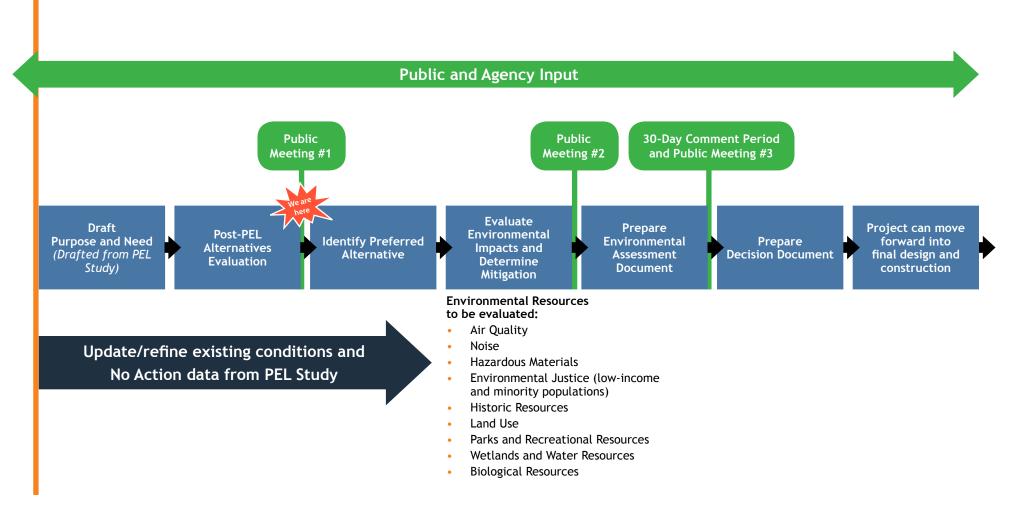


NEPA and Preliminary Design Project





**Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL)** - An approach to transportation decision making that considers environmental, community, and economic goals early in the planning stage and carries them through project development, design, and construction. PEL studies are often precursors to NEPA documents.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): A law that requires federal projects to evaluate environmental and social impacts to a proposed action.