



International Commerce & Mobility Forum

April 3, 2025

ICM Forum #9 Agenda

Date and Time: Wednesday, April 3, 2025

- **Networking:** 2:00–3:00 PM (Central)
- **ICM Forum:** 3:00–5:00 PM (Central)

Location:

- **In Person:** SRF Consulting Group, 3701 Wayzata Blvd, Suite 100, Minneapolis, MN, 55416
- **Virtual:** A Zoom option will be provided in advance for those joining online.

A special thank-you to **SRF Consulting Group** for hosting this event! We also extend our gratitude to our other sponsors: **Global Wellness Connections (GWC)** and **Government Analytica**.

Agenda At a Glance

Time	Topic
2:00–3:00 PM	Networking Kick off the afternoon with an hour of dynamic networking! Connect with strategic thought leaders across public, private, academic, consulting, and non-profit sectors.
3:00 <i>Bill Goins</i>	Welcome and Introductions Brief attendee introductions led by Bill Goins , VP, Commerce Mobility, GWC.
	Host Greetings Remarks from SRF Consulting Group leadership; Mark Berndt, Project Director
3:10-3:30 <i>Mark Berndt</i>	Minnesota Business's Transportation Needs – Where we have been & where we are going? Following brief welcoming statements, Mark Berndt will present a brief historical overview of air cargo initiatives at MSP, statistical trends on the state of Minnesota's economy and transportation systems and set the stage for an interactive discussion about Minnesota's vision for the future of business transportation needs in Minnesota.
3:30-3:50 <i>John Pournoor</i>	Federal Assessment of Transportation Funding John will focus on the work done at Government Analytica on the new administration's federal transportation policy. This is a great opportunity to better understand how these early moves might shape national priorities, infrastructure plans, and regulatory direction in the months ahead. John will explore administration's steps to date:



Time	Topic
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USDOT: A roster of potential transformation taking place in U.S. Department of Transportation by agency and potential forthcoming changes in policy. • Executive Orders: He will also explore the potential consequences of several key executive orders impacting the transportation sector • OMB Memos: Finally, he will focus on 2 memoranda from the Office of Management and Budget, that tips the forthcoming changes at the tactical level.
3:50-4:20 <i>All Invited</i>	<p>How can Minnesota lead the nation in a new concept: Minnesota Multimodal Trade/Logistics Platform?</p> <p>Breakout 1: Participants in-person at SRF, (20-minute discussion)</p> <p>Breakout 2: Participants that are joining us virtually, (20-minute discussion)</p> <p>Format Facilitator for each group will kick off each breakout (Mark Berndt at SRF, Charles Edwards virtually) Discussion Guide (group discuss 3 key questions).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is your reaction to investing in Minnesota’s digital infrastructure to accelerate international trade? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What specific value proposition should Minnesota businesses be interested in? b. What specific value proposition should Minnesota’s government agencies be interested in? 2. What business associations and/or government entities should be involved in moving a Multimodal Trade/Logistics Platform forward? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Do you have specific suggestions for gathering support from these organizations? b. Who might be some of our key business/government/academic leaders that can help guide these efforts? 3. What role do you see ICM playing in moving this idea from concept to implementation? <p>Report 3 key “themes/action items/desired outcomes” from the discussion (5 minutes for each group)</p>



Time	Topic
	UPDATES
4:20	Mayor's Corner Strategic thoughts and comments from one of our Minnesota Mayors! For this Forum, Mayor Kim Norton, (Rochester), will be presenting.
4:25	Expo 2031 Minnesota, USA – A1 World Horticultural Expo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speakers: Wendy Meadley (CEO, Expo 2031) and David Loehr (CSO, Expo 2031) • Discussion: The impact of hosting this Expo on our region's economic development and transportation infrastructure.
4:35	Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Trade Route <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker: Jan Bauer (Consul, UK Government Office-Minnesota) • Discussion: A strategic initiative connecting Duluth to the UK through ocean container shipping.
4:45	Update on the Freight Network Optimization Tool, (FNOT) Speaker: Ben Zietlow, Quetica Discussion: Update on this tool and the progress of moving in Phase 2 of the project and moving into Phase 3.
4:55	Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) Freight Study, <u>Note: this will be rolled into our Deep Dive Strategic conversation</u> Discussion: A continuation of the discussion from ICM Forum #8, following the presentation of the recent air freight study exploring freight movement between Minnesota and Chicago.
5:00	Adjourn

Looking Ahead:

ICM Forum #10 is being scheduled for Wednesday, June 25, 2025. More details to follow!

Focus will continue regarding the *Minnesota Multimodal Trade/Logistics Platform*.

In addition, plans are developing for in depth look at the subject of **Advanced Air Mobility, (AAM)**, and specifically, **how does the development of AAM in Minnesota help reduce the time factor and help support economic development in smaller communities throughout Minnesota?**

We are eager to include your ideas. Please feel free to share what else you would like to see us include. More details for ICM #10 to come—pleased stay tuned!