

12/13/2023

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Contents

- 1. CUFC/CRFC Overview, Requirements, Eligible Projects
- 2. New Mileage under IIJA
- 3. Designation Process
- 4. Sample Segment Analysis

National Highway Freight Network

- The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act established the National Highway Freight Network (NHFN).
- This act aimed to enhance the performance of U.S. freight transportation by strategically allocating Federal resources and policies to crucial highway segments.
- The NHFN includes the following subsystems of roadways:
 - I. Primary Highway Freight System (PHFS)
 - II. Other Interstate portions not on the PHFS (non-PHFS)
 - III. Critical Rural Freight Corridors (CRFCs)
 - IV. Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFCs)

Implications of Corridor Designation

- **1. Critical Connectivity:** CUFCs and CRFCs are important freight corridors that provide critical connectivity to the NHFN
- 2. Resource Allocation: States can direct resources toward improved system performance and efficient movement of freight on the NHFN
- **3.** Increased NHFN: The designation of CRFCs and CUFCs will increase the state's NHFN

NHFP Eligible Projects

List of project types eligible for NHFP funding:

- 1. Preliminary engineering and design
- 2. Construction, rehabilitation, acquisition of lands
- 3. ITS and other technology
- 4. Widening of shoulders
- 5. Truck parking facilities
- 6. Highway or bridge projects

NOTE: Eligible projects along CUFCs/CRFCs designated corridors are candidates for NHFP funding. However, projects can still be paid for with other types of funding

Current NHFP Funded Maryland Projects (FY 2022-2025 STIP)

- Statewide Truck Stop Technology Enhancements
 - include \$2,468,000 in NHFP funding for design and \$8,400,000 in NHFP funding for construction
- Statewide Virtual Weigh Station Network Database
 - include \$714,000 in NHFP funding for design
- Statewide Static Scale Replacement and Electronics
 - include \$617,000 in NHFP funding for design and \$6,300,000 in NHFP funding for construction
- Others: I-695 TSMO improvements (I-70 to MD 43), MD 4 Interchange Construction at Suitland Parkway, Freight AV Implementation Plan

2017 CUFC/CRFC Designation

- The FAST Act set the State's mileage caps
 - CUFC: 75 total miles
 - CRFC: 150 total miles
- BRTB currently has
 - 25-mile CUFCs
 - 8-mile CRFCs



2023 New Mileage Under IIJA

- The IIJA modified the state's mileage caps
 - CUFC: 150 total miles
 - CRFC: 300 total miles
- BRTB agreed to designate the total 50 CUFC miles (25 miles under FAST + 25 miles under IIJA)
- The same requirements for eligibility are applied



Designation Process

• For CUFC, the designation of segments is led by SHA & BRTB

- SHA has developed a methodology for identifying eligible segments statewide:

 AADTT and proximity to freight generators to determine which segments are eligible under the law
 The 2020 urban area boundary change is reflected
- <u>BRTB's board will decide on the approval of the designated CUFCs</u>
 BRTB is applying regional considerations to the identified segments (e.g., equity factors)

• For CRFC, the designation of segments is led by SHA

- Work with regional planners and district staff to identify segments
- Review BRTB staff for concurrence

Online Map for eligible CUFCs & CRFCs



Sample eligible CUFC segment (total: 106.5 miles)



- Location: Baltimore Blvd
- Road classification: Principal Arterial
- Truck share: 7%
 - Annual % truck Vol. growth: 0
 - Volume: Moderate High
 - CTP Project(s): N/A
 - Location: Blue Star Memorial Hwy
 - Road classification: Principal Arterial
- **2** → Truck share: 11%
 - Annual % truck Vol. growth: 0 0.64
 - Volume: High
 - CTP Project(s): Broadneck Peninsula Trail (Phase 1B)
 - Location: Baltimore Blvd
 - Road classification: Principal Arterial
 - Truck share: 10%
 - Annual % truck Vol. growth: 0.79
 - Volume: High

3

CTP Project(s): N/A