linear induction motors (LIMs)
  - Dedicated, elevated guideway
    - Non-divertible
    - Automated / driverless
  - To be built within existing highway or other ROW





24/7 operations offer an option that will overcome capacity, reliability and security issues affecting freight transportation

#### Single-container Transporters Interface with Existing Intermodal Cargo Systems



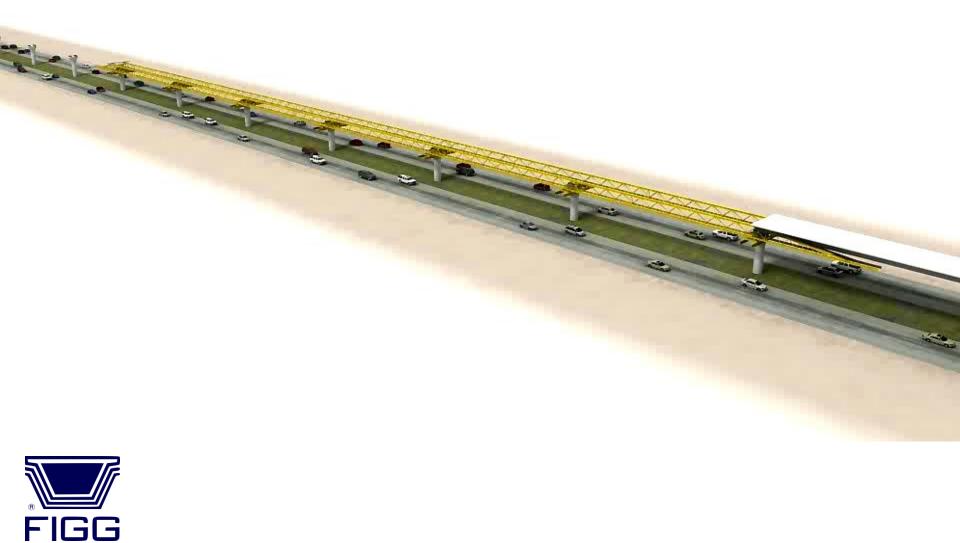
#### Segmental Bridge Design Offers Design Flexibility







#### Segmental Bridge Construction



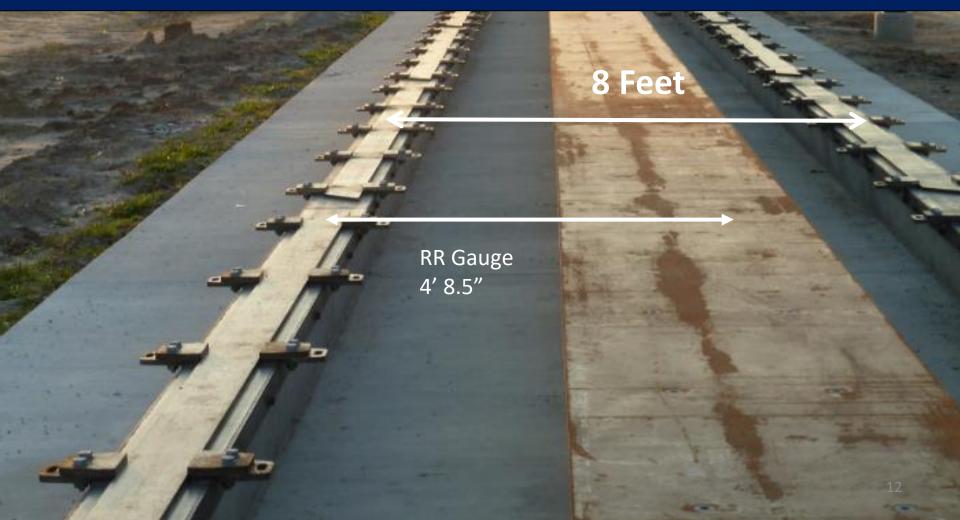
## FS Fabrication Facility



#### Minimal Friction (Steel Wheels-on-Steel Running Surface) i.e. Low Energy Needs



Dedicated, Small Footprint Segmental Guideway Constructed and Operated Within Existing Highway ROW



# FS Transporter Testing

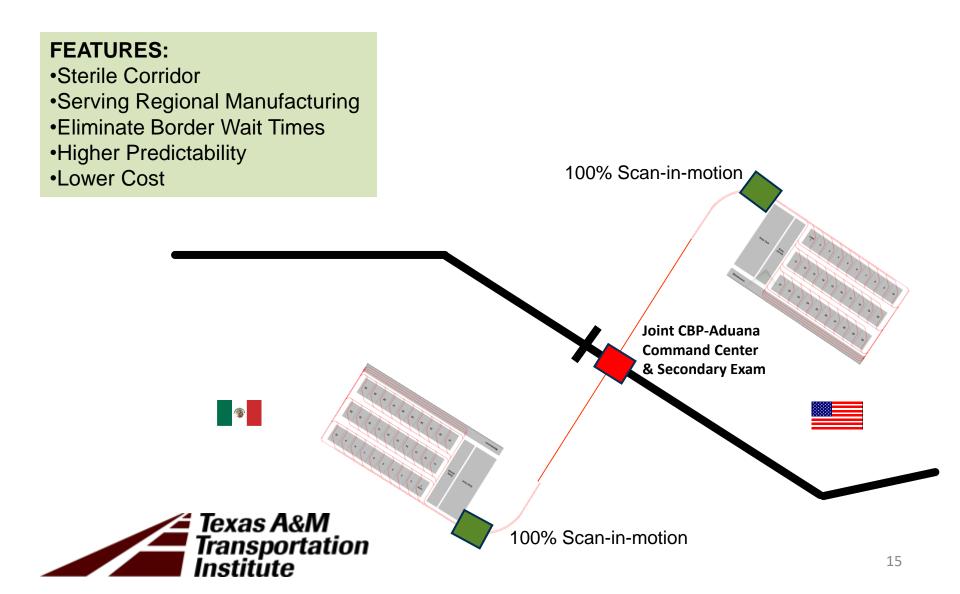






### Cross-Border Express (CBE) Model

Secure Trade with the Freight Shuttle System



# Freight Shuttle System in Service

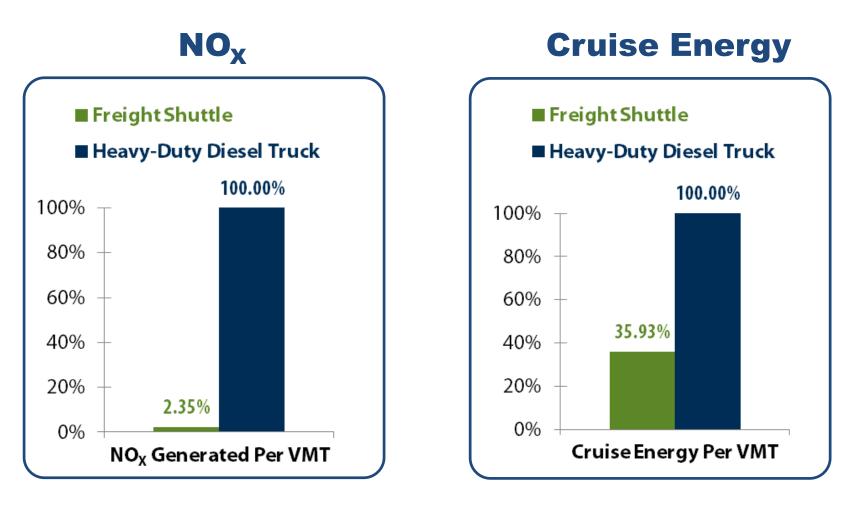






16

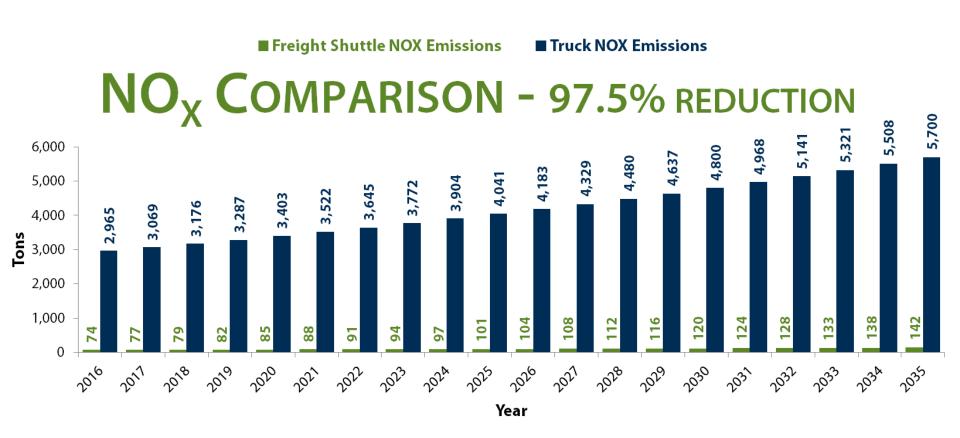
#### HDD Truck vs. FSS (per VMT comparison)



Note:  $NO_x$  emission factor of 11.89 g/VMT was used to estimate HDD truck emissions. An efficiency rating of 5.9 mpg was used to estimate HDD truck cruise energy.

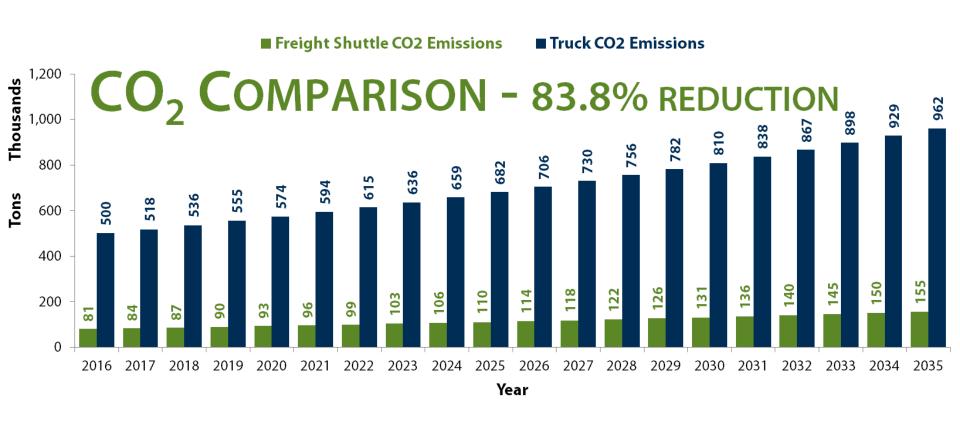
### HDD Truck vs. FSS

 $(NO_{X} required to service the same volume)$ 



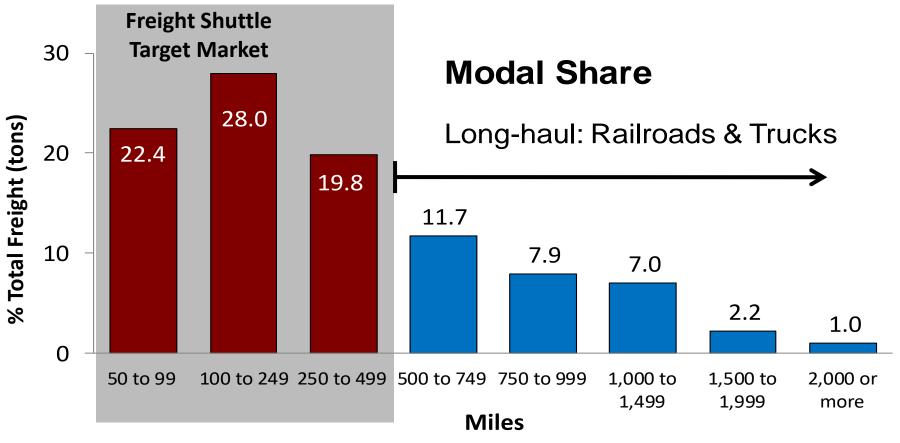


#### HDD Truck vs. FSS (CO<sub>2</sub> required to service the same volume)





#### Freight Shuttle System Operating Radius



\* 80% of the FREIGHT MOVES LESS THAN 750 MILES



# Cracking the Transportation Nut

- Political / Policy / Statutory
- Economic / Financial / Operating & Life-cycle
- Technical / Reliability / Maintenance
- Operational
- Commercial / Price & Performance
- Environmental / Sustainability

#### It's not just the gizmo...



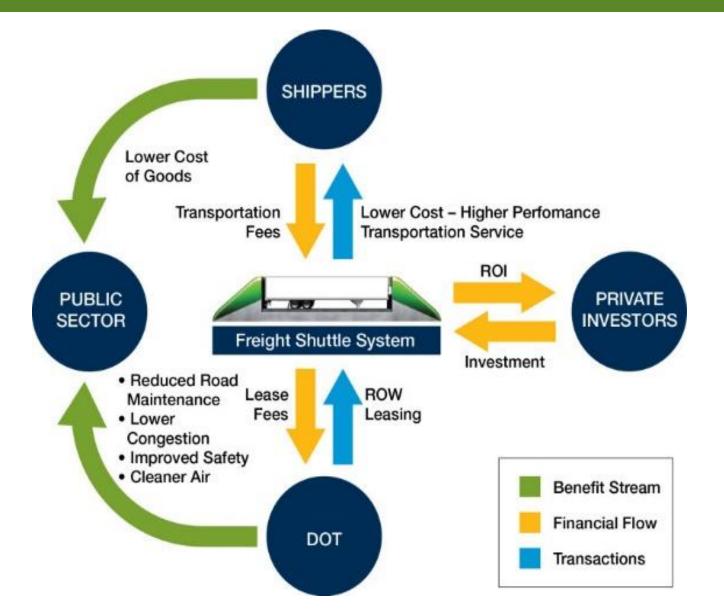
### Freight Shuttle's Economic Advantage

Mode	Operating Cost/mile	Percentages
Truck	\$1.59 per mile	
Freight Shuttle	\$0.75 per mile	47% of truck cost
Difference	\$0.84 per mile	53% lower

<sup>[1]</sup> 2017 ATRI Average Marginal Cost Per Mile



#### Freight Shuttle System Business Model



## FAST Act

 DEFINITION OF INTELLIGENT FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

"(A) an innovative or intelligent technological transportation system, infrastructure, or facilities, including electronic roads, driverless trucks, elevated freight transportation facilities, and other intelligent freight transportation systems;"

• LOCATION.

"An intelligent freight transportation system shall be located—(i) along existing Federal-aid highways; or (ii) in a manner that connects ports-of entry to existing Federal-aid highways; and in proximity to, or within, an existing right-of-way on a Federal-aid highway."

• TREATMENT OF FREIGHT PROJECTS.

"Not withstanding any other provision of law, a freight project carried out under this section shall be treated as if the project were on a Federal-aid highway."



### Freight movement redefined.



Clean. Safe. Smart.

Stephen Roop, Ph.D. Senior Research Scientist Texas A&M Transportation Institute (979) 317-2575 S-roop@tti.tamu.edu