

November 7, 2014

**Influential Think-Tank Brookings Releases Goods-Trade Report**

Dear NEC Transportation Committee & Trade Working Group Members:

The Brookings Institution, in conjunction with JPMorgan Chase, released [a report](#) yesterday that looks at the “highly concentrated nature of goods trade” in our nation. The authors of the report stated at the outset that “strikingly little is known about which regions trade with one another” which has influenced the ability to “coordinate freight policies and investments.” Using data from 2010, the report made a handful of key findings:

- “The country’s 100 largest metropolitan areas drive national goods trade, with more than 80 percent of all goods either starting or ending in these areas.
- Just 10 percent of the country’s trade corridors move 79 percent of all goods, the most valuable of which are concentrated in the country’s 100 largest metropolitan areas.
- Every region of the country relies on at least one major network hub to move large volumes of goods along different corridors domestically and internationally.
- Metropolitan areas tend to trade more goods with each other when they are located close together, employ a sizable number of logistics workers, and house large populations.
- With over 77 percent of the nation’s freight moving between different states, the United States must establish a more coordinated freight strategy across all levels of the public and private sectors.”

The Brookings report also includes interesting interactive graphics that can be accessed by clicking on [this link](#).

To view a copy of the full report, [please click here](#).

To view a copy of the Brookings' press release, [please click here](#).

###