**This topic is "practice ready."**        ☒ **Yes**        ☐ **No**

## Truck Parking Information Management Systems

## Mid America Association of State Transportation Officials

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**Abstract**

Access to safe and convenient parking areas for trucks is essential for a robust freight transportation network and truck drivers consistently have difficulty finding areas to safely rest. Drivers who have not located parking before reaching their hours of service limits are often forced to park illegally or unsafely, often on the shoulders of highways, on off-ramps or at abandoned facilities. Additionally, the passing of Jason's Law in 2012 and provision in the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century authorization to allow truck parking as eligible activities towards the construction and restoration of safe roadside parking lots and raising awareness of the truck parking shortage.

In response to these concerns, states in the Mid America Association of State Transportation Officials are developing a multi-state Regional Truck Parking Information and Management System (TPIMS). The Regional TPIMS is envisioned to be a network of safe, convenient parking areas with the ability to collect and broadcast real-time parking availability to drivers through a variety of media outlets including dynamic signs, smart phone applications and traveler information websites. This will help drivers proactively plan their routes and make safer, smarter parking decisions. With implementation of the Regional TPIMS in 2018, truck drivers will have the ability to weigh the value of driving additional

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miles to secure available parking without fearing the unknown or experiencing a lack of availability upon arrival. This will increase drivers' overall productivity and efficiency.

**Keywords: TPIMS—Truck Parking—MAASTO—Freight—Jason's Law**