



# Today's Presenters



**Matt Morrison** 

- Executive Director
- PNWER



### **Bruce Agnew**

- Executive Director
- ACES Northwest Network
- PNWER Transportation
   Co-Chair

### About PNWER



PNWER is a public-private partnership chartered by the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington; the western Canadian provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan; and Yukon and Northwest Territories

PNWER is recognized by the federal governments as the model for regional and bi-national cooperation because of its proven success. It is the leading forum where people in the policy world and business world come together to determine solutions to regional challenges

# PNWER's Transportation & Infrastructure Working Group

### Major focus areas

- Innovative Infrastructure Finance
- Autonomous, Electric, Connected, and Shared Vehicles
  - Focusing on freight, air transport, and industrial electrification
- Market Access & Rail Capacity
- Infrastructure Resilience
- Advanced Air Mobility
- Rural Development and Connectivity
  - Especially via broadband access

### Benefits to Idaho

- Supported Sandpoint Junction Connector initiative to decrease rail congestion, promote regional growth
- Highlighted Idaho's truck size and weight harmonization efforts to region
- Promoted WGA Electric Vehicles Roadmap Initiative



### WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?

The PNWER Annual Summit provides the opportunity to:

- Learn about key economic issues facing the region
- Collaborate and establish relationships w/
   Canadian & U.S. public & private sector
   leaders
- Strengthen regional networks and cooperation
- Advocate for regional policies and crossjurisdictional initiatives



10 Provinces, States, & Territories



20+ Sessions & Networking Breaks



125+ Speakers from Canada & the U.S.



500+ Legislators, Business Leaders, & Decision Makers

# PNWER's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Su<u>mmit</u>

Calgary, Alberta July 24 - 28, 2022





# REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE ACCELERATOR

PNWER's RIA Program

## **RIA Timeline**



Early 2010's

2015

2019

PNWER begins advocating for a program to help identify and streamline multi-jurisdictional transportation infrastructure projects

Congress passes the 2015 FAST Act, which includes Section 1441 to "establish a regional infrastructure demonstration program" Funds were appropriated for FY2020 to create the Regional Infrastructure Accelerator demonstration program

2020

2021

2022

US DOT releases a Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Program PNWER develops a competitive application for the RIA Demonstration Program

PNWER was selected as 1 of 5 Accelerators across the U.S.

PNWER begins work to establish a Regional Infrastructure Accelerator for the Pacific Northwest

# What does the PNWER RIA do?



The PNWER RIA is a one stop shop for US DOT infrastructure credit programs and more



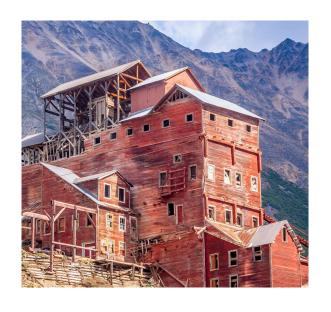
RIA accelerates existing state project priorities to streamline economic return



RIA brings private capital to public private partnerships for infrastructure



The PNWER RIA is a go-to leader for multi-state and corridor projects





### **Identifying Resources**

Become a one stop shop for transportation projects with region-wide impacts, pulling together the latest information on DOT, DOE, EPA and other funding sources

### **Accelerating Projects**

Work with communities and project sponsors to identify innovative financing options and begin regionally important transportation projects

# The **Future** of the RIA: A Regional **Center of Excellence**

# PNWER RIA Program Activities



# Seaport Emission Reduction

Establish a viable
pathway for sustainable
CO2 emission reduction
in the Port areas of
Seattle and Tacoma via
drayage truck
electrification



# Highway-Rail Grade Separation

Assist the rural community of Spokane Valley, WA to utilize TIFIA & other loan programs to address a freight mobility bottleneck



## Center of Excellence

Develop capacity within the PNWER RIA to help states better understand TIFIA, RRIF, PABs, and other loan programs, and how to navigate the new IIJA funding sources

# How will the RIA work?

Phase '

Phase 2

lase 3

#### Phase 1 - RIA Kickoff

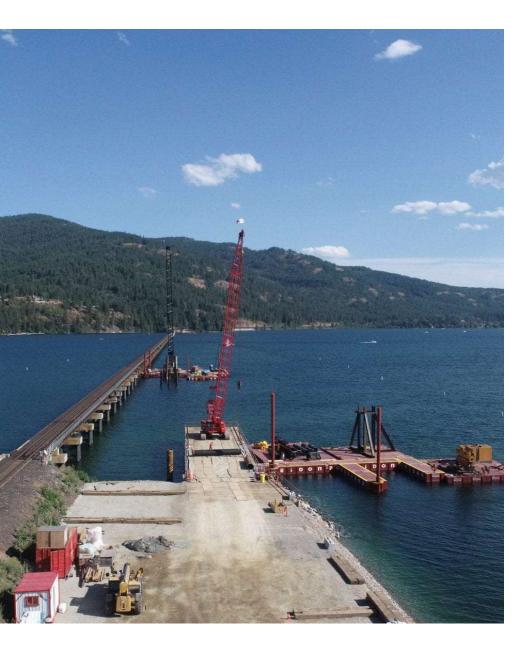
- Convene Advisory Committee
- Establish online presence
- Stakeholder outreach and leadership briefings
- Create & maintain database of funding opportunities

### Phase 2 - Identifying & Funding Projects

- Provide technical assistance for first 2 project
- Develop funding matrix
- Solicit applications for next round of projects
- Develop long-term sustainability model

### Phase 3 - Moving Towards Sustainability

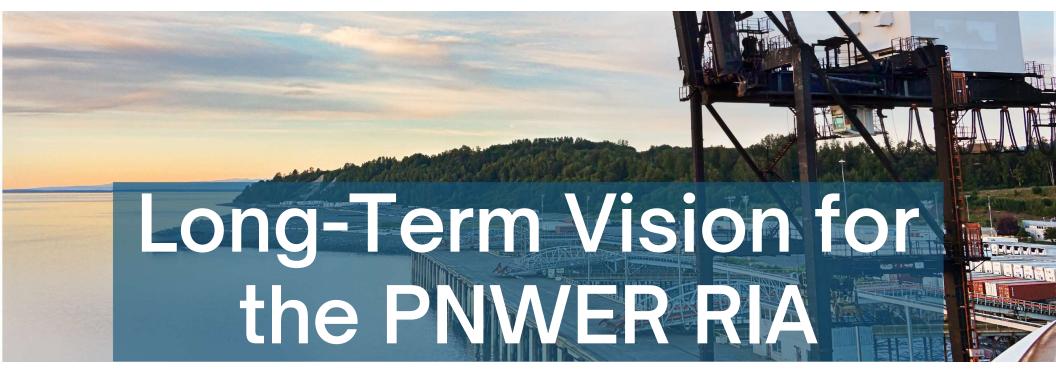
- Implement long-term sustainability model
- Finalize TIFIA, RRIF, or PAB applications for round 1 projects
- Select second round of projects for acceleration
- Begin acceleration efforts for round 2 of projects



# Applying to the PNWER RIA for Project Acceleration

Submitting projects for RIA acceleration is a cooperative process between legislators, community members, Departments of Transportation, and the RIA team.

We are developing a potential project pipeline that looks at transportation projects that are identified, but are not top contenders for state funding. Special attention is paid to projects that have region-wide implications, or cross-jurisdictional boundaries.



Assist communities in understanding innovative financing sources for infrastructure projects, focusing on how to help projects access federal credit programs and public / private financing



The RIA will bring in best practices from Canada and Alaska, specifically the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA)

# Want to learn more?

### **VISIT US ONLINE**

www.pnwer.org/transportation www.pnwer.org/pnwer-ria

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#### SEND US AN EMAIL!

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