

Coulee Region Transportation Study

Innovative Solutions for the 21st Century

Planning & Environment Linkages (PEL)

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Agenda

- ▶ Background on numerous Transportation Studies
- ▶ What is a Planning & Environment Linkage Study
- ▶ Problem Statement & Goal
- ▶ Next steps



Background and history

- ▶ Numerous Transportation Studies dating back to the 1940's
- ▶ La Crosse North-South Transportation Corridor Study (FEIS 1998)
- ▶ Coulee Connections Study (2006)
- ▶ Coulee Region Transportation Study (2015)
Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL)

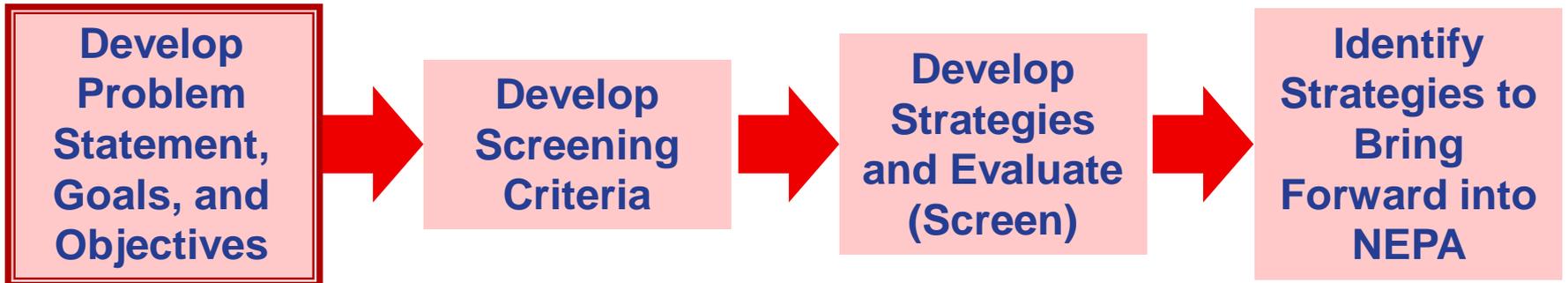
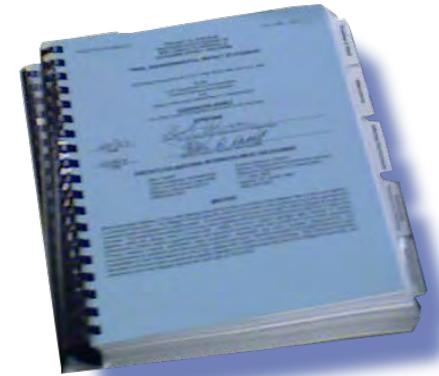
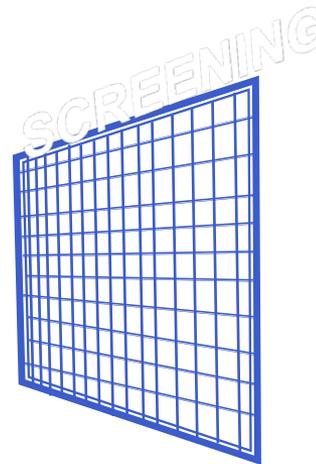
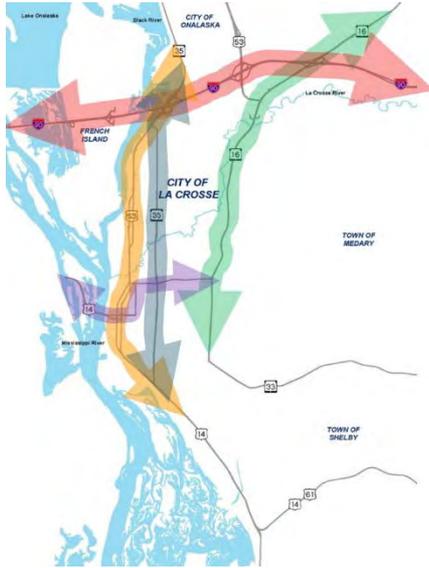


Planning & Environment Linkages(PEL)

A collaborative and integrated approach to transportation decision-making that considers environmental, community, and economic goals early in the transportation planning process, and uses the information, analysis, and products developed during planning to inform the environmental review process.

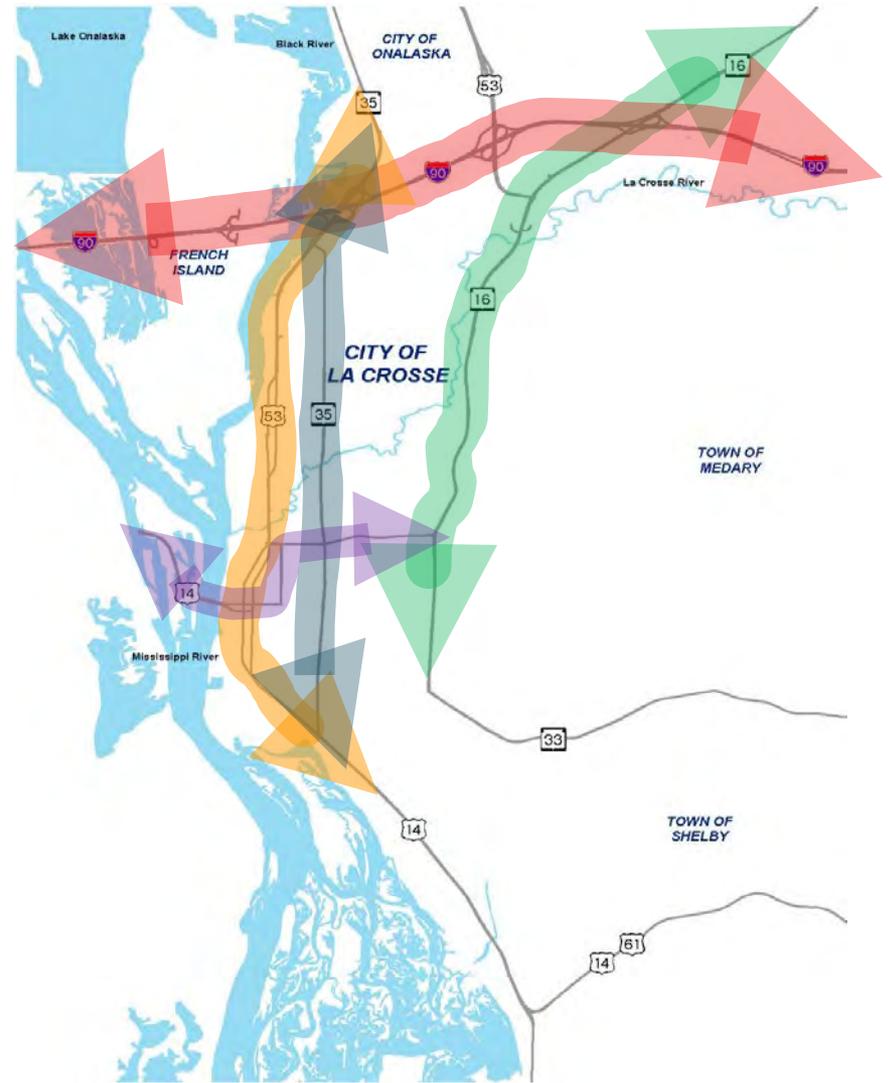


PEL Process



Many strategies will be investigated

- ▶ Improve existing conditions
- ▶ Investigate new corridor(s)
- ▶ Transit
- ▶ Bike and pedestrian
- ▶ Technology upgrades
- ▶ ?
- ▶ ?



What are the benefits of a PEL Study?

- ▶ Engages broad range of stakeholders to plan for area's environmental, community, and economic future in light of transportation problems and needs
 - Improves strategies development process
 - Extensive outreach increases public involvement



What are the benefits of a PEL Study?

- ▶ Improves Quality of Results
 - Presents opportunities for involvement early in the process
 - Increases stakeholder understanding of outcomes
 - Evaluates potential solutions against clear and easily understood criteria
 - Improves process efficiency and reduces cost



Planning & Environment Linkages(PEL)

- ▶ What are the advantages of a PEL in the Coulee Region?
 - Comprehensive study of the entire area
 - Extensive outreach and coordination
 - Opportunity to modify the original purpose and need
 - Opportunity to propose new alternatives
 - Opportunity to eliminate outdated and unworkable alternatives
 - Aids in the selection of the appropriate type of environmental document
 - Builds trust through a transparent process



Draft Problem Statement

- ▶ The Coulee Region Transportation Study, Planning and Environment Linkages(PEL) phase focuses on resolving existing and long-term transportation issues between I-90 and US 14/61. The focus of the study is to address safety, congestion, environmental concerns, multimodal deficiencies, infrastructure deterioration, and to support economic development and livability in the Coulee Region.
- ▶ The need for system improvements is based on a combination of factors relating to existing transportation problems and deficiencies, land use planning, corridor preservation, future travel demand, local community interests, and modal interrelationships.



Draft Goal

- ▶ The goal for the Coulee Region Transportation Study (PEL) is multi-focused: Improve vehicular and multi-modal travel and safety in a manner that accommodates economic development, acknowledges community plans, contributes positively to the area's quality of life, and limits adverse environmental and social effects to the extent practical.



We want your input!

- ▶ Community Advisory Group(CAG)
- ▶ Technical Advisory Group(TAG)
- ▶ Policy Advisory Group(PAG)/LAPC Policy Board?
- ▶ Local Officials Meetings
- ▶ Public Information Meetings/Open Houses
- ▶ Neighborhood Groups
- ▶ Business Groups
- ▶ Special Interest Groups
- ▶ Any time any place



Contacts and resources

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Questions?

