National Infrastructure Protection Plan
Transportation Systems Sector

Homeland Security Presidential Directive 7 (HSPD-7) identified 17 critical infrastructure and key resources (CIKR) sectors and designated Federal Government Sector-Specific Agencies (SSAs) for each of the sectors. Each sector is responsible for developing and implementing a Sector-Specific Plan (SSP) and providing sector-level performance feedback to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to enable gap assessments of national cross-sector CIKR protection programs. SSAs are responsible for collaborating with public and private sector security partners and encouraging the development of appropriate information-sharing and analysis mechanisms within the sector.

Sector Overview

The Nation's transportation system quickly, safely, and securely moves people and goods through the country and overseas. The Transportation Systems Sector consists of six key subsectors, or modes:

1. **Aviation** includes aircraft, air traffic control systems, and approximately 450 commercial airports and 19,000 additional airfields. This mode includes civil and joint use military airports, heliports, short takeoff and landing ports, and seaplane bases.

2. **Highway** encompasses more than 4 million miles of roadways and supporting infrastructure. Vehicles include automobiles, buses, motorcycles, and all types of trucks.

3. **Maritime Transportation System** consists of about 95,000 miles of coastline, 361 ports, over 10,000 miles of navigable waterways, 3.4 million square miles of Exclusive Economic Zone to secure, and intermodal landside connections, which allow the various modes of transportation to move people and goods to, from, and on the water.

4. **Mass Transit** includes multiple-occupancy vehicles, such as transit buses, trolleybuses, vanpools, ferryboats, monorails, heavy (subway) and light rail, automated guideway transit, inclined planes, and cable cars designed to transport customers on local and regional routes.

5. **Pipeline Systems** include vast networks of pipeline that traverse hundreds of thousands of miles throughout the country, carrying nearly all of the Nation's natural gas and about 65 percent of hazardous liquids, as well as various chemicals.

6. **Rail** consists of hundreds of railroads, more than 143,000 route-miles of track, more than 1.3 million freight cars, and roughly 20,000 locomotives.

Sector Partnerships

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is designated as the SSA for the Transportation Systems Sector, which includes the Aviation, Highways, Passenger Rail, Mass Transit, Freight Rail and Pipeline modes. The United States Coast Guard (USCG) is designated as the SSA for the Maritime Transportation System mode. The Transportation System SSAs are working together using the NIPP Sector Partnership Model. The Transportation Sector Government Coordinating Council (TSGCC) was established in January 2006. In addition, there are separate modal Government Coordinating Councils (aviation, highway, freight rail, mass transit, maritime and pipeline[1]). Sector Coordinating Councils (SCCs) have also been established by mode where membership is comprised of major trade associations, owners and operators, and other entities with a stake in transportation security. The Maritime mode uses existing communications mechanisms for collaboration with security partners.

Federal agencies involved in the coordination of the Transportation Systems Sector include various component divisions within DHS; the Departments of Transportation, Defense, and Energy; the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and several other signatories to the NIPP.

CIKR Protection Issues

Because the transportation system is so diverse and expansive, security risks are inherent in both the supporting infrastructure and the people and products moving through it. The global nature of commerce, coupled with the global threat of terrorism, requires the United States to cast a security net that extends well beyond the point-of-entry of those goods and people. The Transportation Systems Sector has significant interdependencies with many other critical infrastructure sectors. For instance, the Transportation Systems and Energy Sectors directly depend on each other to move vast quantities of fuel to a broad range of users and to supply the fuel for all types of transportation. In addition to cross-sector interdependencies, the Transportation Systems Sector must also deal with interdependencies among modes.

Priority Programs

Within the Transportation Systems Sector, priority programs are driven by overall sector goals:

- Prevent and deter acts of terrorism using or against the U.S. transportation system;

- Enhance the resiliency of the U.S. transportation system; and

- Improve the cost-effective use of resources for transportation security.

Surface and Maritime Protective Programs: Implementing flexible and adaptive protective and targeted Mass Transit Grant programs throughout the Transportation Systems Sector will lead to better investment and operational decisions for programs such as the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC), Certified Canine program, Transportation Security Inspectors, Corporate Security Reviews, Container Security Initiative, Federal grants programs, and numerous maritime security initiatives and programs. These include U.S. port, vessel, and facility security assessments and plans and the assessment of anti-terrorism measures in the ports of our trade partners, as required by the Maritime Transportation Security Act and the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code.

Aviation Screening and Security Operations: Coordinated, layered security programs designed to protect our Nation's airlines and the traveling public are considered one of the sector's highest priorities. TSA uses a variety of training, identification verification, screening, and research and development programs to address the evolving nature of the risks associated with aircraft, passenger, employee, and cargo security.

Transportation Security Training and Exercises: The Transportation Systems Sector will employ online and onsite training and exercise programs focused on increasing the sector's preparedness, response and recovery measures, increasing awareness of terrorists' intentions, and enhancing compliance with security guidelines and requirements.

Homeland Security

For questions or more information, please contact NIPP@dhs.gov or visit www.dhs.gov/nipp.

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[1] Pipeline systems are addressed in collaboration with the Energy Sector.