

# **Update of TxDOT's Ports & Waterway Activities**

**2010 Galveston District Dredging Conference**

**October 28, 2010**



# TxDOT's Water Transportation Activities

- ❑ 2011-2012 TxDOT's Texas Ports Capital Report
- ❑ 82<sup>nd</sup> Legislative TxDOT GIWW Report
- ❑ TxDOT Port Authority Advisory Committee
- ❑ Texas Transportation Commission's Grant Thornton Report
- ❑ MARAD's Marine Highway Corridor
- ❑ TxDOT Issues and Studies



# Grant Thornton's Recommendation

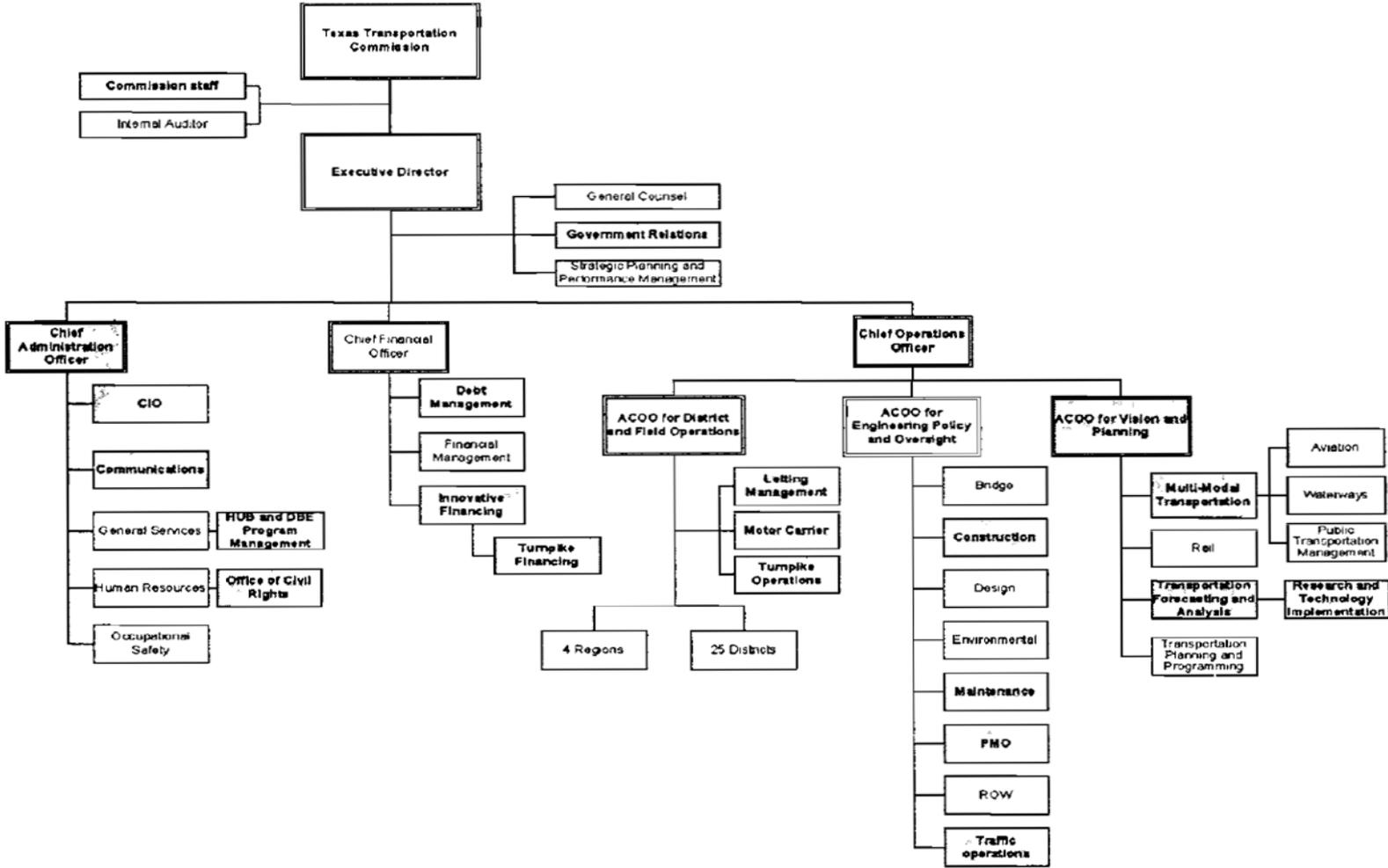


Figure 3-11: Proposed organization chart

# MARAD's Marine Highway



# Texas GIWW Issues

- ❑ Continued Maintenance of GIWW
- ❑ Coastal Development
- ❑ Preservation of GIWW Placement Areas



# TxDOT Studies

- ❑ Protecting the Waterways from Encroachment
- ❑ Texas Waterborne Freight Study
- ❑ Texas Freight Resiliency Study



# TxDOT Studies

- ❑ **Texas Waterborne Freight Study**
  - ❑ **Professional Services contract**
  - ❑ **Cambridge Systematics**

# TxDOT Waterborne Freight Study

## Overall Approach

### Phase I

- Describe current and future conditions, marine terminals, navigable waterways, inland highway, and rail connections
- Identify critical bottlenecks and needs across the entire system

### Phase II

- Develop infrastructure and operational solutions to bottlenecks and needs
- Describe the costs and benefits of these solutions
- Develop a phased implementation strategy for consideration by TxDOT and other stakeholders

# TxDOT Waterborne Freight Study

## Phase I Approach and Key Findings

### □ Approach

- Quantitative and qualitative analysis of trends and issues impacting waterborne freight demand
- Supported by in-person interviews with port and waterway stakeholders, including shippers, carriers and agencies
- Findings vetted through a series of additional stakeholder meetings

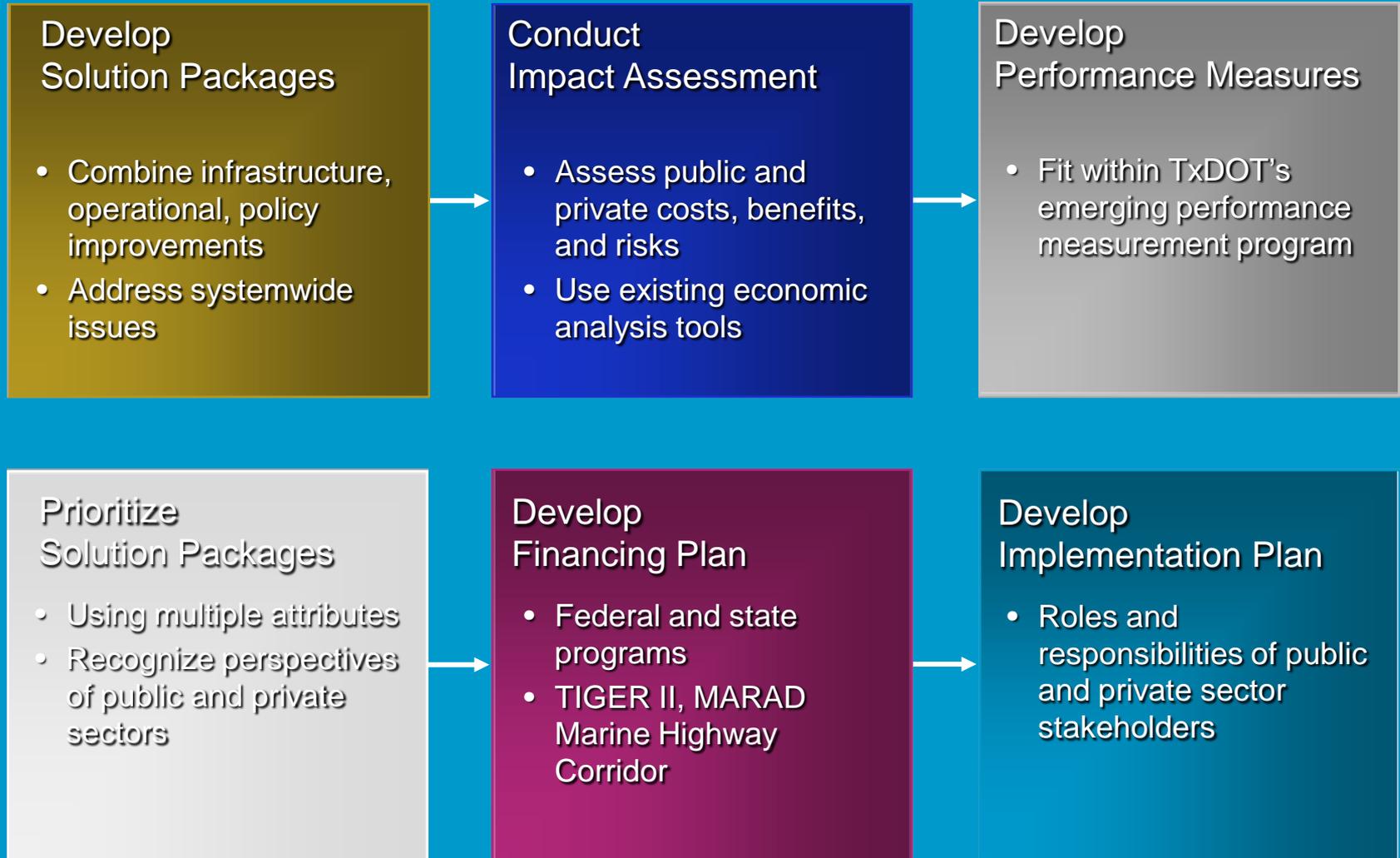
### □ Key Findings

- Demand on the system will continue to grow
- Existing chokepoints and issues may prevent the system from absorbing that growth
  - Landside and waterside capacity, connection, and condition chokepoints
  - Institutional and policy issues that make adding capacity challenging



# TxDOT Waterborne Freight Study

## Proposed Phase II Approach

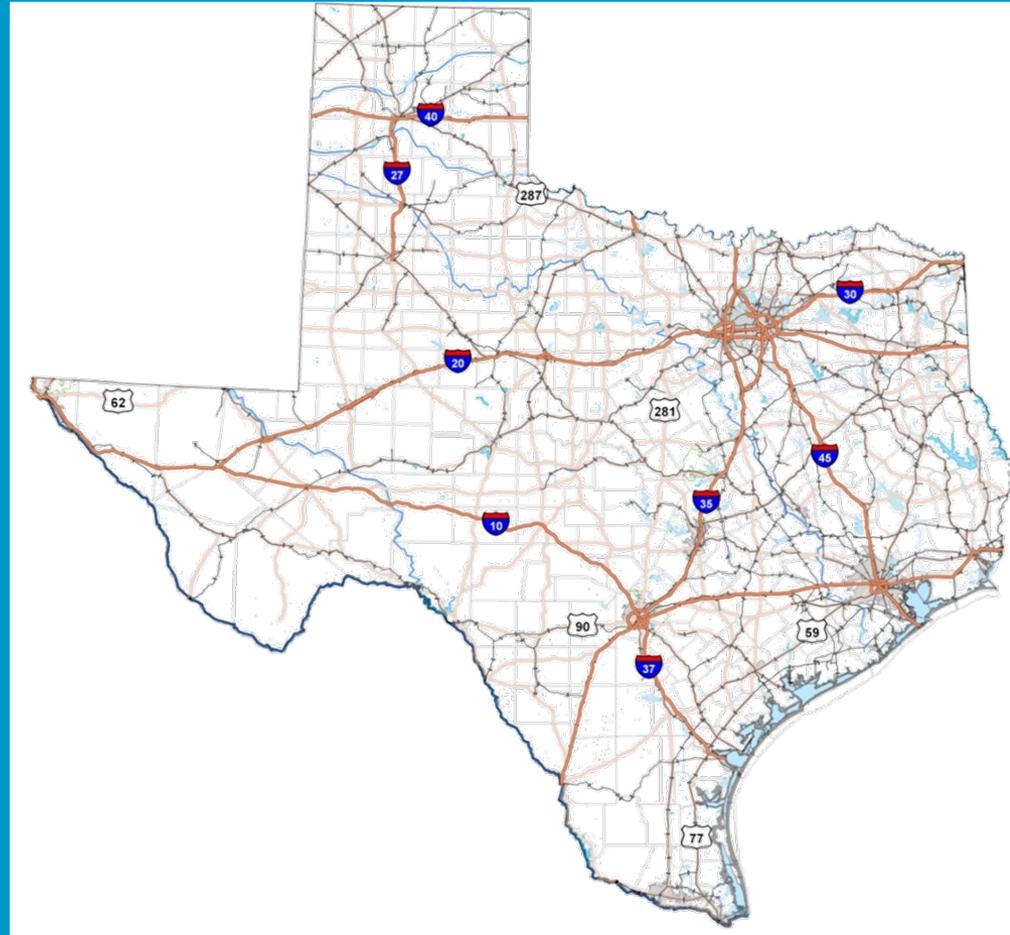


# TxDOT Studies

- ❑ **Texas Statewide Freight Resiliency Plan**
  - ❑ **Professional Services contract**
  - ❑ **TranSystems**

# Context And Purpose

- ❑ **TxDOT recognizes the key role freight has in the state's economy and how heavily freight relies on the uninterrupted movement of goods on the transportation system.**
- ❑ **The purpose of the Texas Statewide Freight Resiliency Plan is to assess the resilience of the strategic freight system in Texas when an event of extended duration limits freight mobility resulting in prioritized infrastructure enhancements to keep freight moving.**



# Focus for Texas



Moderate to Major duration events causing a change in freight travel patterns



Impact on the physical highway infrastructure managed by TxDOT and potential mode shift to highways

## Relationship to Ports and Waterways

- ❑ **Marine modes often have no close substitutes when a disruption occurs, especially in the short term, so a robust system is the best approach to resiliency for these modes**
- ❑ **Extensive feedback provided by the private sector through interviews allows development of enhancement strategies**
- ❑ **The assessment methodology will focus on the relevance of mode shift and importance of partnering at the interface of the highway system and the marine mode**

# Key Outcomes

- ❑ **Corridor-based assessment of the overall freight resilience of Texas highways**
- ❑ **Prioritization of infrastructure enhancements to improve the freight resilience of Texas highways**
- ❑ **Strategies to enhance the freight resilience of the overall freight transportation system in Texas (rail, marine, air, and highway)**

Questions?

