



## Pacific North West Economic Region

# TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

### ABOUT PNWER

The Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER) is a public/private non-profit created by statute in 1991 by the states of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Montana and Washington, the Canadian provinces and territories of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories and the Yukon.

PNWER is a respected nonpartisan organization that provides leadership for private-sector representatives and legislators on Northwest policy and trade issues. PNWER is recognized by both the United States and Canada as a model for regional and bi-national cooperation due to its proven success. More information at [www.pnwer.org](http://www.pnwer.org).



### Annual Summit July 22—26 Spokane, Washington

Join more than 550 legislators, business leaders, academics and local government representatives in Portland, Oregon for four days of in-depth work sessions, high-level networking and enlightening keynote speeches as we confront major regional economic challenges. More information at [www.pnwer.org/2017summit](http://www.pnwer.org/2017summit).

#### Topics:

- Federal transportation/infrastructure outlook
- State and local perspective
- Private sector successful case studies

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**The Transportation and Infrastructure Working Groups** focus on the infrastructure of our major corridors and gateways, with a special interest on border infrastructure. Economic development and quality of life throughout the region is reliant on dependable transportation corridors and shared standards across the region.

*Co-chairs: Senator Chuck Winder, Idaho and Bruce Agnew, Director, Cascadia*

### INNOVATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE

Traditional funding mechanisms for large-scale infrastructure and transportation projects have been challenged in recent years. The **Innovative Infrastructure Finance Taskforce** promotes best practices for public-private infrastructure financing. Canadian experts in public-private partnerships have shared lessons learned with U.S. stakeholders and PNWER has engaged with Congress and the Trump Administration on the infrastructure challenges and opportunities in the Northwest.

PNWER is currently working with Congressional leadership to secure the funding for the Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Demonstration Program authorized in the Fixing Americas Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015. The Program would enable states/municipalities to access resources and utilize innovative financing tools.

### OIL TO TIDEWATER AND SAFETY IN THE SALISH SEA

Oil and petroleum based commodities are extracted and transported to West Coast refineries and shipped to export markets through the environmentally sensitive Salish Sea. Product comes from Alaska, Alberta and North Dakota by pipeline, rail, tankers and barges. PNWER works to share information on safety procedures among the wide variety of stakeholders.

### ACES—AUTOMATED, ELECTRIC, CONNECTED, SHARED VEHICLES

The Working Group is beginning to explore the technology of the future and how PNWER can serve as a forum for these innovative developments.

### PORT VANCOUVER B.C. TOUR: BUILDING A TRADE GATEWAY IN A METRO REGION

Working with the Northwest Seaport Alliance, PNWER took 25 trade stakeholders - legislators, port commissioners, municipal officials, labor—to see first-hand the innovative trade policies and infrastructure investments in Vancouver B.C. The December 2016 tour highlighted the need for a strategic trade strategy, cooperation among all levels of government and the private sector, and the infrastructure improvements needed to keep Washington State competitive.

### MARKET ACCESS

PNWER regularly convenes stakeholders to discuss the market access issues facing Northwest goods including rail capacity, border policy, and trade corridors.