

Freight Rail & Ports Economics

Autocase Economic Advisory supports the freight rail and port sectors by utilizing the latest peer-reviewed research, trustworthy data, and drawing on our decades-long economics experience. Autocase Economic Advisory is the economic consulting stream of Autocase. Our team of experienced consultants has conducted economic analyses on over \$100 billion worth of projects and successful grant applications, our expertise in Transportation is concentrated in:

Economic Analyses

- Capital Investment Planning Valuation and Prioritization
- Carbon Life Cycle Analysis
- Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA)
- Cross Asset Strategic Planning
- Econometric Modeling
- Economic Impact Analysis (EIA)
- Environmental, Social & Governance Analysis
- Financial Lifecycle Cost Analysis
- Geospatial (GIS) Impact Evaluation
- Grant Application Support
- Life Cycle Cost Analysis (LCCA)
- Multicriteria Decision Analysis (MCDA)
- Real Estate Economic Analysis
- Regulatory Economic Analysis
- Resilience Analysis with Climate Change
- Risk Analysis



Quantify

- Modal Shift Impacts
- Accidents Reduced
- Commercial Benefits
- Increased Reliability
- Reduced Congestion
- Tons of Carbon



Value

- Accident Damages
- Congestion Costs
- Social Cost of Carbon
- Efficiency Improvements
- Travel Time Savings



Communicate

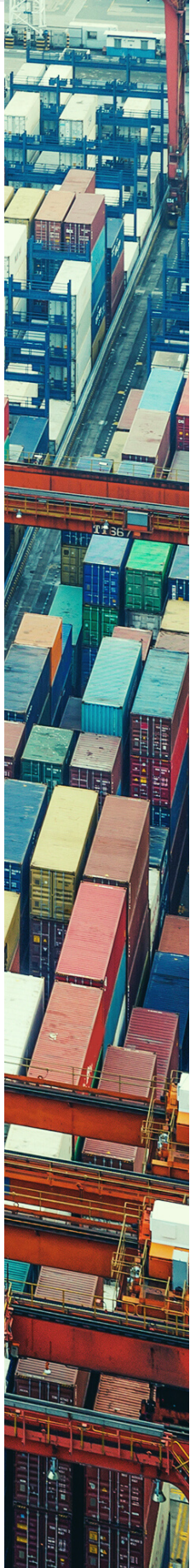
- Case Studies
- KPIs
- Literature Reviews
- Methodology Reports
- Technical Reports
- Stakeholder Seminars

Sector Knowledge

- Freight Rail Alternatives Analysis
- Capacity Enhancements/Grade Separation
- Intermodal and Transload Infrastructure
- Port Infrastructure
- Regional Economic Development
- Transportation Master Planning

Valuation Methods

- Ecosystem Services & Natural Capital
- Input-Output Multipliers
- Macroeconomic Indicators
- Microeconomics/Welfare Economics
- Probabilistic Risk Analysis/Monte Carlo



Trusted by Industry



Engaged by Iowa Northern Railroad and the Iowa Department of Transportation, conducted a cost-benefit analysis for grant applications for the US Department of Transportation. Two major portions of the UMTH project were analyzed 1) construction of infrastructure that will provide rail yard support, for trans-loading highway trailers and shipping containers and 2) the infrastructure for a sizeable intermodal facility and container. The analysis monetized benefits such as improved freight rail efficiency and capacity, reduced truck miles traveled and subsequent avoided costs (e.g., emissions, accident, congestion).



Engaged by Kansas State Department of Transportation (KDOT) to provide an economic analysis, including multi-criteria assessment tool development and an economic impact evaluation, to assist KDOT and its advisory group in selecting the most compelling freight rail transload sites within the state to develop. The assessment integrated engineering assessments, stakeholder and class I railroad feedback, and macroeconomic indicators to develop a comprehensive project evaluation framework.



Engaged by the Port of Long Beach, California, Autocase Economic Advisory is proud to have supported the successful competitive-based grant funding application for the East Basin Rail Fourth Track Expansion, resulting in \$8 million in funding from the Trade Corridor Expansion Program. Our economists improved and broadened on a previous unsuccessful CBA by incorporating new societal and environmental benefits and methodologies with respect to commercial and shipper benefits, as well as non-recurrent congestion reduction on highways due to reduced truck accidents. Visit [our blog](#) for more detail on this project.



Engaged by the University of Alaska Fairbanks to complete a CBA for the proposed Alaska-Canada Rail Link. The CBA was developed from the perspectives of both the public (USA and Canada) and private sectors (rail operator) and output metrics were integrated into a P3 analytical framework to determine the optimal cost sharing mechanism. Positive economic return on investments and net benefits from the analysis indicated strong support for the rail link.

Visit our website for more [project experience](#) and [case studies](#).

About Us

Our team of professional economists conducts rigorous, evidence-based economic analyses of the financial, social, and environmental costs and benefits of sustainable and resilient investments in the infrastructure, real estate, public policy and regulatory worlds.

Our economic analyses help you prioritize investments, understand risks, develop strategic plans, report Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) metrics, secure funding, communicate with stakeholders, support climate equity, and understand the holistic trade-offs of your investments and policies. We provide objective, third-party, data-driven quantitative insights to support you.



Interested in our services? Contact us at:

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