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| Submission Date: 2/8/24 |
| Lead Recipient/Grant Number: University of Arkansas / 69A3552348331 |
| Principal Investigator Institution: University of New Orleans |
| Center Name: Maritime Transportation Research and Education Center |
| USDOT Research Priority: Preserving the Existing Transportation System |
| Primary USDOT Strategic Goal (select drop down): Economic Strength and Global Competitiveness |
| Principal Investigator(s) with ORCID(s) and Contact Information: Faisal Mallum, Ph.D. ORCID 0000-0002-5647-0912, fbmallum@uno.edu |
| Project Partners: Louisiana Department of Transportation |
| Project Type (select drop down): Applied Research |
| Project Research Topic Type (select drop down): Maritime and Multimodal Supply Chain Management |
| Transportation Modes Involved (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waterway <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road <input type="checkbox"/> Rail <input type="checkbox"/> Pipeline <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| Research Project Funding: Federal Funding - \$61,737; Non-Federal - \$30868; Total Funding - \$92,605; Technology Transfer - \$9260 |
| Project Start and End Dates: 08/16/2023 to 8/15/2024 |
| Project Title: Analyzing the Economic Development Impacts of Truck Parking in Louisiana |
| Project Abstract (Brief Description): This research analyzes the economic development impacts of establishing truck parking within the two major metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) of Louisiana. The two MSAs are major freight corridors that host the five major ports of the state which comprise the largest port complex in the world in terms of tonnage. Louisiana also ranks tenth in truck traffic nationally, with the Port of New Orleans ranked as the sixth largest container port in the U.S. This calls for improved efficiency in the intermodal system to improve productivity, safety, and to reduce the region's carbon footprint. While there is high demand for the development of truck parking nationally, they are capital intensive and are associated with intense pushback from communities who view it as a nuisance within their neighborhoods. This study will assess how much economic development impact the establishment of truck parking may generate in the New Orleans- Metairie and Baton Rouge MSAs using the input-output method in IMPLAN. It is our aim that the findings could be utilized for securing funding for the creation of additional parking, as well as community support from the proposed neighborhoods in which the projects would be built. |
| USDOT Priorities: This research supports the USDOT Strategic Goals: Safety; and Economic Strength and Global Competitiveness. Studies show that truck parking improves safety on our highways because it provides the driver the opportunity to rest, but also helps avoid parking in unauthorized spaces which can cause accidents. Unauthorized truck parking has led to fatalities resulting in the creation of Jason's Law which encourages the establishment of well-organized truck parking. The research will initiate the identification of the best locations for the development of the project. Additionally, the lack of adequate truck parking adds to port congestion as there is little available space for staging. This research will provide data to policy makers to improve supply chain movements through the largest port complex in the world (by tonnage). |
| Outputs (results of the work performed): This research will create a core foundation for the improvement of freight efficiency as it concerns trucking in and out of a major national freight corridor. |

Findings will help initiate conversations for the development of truck parking within Louisiana and elevate chances of getting support from proposed communities, and specialized funding sources for the execution of the projects. It is our aim to partner with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) so that findings from the research will help make informed decisions concerning truck parking.


Outcomes/Impacts: As a freight intensive corridor, the establishment of adequate truck parking will help improve general efficiency in the transportation system, which may help reduce the cost of transportation. It will also improve safety in the major transportation corridors. Louisiana is heavily reliant on trucking because of its ports systems; inefficiencies lead to delays in the supply chain and loss of revenue for the state. Truck parking also alleviates accidents and fatalities on our road systems; therefore, it is key for the improvement of safety in the region.

Technology Transfer Activities: Findings from the study will be utilized to educate state legislators about the importance of appropriating adequate funding for truck parking. In partnering with LADOTD, the research will provide necessary data to affect change in the intermodal system to improve efficiency and safety.

Final Research Report: Upon completion of the project, provide a URL link to final report will be provided

Project Deliverables: PI agrees to submit all deliverables within 4 weeks after the project end date.

Data Management Plan (DMP): PI has reviewed and agrees to adhere to MarTREC DMP. Proposed project DMP must be attached to the submission email along with this form.

Center Director Approval Signature and Date:  03.05.24