What is a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study, and why is CDOT doing it?



A PEL study is a process CDOT and FHWA use to accelerate delivery of transportation projects by combining federal requirements for long-range transportation planning and environmental clearances.

The PEL will help CDOT:

- Define and prioritize projects in the corridor
- Determine project costs, funding, financing, and delivery options
- Engage with local corridor communities, regional travelers, and other interested stakeholders about corridor issues and priorities
- Identify significant environmental constraints that may influence design options and/or delay project development with lengthy environmental reviews
- Support efficient transition to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) processes, final design, and construction

CDOT has committed to advancing an early action project focused on the Gap area into NEPA and preliminary engineering concurrent with the PEL.