

Marine Transportation System Regional Dialog Session

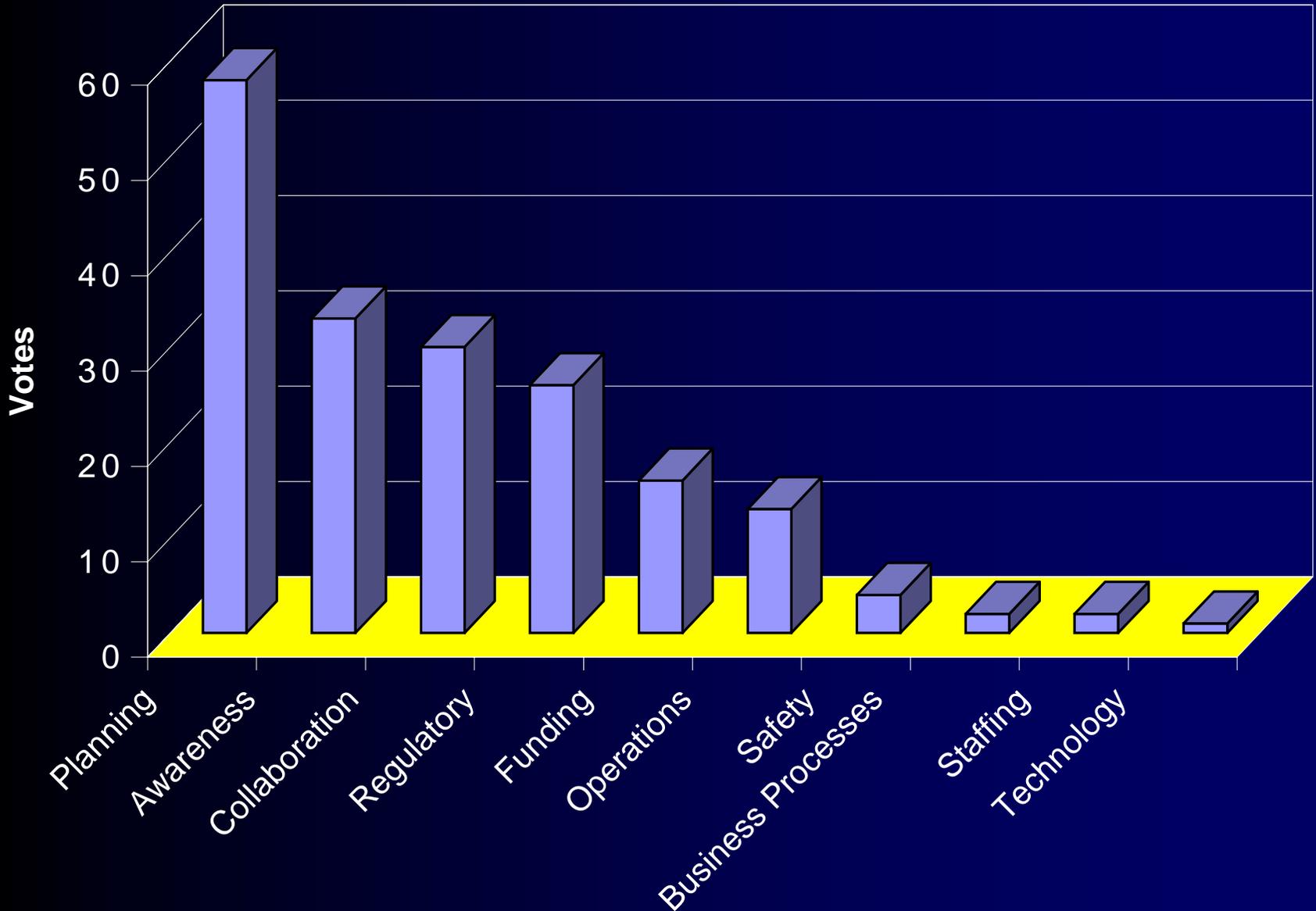


JW Marriott - Galleria

Houston, TX

July 17-18, 2000

Priority Regional Issues



Planning Issues

- Need for national direction in order to make regional plans/programs successful (Empower regional port authorities, prioritize regional issues, establish national policies for port development, develop a framework tied to a federal budget)
- Need for regional intermodal mobility plans (trunk carriers, highways, etc. to complement port authority operations) Need to broaden perspectives of traditional State DOTs to include ports in their planning and operations.
- Create regional port authority based on logical size and contiguous agency jurisdiction
- Disposal area availability
- How can rail and other DOT agencies prepare for safe and efficient intermodal transportation in the future

Awareness Issues

- Public outreach versus MTS value (united approach to endure funding for MTS issues)
- Need for national or regional public relations campaign highlighting the benefits of the MTS
- Public awareness campaign

Collaboration Issues

- Regional issue is to get full participation of federal/state/local agencies plus interest groups to address regional MTS issues
- Establish regional MTS with government, private sector, and interest groups
- Enlarge concept of MTS stakeholders
- Use MTS to improve coordination and operations within MTS (inspections, regulations, etc.)
- Regional coordination and cooperation is key to successful funding requests to address issues
- Better communications on a regional basis -- concerns, success stories, etc.

Operational Issues

- All weather navigation (24 hours)
- Waterway congestion -- and associated delays and safety concerns

Breakout 2 Question

What are regional coordination mechanisms or strategies which can address the important issues?

High Priority Regional Coordination Need: _____

<i>Action</i>	<i>Who</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Desired Outcome</i>