

Coulee Region Transportation Study

Innovative Solutions for the 21st Century

Planning & Environment Linkages (PEL)

Community Advisory Group (CAG)

Technical Advisory Group (TAG)



Meeting Agenda

- ▶ Welcome & Introductions
 - WisDOT
 - SEH
 - CAG/TAG group members
- ▶ Coulee Region Transportation Study Presentation
- ▶ Meeting Schedule/Next Meeting
- ▶ Questions



Study Team

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Project Consultant

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Project Consultant



Why are you here?

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



Advisory Groups: an important tool

- ▶ Additional opportunity to gather input and participation from the community
- ▶ Include a comprehensive group of stakeholders
- ▶ Stakeholders involved early and maintain involvement throughout the process



What is a TAG/CAG?

- ▶ Technical Advisory Group (TAG)
 - Consists of community members with technical backgrounds.

- ▶ Community Advisory Group (CAG)
 - Consists of representatives of residents, community organizations, and businesses.



Ground Rules

- ▶ Represent a diverse cross-section of opinion: have the courage to bring your thoughts and opinions forward.
- ▶ Be open, flexible, and respectful to new ideas and other opinions.
- ▶ It is not necessary for us all to come to agreement. We will document major points of agreement and differences in opinion.



Expectations

Acceptance of the nomination to serve encompasses specific commitments that will ensure efficiency and result in meaningful outcomes. These commitments include:

- ▶ Monthly meetings: attendance is important
- ▶ Share meeting discussions with family, neighbors, friends, and co-workers (be an ambassador). This will let you know if group discussions are on target with community expectations.
- ▶ Bring feedback from the community back to our meetings



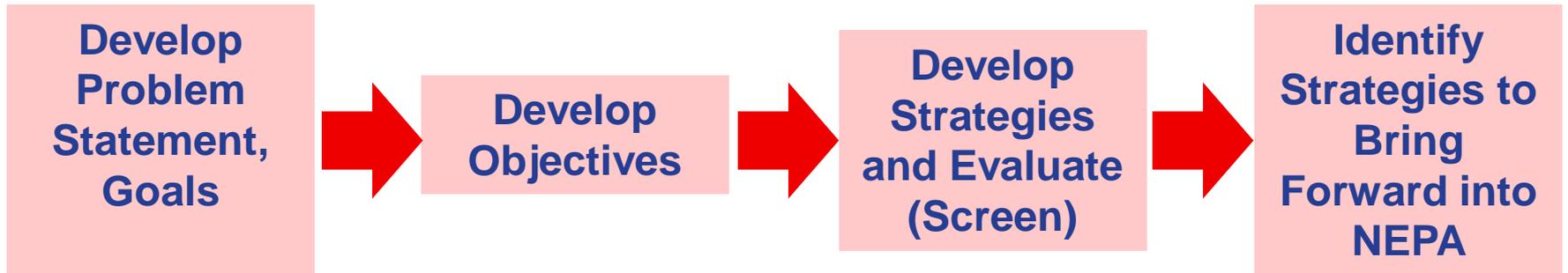
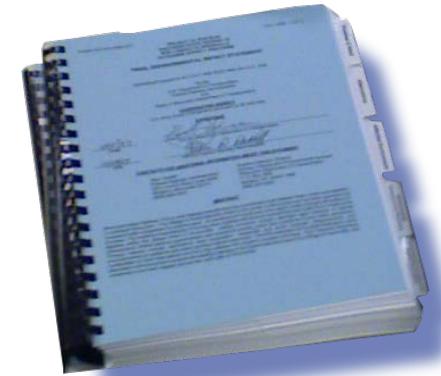
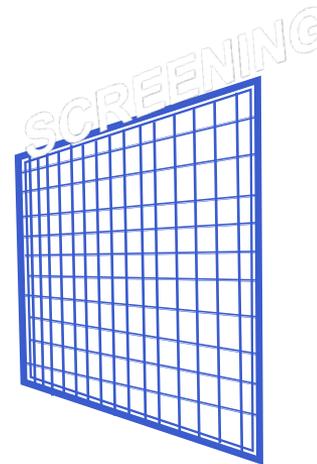
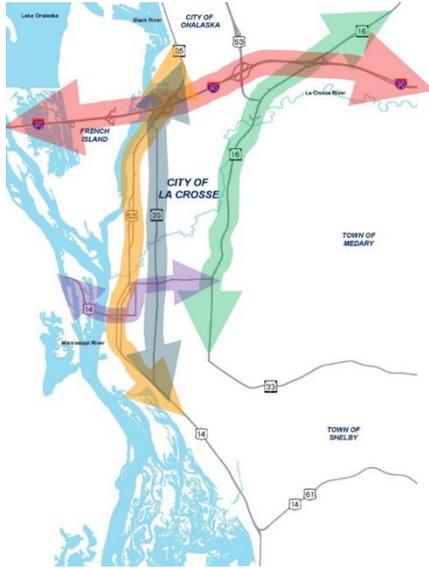


Planning & Environment Linkages (PEL)

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.

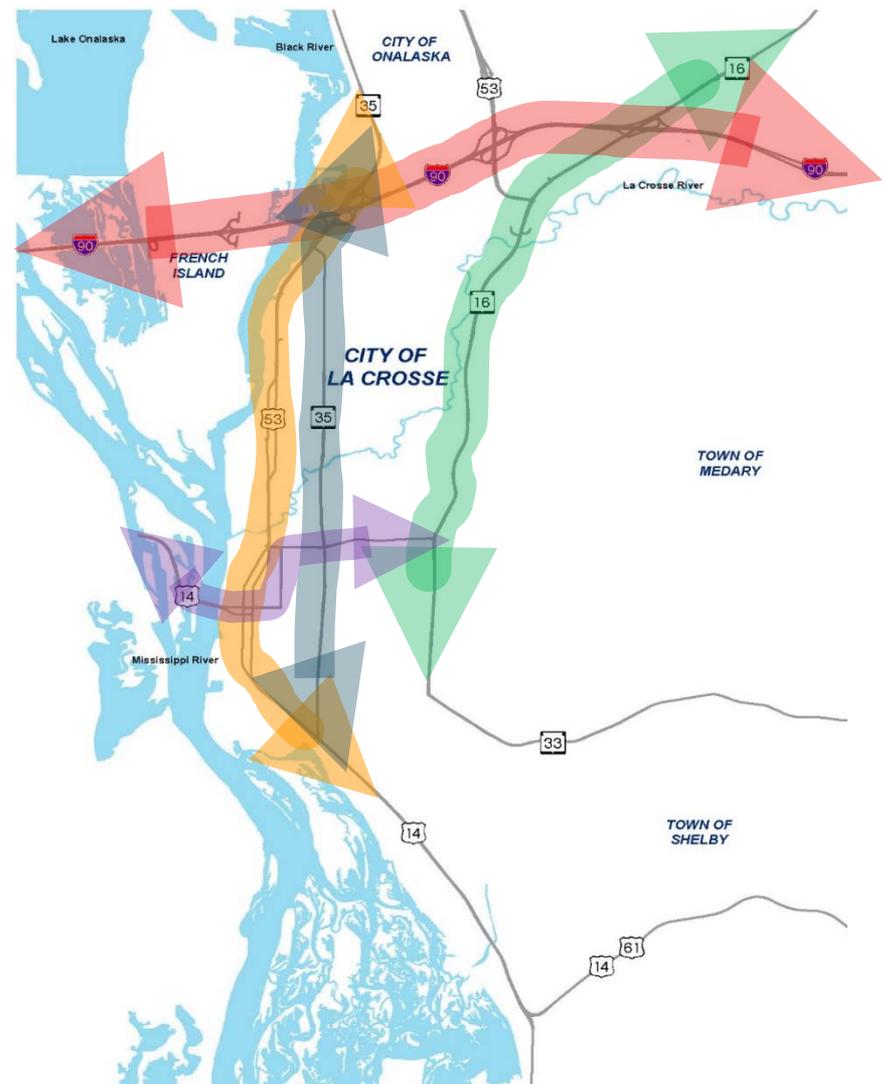


PEL Process



Many strategies will be investigated

- ▶ Improvements to existing roadways
- ▶ Multi-modal improvements
- ▶ Operational enhancements
- ▶ Transportation Systems Management (TSM) solutions
- ▶ New roadways
- ▶ No build options



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





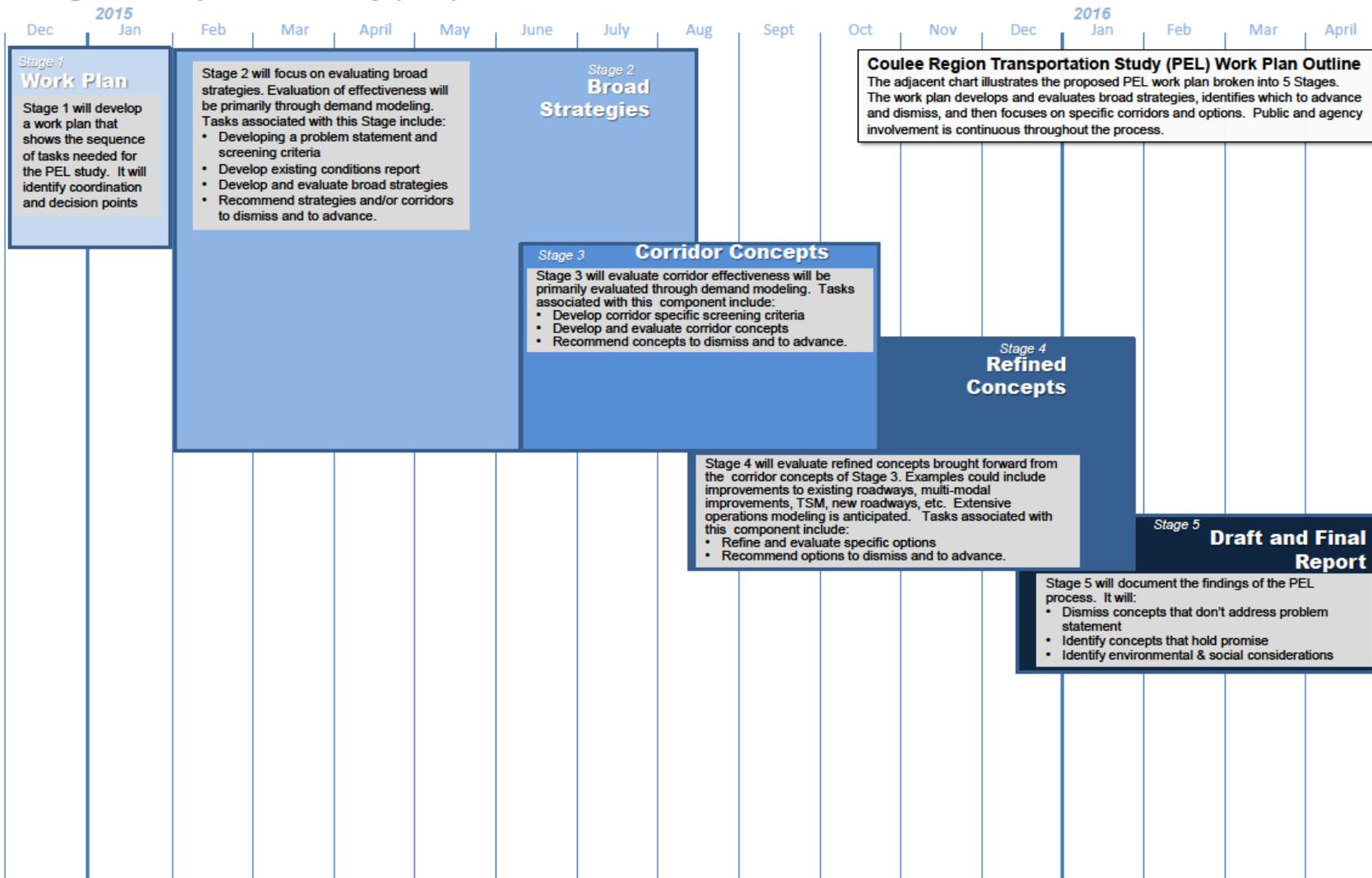
Planning & Environment Linkages (PEL)

- ▶ 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



Coulee Region Transportation Study (PEL) Work Plan Outline

STUDY PROCESS



Coulee Region Transportation Study (PEL) Work Plan Outline
 The adjacent chart illustrates the proposed PEL work plan broken into 5 Stages. The work plan develops and evaluates broad strategies, identifies which to advance and dismiss, and then focuses on specific corridors and options. Public and agency involvement is continuous throughout the process.

1/27/2015





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 identify strategies that 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, incorporates community plans, contributes positively to the area's quality of life, and limits adverse environmental and social effects to the extent practical.



Next CAG & TAG Meetings

Community Advisory Group

CAG #2

Thursday, March 5, 2015, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Black River Beach Neighborhood Center

1433 Rose Street

La Crosse, WI 54603

CAG #3

Thursday, April 2, 2015, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Myrick Park Center

789 Park Drive

La Crosse, WI 54601

Technical Advisory Group

TAG #2

Thursday, March 5, 2015, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Black River Beach Neighborhood Center

1433 Rose Street

La Crosse, WI 54603

TAG #3

Thursday, April 2, 2015, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Myrick Park Center

789 Park Drive

La Crosse, WI 54601



Additional public involvement

Public Involvement Meeting (PIM) #1

Option 1

Wednesday, March 11, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

La Crosse Central High School

1801 Losey Boulevard

La Crosse, WI 54601

Option 2

Thursday, March 12, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Eagle Bluff Elementary School

200 Eagle Bluff Court

Onalaska, WI 54650



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Questions?



Contacts and resources

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