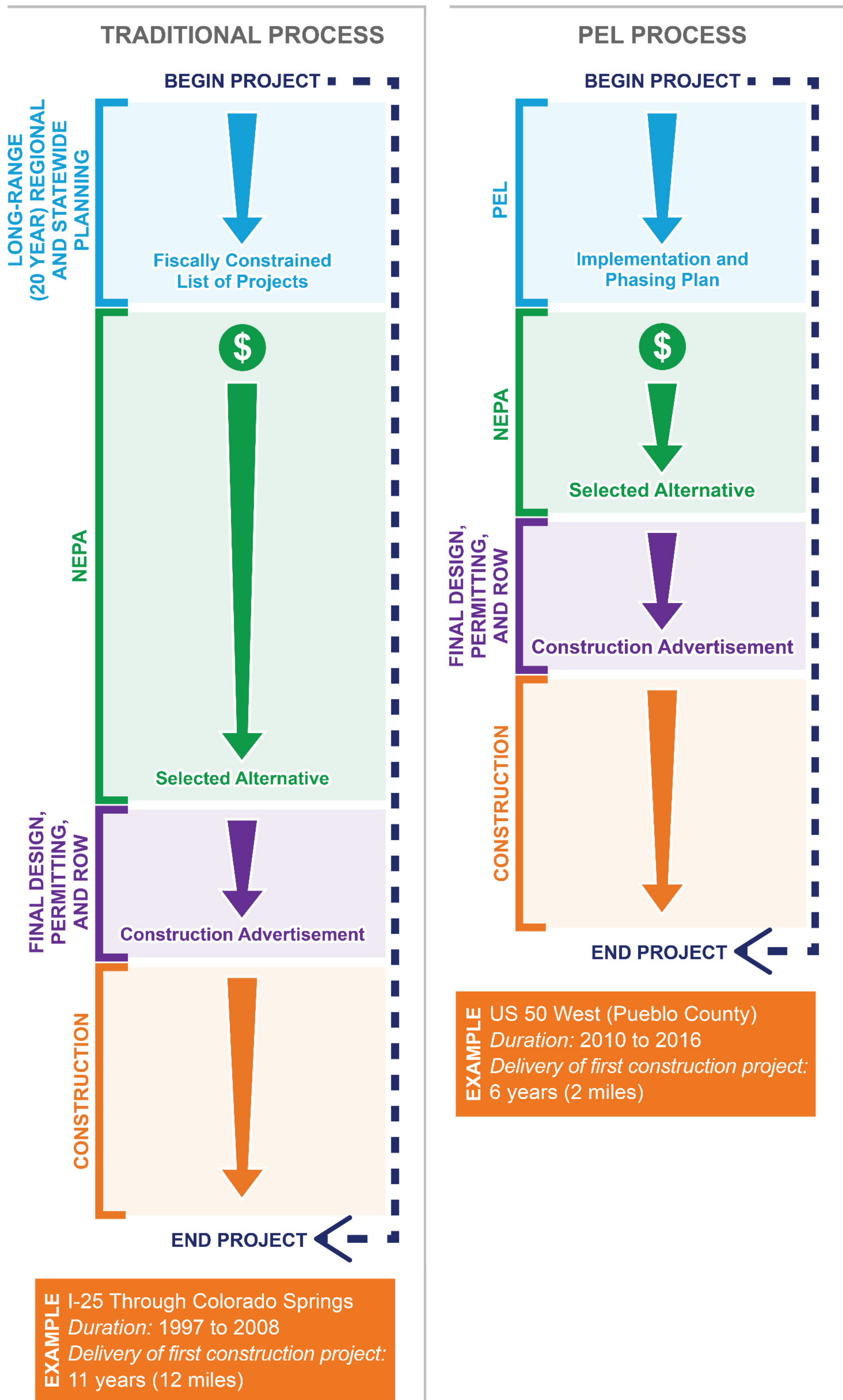


# I-25 PEL and NEPA Process



Construction funding identified

**EXAMPLE** This process is unique for this corridor, and no examples are available. CDOT and FHWA, in cooperation with local communities, are following a concurrent PEL, NEPA, and design process to prepare an early action project for the Gap. This approach greatly accelerates the timeline for project completion. Other projects identified through the PEL will go through NEPA, design, and construction processes once additional funds are identified.

## Steps in Transportation Project Development

Stage	Description of Activity	Example Documents
<b>Planning</b> (Long-Range Planning/PEL)	State DOTs, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and local governments identify transportation needs and program projects to be built within financial constraints.	Long-Range Transportation Plans (Statewide/Regional Transportation Plans) Short-Term Transportation Improvement Programs PEL Study
<b>Project Development</b> (PEL/NEPA/Prelim. Engineering)	The transportation project is more clearly defined. Alternative locations and features are developed and an alternative is selected.	PEL Study NEPA Environmental Assessment NEPA Environmental Impact Statement Conceptual to Preliminary Engineering
<b>Final Design</b>	The design team develops detailed plans, specifications, and estimates.	30% plans, 60% plans, 90% plans, Final Design, Project Specification
<b>Right-of-Way</b>	Additional land needed for the project is purchased.	Right-of-way plans, acquisitions, and negotiations
<b>Construction</b>	The State or local government selects the contractor, who then builds the project.	Request for Proposals, Contracting

Source: FHWA. Flexibility in Highway Design. 1997.