



## Initial Issues

This listing is for discussion purposes and does not represent a complete list of issues. During the Advisory Council meeting, you will use this list as a starting point and add, delete, modify issues as appropriate.

- **Waterway Management**
  - Increasingly inadequate maintenance funding for dredging
  - Lockage delays due to lock dimensions that limit traffic flow
  - Inadequate channel depths and widths, particularly coastal waterways that support oil & gas
  - Limited to no public knowledge on importance of waterways to state economy
  - Climate change and sea-level rise
- **Ports**
  - Infrastructure to support freight handling
  - Intermodal connections for efficient freight movement
  - Maintaining economic competitiveness with other Gulf ports
  - Readiness for Panama Canal expansion
  - Potential for large offshore receiving port (post-Panamax vessels)
- **Governance**
  - Federal ownership of navigable waterways dictates/restricts State DOTD partnership
  - Ports are self governing, with a voice through the Ports Association