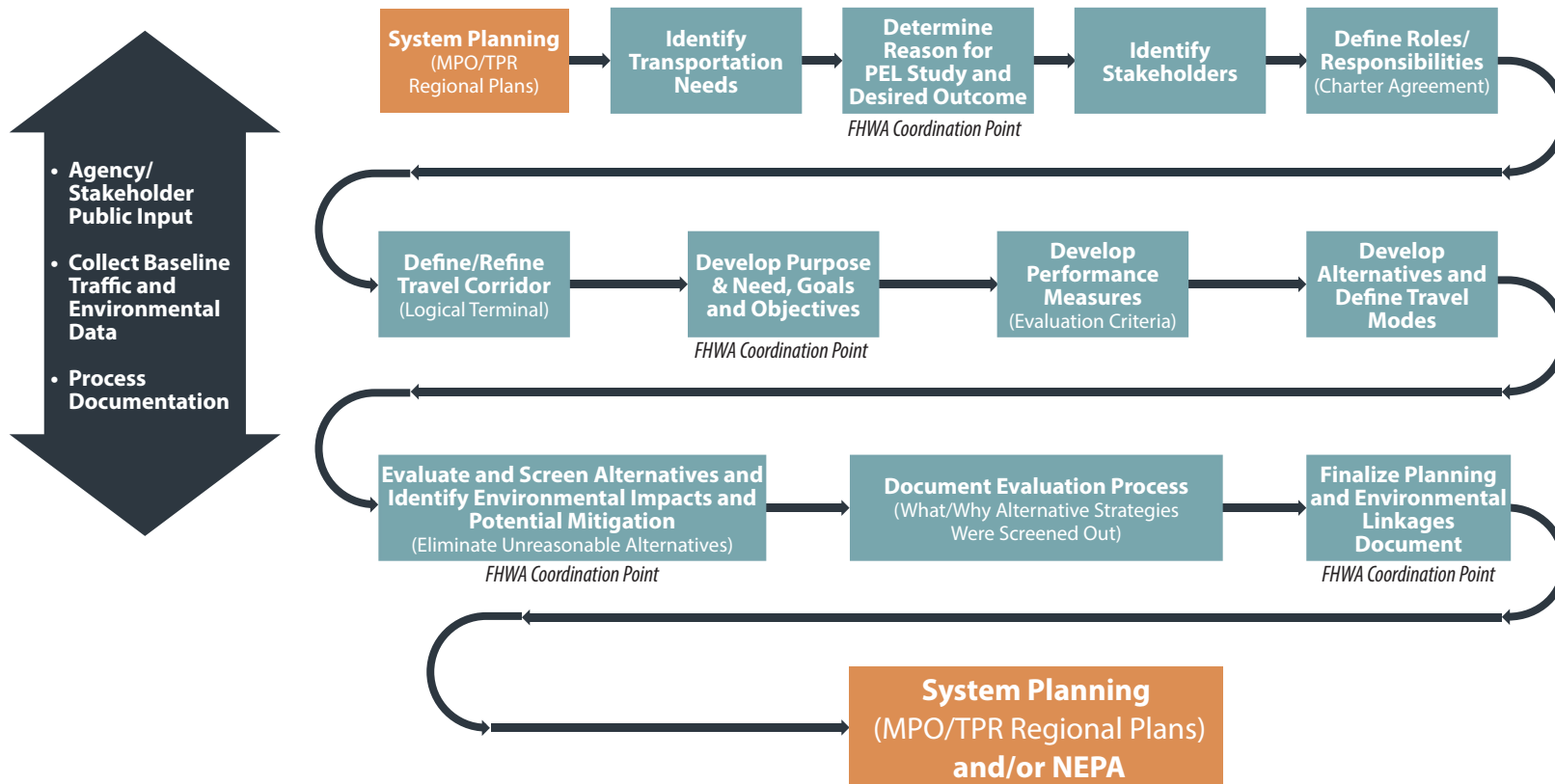




# PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL LINKAGES (PEL) STUDY PROCESS

## What is a PEL Study?

PEL is a study process that is typically used to identify transportation issues, priorities, and environmental concerns. It can be applied to make planning decisions and for planning analysis. These decisions and analyses, for example, can be used to identify and prioritize future projects, develop the purpose and need for a project, determine project size or length, and/or develop and refine a range of alternatives.



The goal of PEL studies is to gather enough detail so that the information developed can be utilized in future planning or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) processes. The adoption and use of a PEL study in the NEPA process is subject to a determination by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), with the input of other participating agencies.