

4 “Planning and Environmental Linkages Study” Poster

What is a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study?

The PEL process is a formal federal process to help streamline future environmental analysis. The process is guided by the project partners and considers:

- Transportation issues, opportunities, and priorities
- Environmental resources concerns and opportunities
- Stakeholder and public input

The general steps include:

- Collect - Collect information to define the transportation problem the project seeks to address.
- Utilize - Use information to develop a range of potential transportation solutions including routes and transit technologies.
- Analyze – Analyze how routes perform in the future transportation system
- Refine - Screen routes against certain factors such as reliability, environmental impacts, and future development and planning.
- Develop - Develop recommendations for the project to move forward including potential phasing.

Post-PEL project steps:

1. NEPA Analysis Preliminary Design (pending project funding)
2. Final Design
3. Construction