



International Commerce & Mobility Forum

June 25, 2025

ICM Forum #10 Agenda (Draft)

Date and Time: Wednesday, June 25, 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 and the SRF team</i>	Welcome and Introductions Brief attendee welcome led by Bill Goins , VP, Commerce Mobility, GWC.
	Host Greetings Remarks from SRF Consulting Group leadership; (Andy, Mark and/or Justin)
3:10-3:20 <i>Gina Baas, Deputy Director, CTS, U of M</i>	Exploring Collaborations and Key Topics As a part of the Unpacking Freight theme, Kyle Shelton, Gina Baas & CTS are interested in collaborating with ICM and other Strategic thought leaders in the freight/commerce space to shape a CTS-led workshop in October 2025 that can help us strengthen Minnesota’s position as a freight leader. We want to explore how to harness our untapped advantages and to uncover untapped potential in this space. We see freight/commerce issues as both localized and global. We also see them as interconnected with moving people and would like to ensure the audience is able to speak to both arenas.
3:20-3:30 <i>Tessa Enns, Quandel Consultants</i>	Public Value of Rail in Moving Commerce Tessa Enns from Quandel Consultants will share insights about the Corridor Identification Program (CIDP), a federal initiative with strong bipartisan support aimed at expanding intercity passenger rail service across the United States. The CIDP offers funding and technical assistance to help states, regional rail authorities, and other eligible groups plan and develop new or improved rail corridors. In Minnesota, this program could help maximize use of our existing rail infrastructure, improving travel for passengers and enhancing the movement of freight.



Time	Topic
3:30-3:40 <i>Dr. John Pournoor, Government Analytica</i>	Impact of Tariffs on Construction Materials Dr. John Pournoor 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: <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.
3:40-3:55 <i>Mark Berndt, SRF Consulting</i> <i>Charles Edwards, SASI</i>	Minnesota Business's Transportation Needs – Where we have been & where we are going? (Follow-up from ICM Forum #9) Mark Berndt will follow-up on his presentation at ICM Forum #9 on 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. Charles Edwards will focus on a real-world perspective of international air freight and the need for companies to participate in the effort to improve the air transportation options for our Minnesota Market
3:55-4:30	DEEP DIVE STRATEGIC TOPIC Update on the Freight Network Optimization Tool, (FNOT) Speaker: Ben Zietlow, Quetica; Andrew Andrusko, MnDOT Discussion: A demonstration of the process, including some of the key features as we move toward establishing a yearlong prototype
4:30-4:40	UPDATES Expo 2031 Minnesota, USA – A1 World Horticultural Expo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speakers: Wendy Meadley (CEO, Expo 2031) • Discussion: The impact of hosting this Expo on our region's economic development and transportation infrastructure.
4:40-4:50	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 and focusing on our "call to action" for identifying shippers as early adopters for this important expansion of transportation in this Region.
4:50-5PM	Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC): MSP Air Cargo Update Speaker: Brian Peters, MAC



Time	Topic
	Discussion: An update and continuation of the discussion from ICM Forums #8 and #9, following the presentation of the recent air freight study exploring freight movement between Minnesota and Chicago.
5PM	Adjourn

Looking Ahead:

ICM Forum #11 is being scheduled for late September/early October, 2025. More details to follow!

Focus will continue regarding the <i>Minnesota Multimodal Trade/Logistics Platform</i> .
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We are eager to include your ideas. Please feel free to share what else you would like to see us include.