

Planning, Policy  
and  
Programming

JULY 2021

**Project Title:**

International Urban Freight  
Conference/Smart Freight Week

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## International Urban Freight Conference/Smart Freight Week

Develop customized activities for Caltrans as part of the International Urban Freight Conference.

### WHAT WAS THE NEED?

Routing and mapping applications such as Google Maps and Waze can inaccurately route vehicles because they do not distinguish between different classes of vehicles and associated dynamics which often have a big impact on travel time and traffic flow characteristics. In areas where the volume of trucks are relatively high the impact of heterogeneous vehicle dynamics can be even more pronounced. This impact is expected to become worse if trucks began to get organized in platoons in order to save fuel and cut down labor costs.

METRANS hosted the International Urban Freight Conference (INUF) in October 2019 as part of its first Smart Freight Week (SFW).

### WHAT WAS OUR GOAL?

Under this task order, METRANS developed activities as part of Smart Freight Week that were tailored to Caltrans.

### WHAT DID WE DO?

There were three distinct but related programs during the METRANS INUF conference including:

October 16-18 – 8th International Urban Freight Conference is the premier bi-annual conference addressing all aspects of city logistics and goods movement in the world's metropolitan areas. The conference attracted experts and practitioners in the urban freight, logistics, and supply chain industries from around the world. It showcased cutting-edge research and provided a forum for researchers, policy makers, and practitioners to build a dialogue on the future of the industry.



DRISI provides solutions and  
knowledge that improves  
California's transportation system

October 15 -CITT State of the Trade and Transportation Industry Town Hall Meeting “Smart Ports: Technology, Economy, Environment and Workforce” The Annual Center for International Trade and Transportation (CITT) Town Hall addressed the future of how we move goods and what this means for our national and regional competitiveness, the livability of our communities and the opportunities and challenges for the workforce. Technology contributes to a more efficient and cleaner supply chain, including port and terminal operations; but technology also contributes to a change in the way goods are moved and the skills needed by the waterfront workforce.

October 15 – MetroFreight Planner and Policy Makers Workshop Urban Freight Solutions for a Smart City. MetroFreight is a Volvo Research and Education Foundations Center of Excellence in urban freight housed at METRANS with global partners in New York, Paris, and Seoul. This MetroFreight-sponsored workshop was an opportunity for policy makers and planners from around the globe to share best practices, opportunities, and unique solutions to the challenges posed by freight activity in metropolitan areas.

## WHAT WAS THE OUTCOME?

The scope of services for this study included the design and delivery of Caltrans-specific tasks for both INUF and the VREF “Urban Freight Solutions for a Smart City” workshops. Caltrans Smart Freight Week participants were invited to attend the CITT Town Hall which was free of charge and open to the public. The key outcomes of the workshop were shared with participants of the INUF conference during the conference week.

## WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

INUF attendance was free of charge to Caltrans personnel. This research included the development of customized activities for

Caltrans as part of the International Urban Freight Conference: special Caltrans focused session(s) designed with the Caltrans Office of Freight Planning and the Division of Research, Innovation and System Information and the kick-off of a Caltrans/Industry Mentor program which pairs Caltrans personnel with industry professionals and which will carry over to the winter/spring 2021-22 Caltrans Freight and Sustainable Freight Academies. It also includes assistance with the coordination of freight-related site visits arranged during the Smart Freight Week by the Office of Sustainable Freight Planning.

## LEARN MORE

The most current INUF is scheduled to occur May 2022. Information can be found at this link:

[METRANS | 2022 I-NUF](#)

View the 2019 Agenda here:

[METRANS | 2019 Overview](#)

## IMAGE

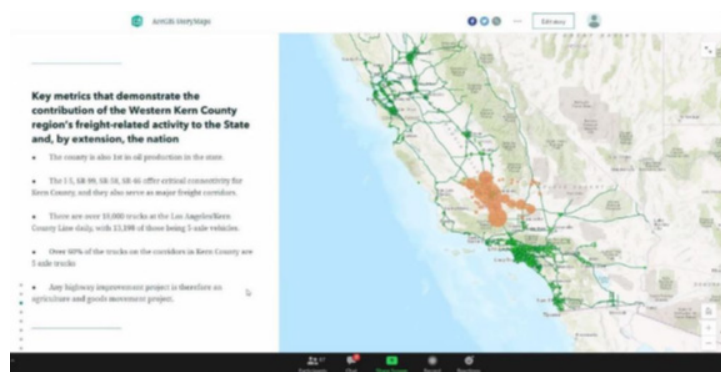


Figure 1. Example of a Bakersfield case study group's Esri StoryMap presentation