

Potential I-55 Improvements at Airport Road and at IL Route 126/Essington Road

Second Public Meeting
June 21, 2012



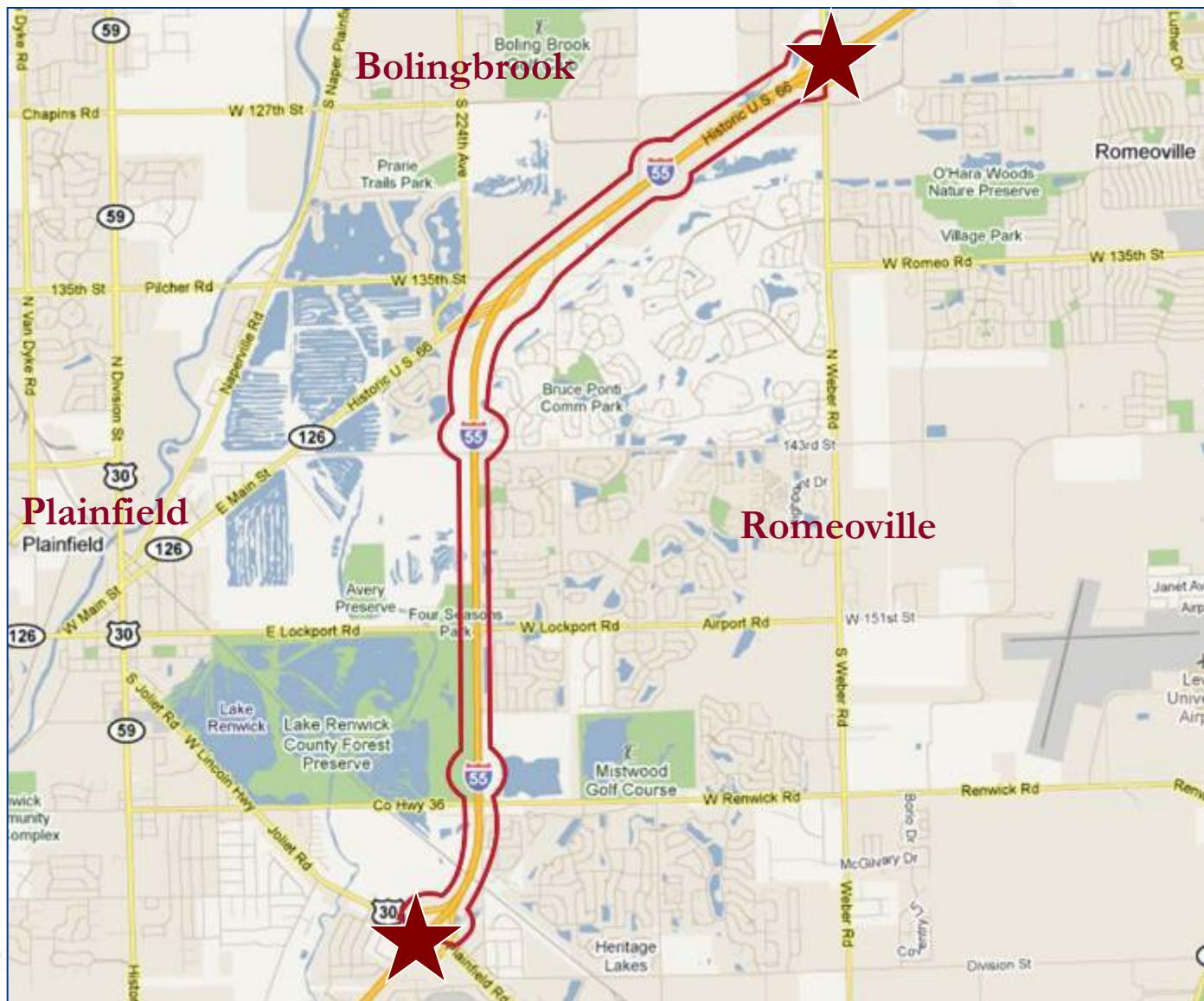


Meeting Goals

- Review the study area
- Introduce the project team
- Provide a recap of the study process
- Update stakeholders on the progress since the first public meeting
- Review the Problem Statement and Purpose & Need
- Exhibit the initial range of alternatives
- Discuss the alternative evaluation process
- Obtain feedback



Study Area





Project Team



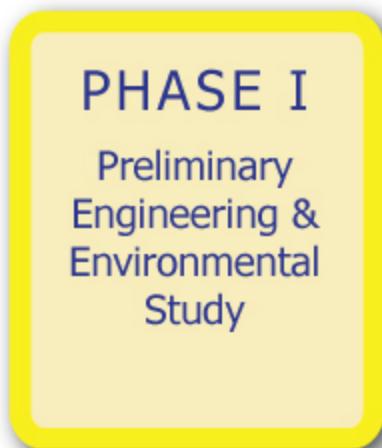
Illinois Department
of Transportation





Phases of an IDOT Project

WE ARE HERE



2011-2013



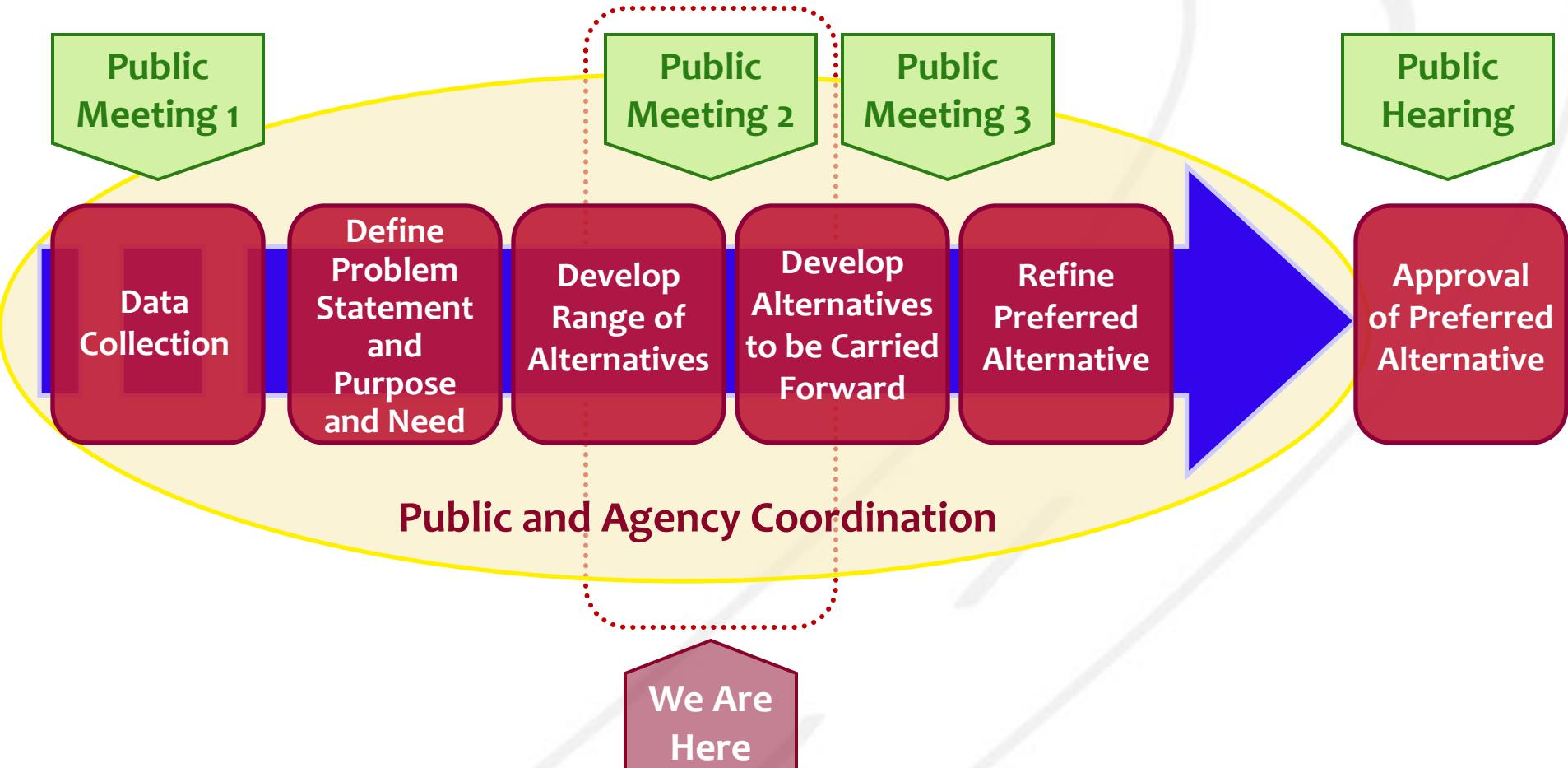
2014-2015



2016 (START)

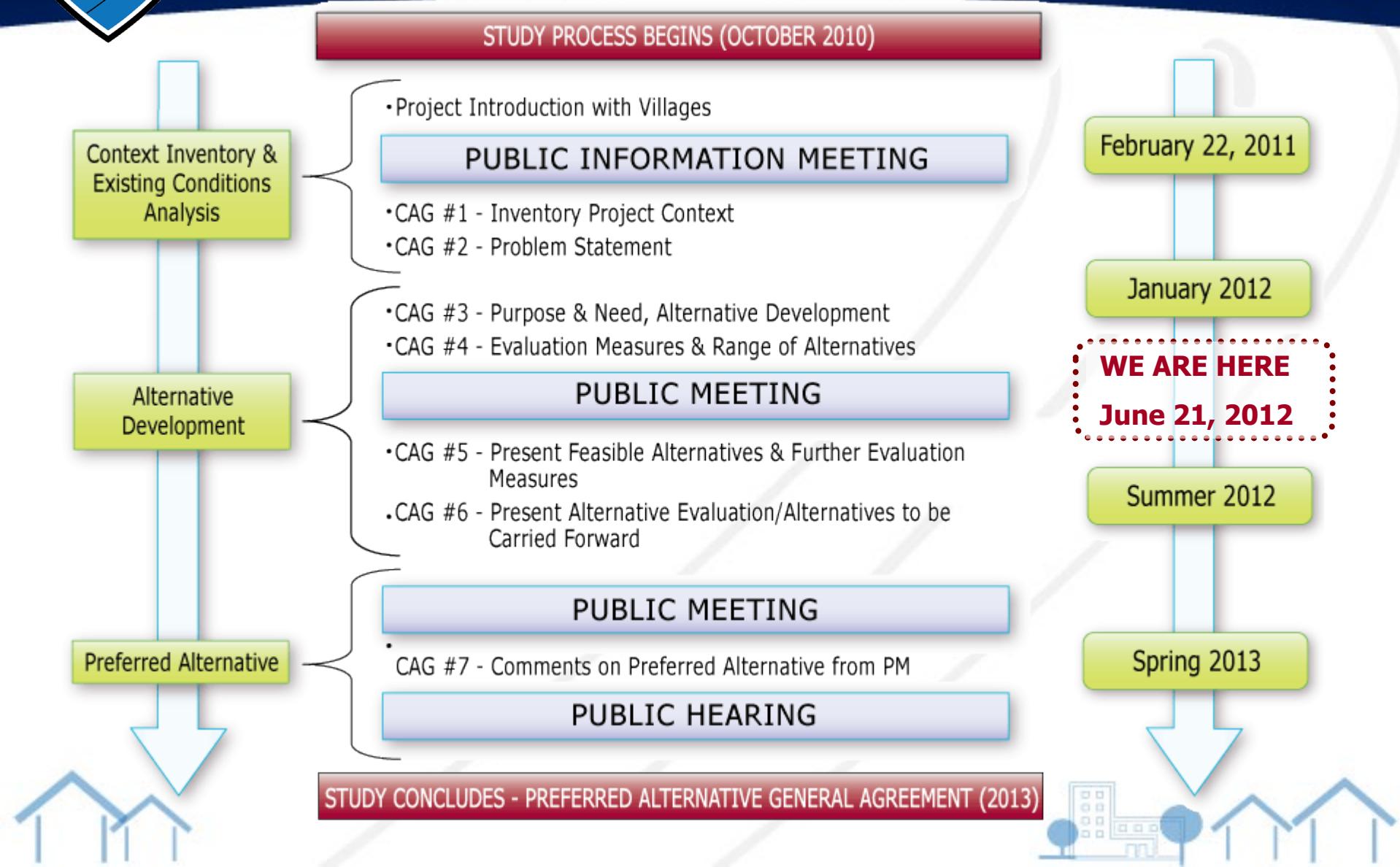


Phase I Study Process





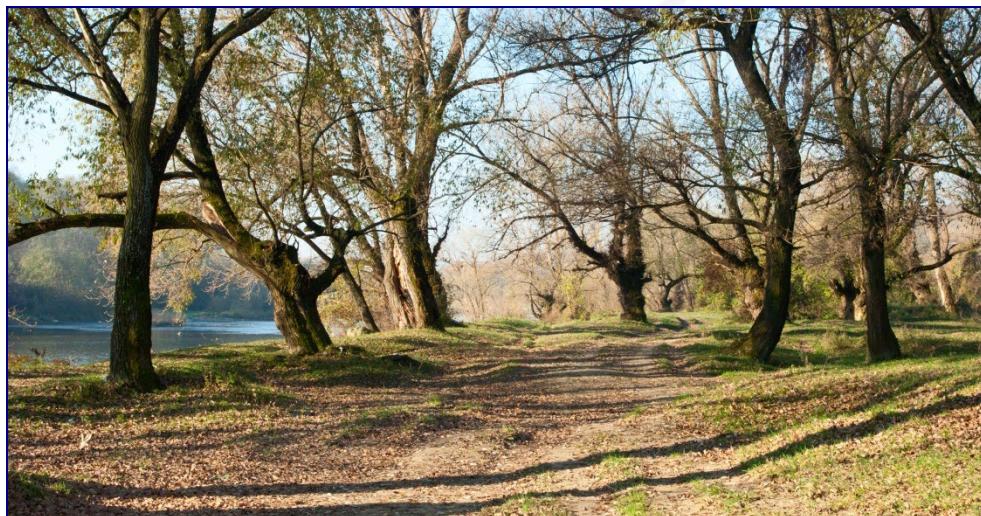
Project Schedule





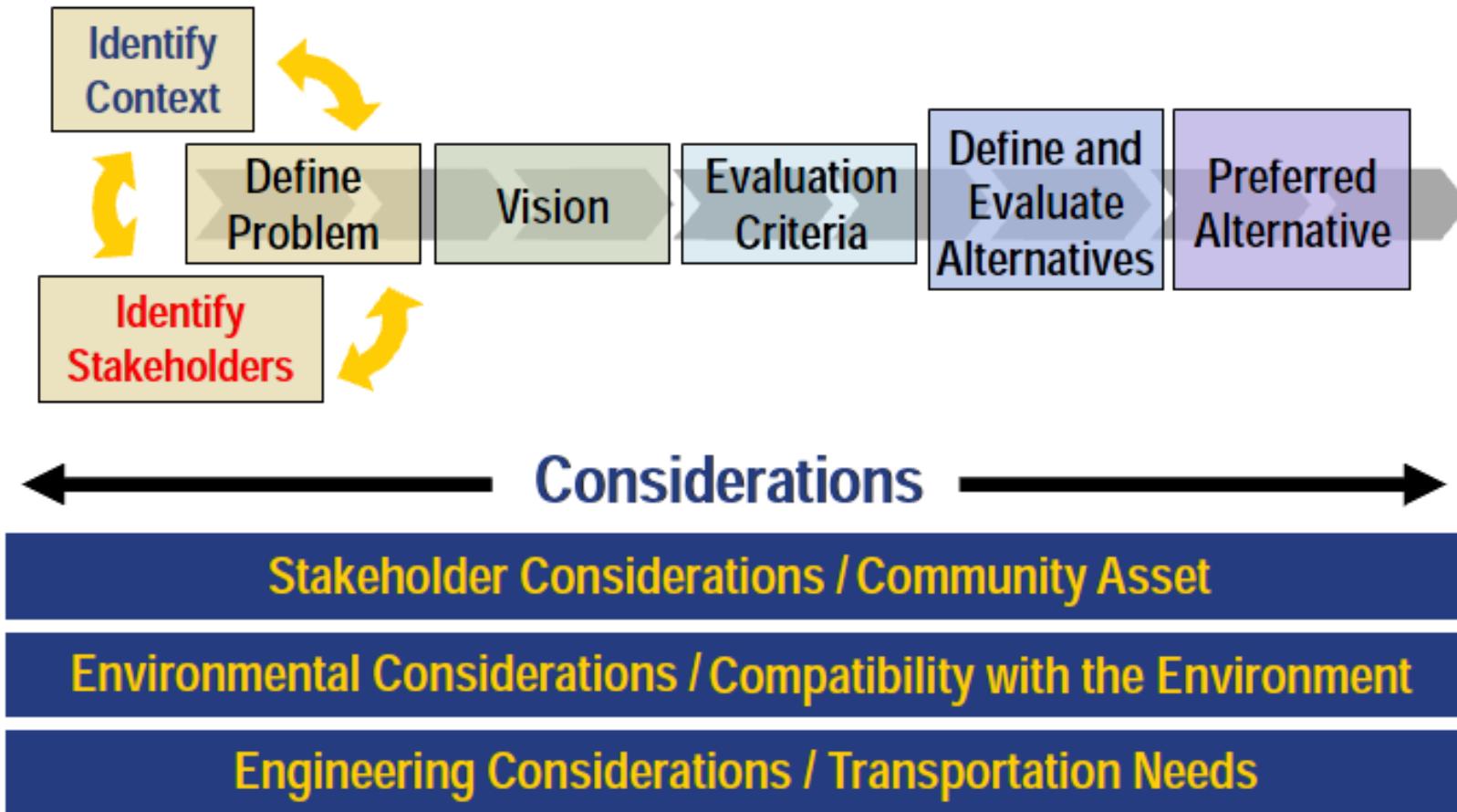
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

NEPA 1969 was established to foster and promote the general welfare, to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans





CSS Process





Project Progress

- Stakeholder Involvement
Plan approved
- Community Advisory
Group meetings
- Developed the Problem
Statement
- Developed Project
Purpose and Need



Stakeholder Involvement Plan (SIP)

- Provides guide for implementing stakeholder involvement
- Identifies stakeholders
- Defines responsibilities of study participants
- Describes opportunities for public involvement
- Provides schedule for public involvement activities



Community Advisory Group (CAG)

- Composed of volunteer stakeholders
- Active part of the decision making process
- Group will provide stakeholder insight
- 4 CAG meetings have been held. CAG members have worked to:
 - Define the Community Context
 - Develop the draft Problem Statement and draft Purpose & Need Statement
 - Develop and refine alternatives



Draft Problem Statement

Revised 08/15/2011

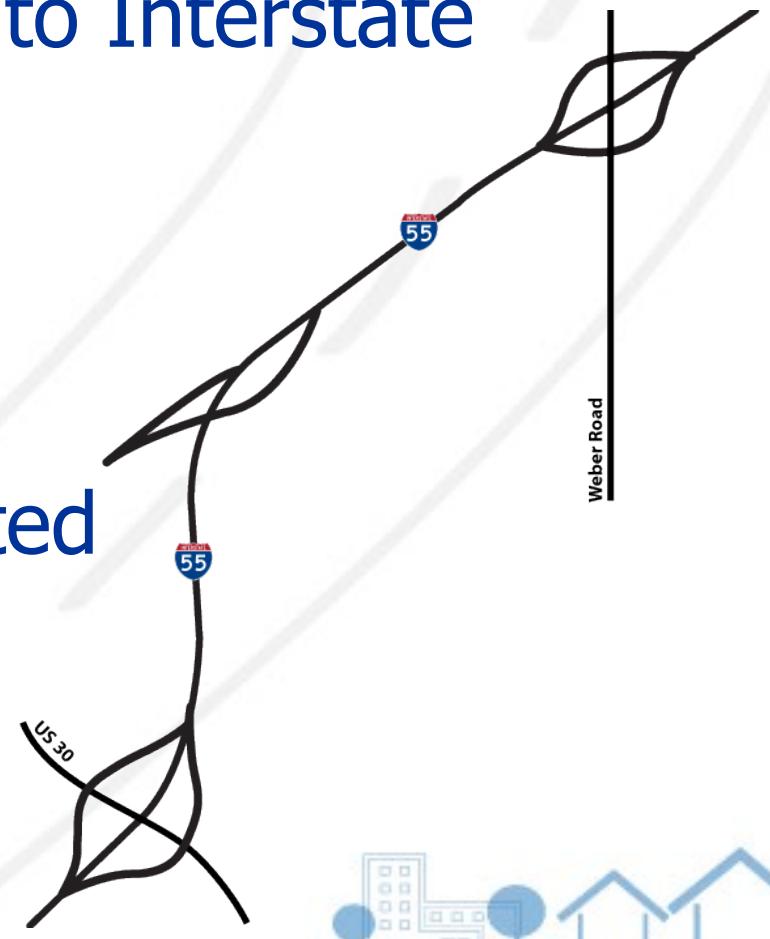
- Significant increases in population and employment are projected for 2040
- I-55 Access is limited between the U.S. 30 and the Weber Road interchanges. There is not a southbound entrance or northbound exit available.
- Congestion and delays are experienced at U.S. 30, IL 126 and Weber Road interchanges.



Draft Purpose & Need

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide improved access to Interstate Route 55 (I-55)

- Improve regional connectivity
- Accommodate forecasted growth
- Reduce delay due to adverse travel





Alternative Development

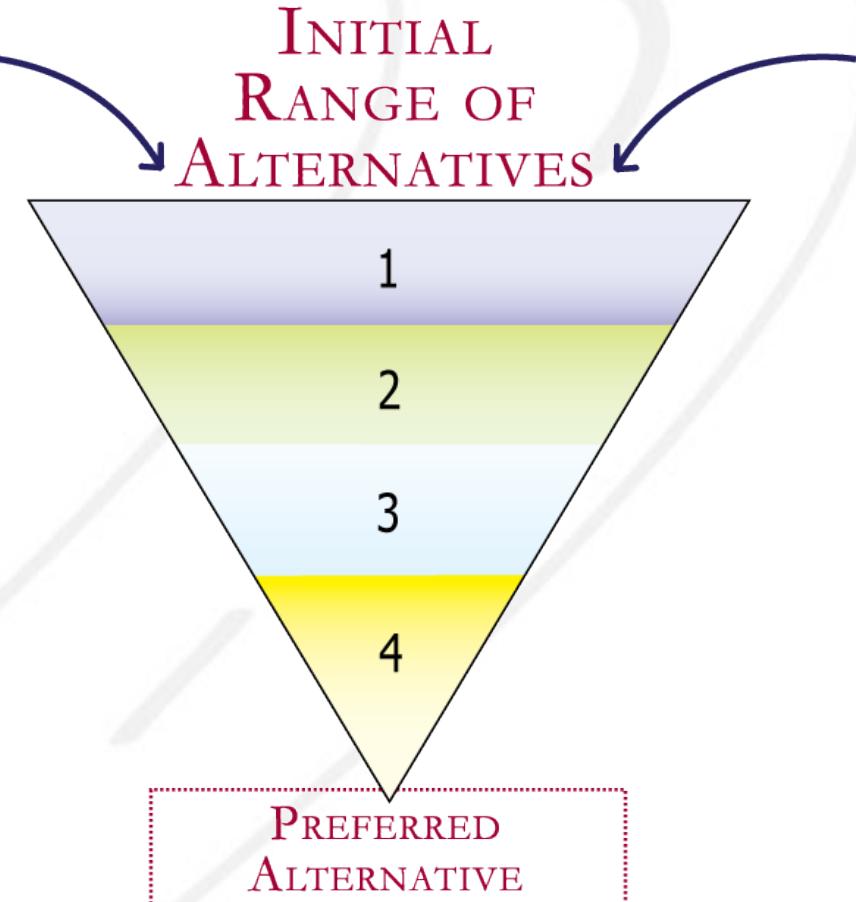
- Prior Feasibility Studies
- CAG Member input
- Village Input
- FHWA Input

Some of the alternatives were merged due to similarities and some were modified to satisfy design requirements.



Evaluation of Alternatives

- 1 - Fatal Flaw Factors
- 2 - Purpose and Need
- 3 - Operational Factors or Characteristics
- 4 - Social/Community/Environmental Factors





Fatal Flaw Factors

- Major direct impacts to land use
 - Residential
 - Business
- Interchange Access Requirements
 - Minimize impact to traffic operations on I-55
 - Desirable to provide for traffic movements in all directions
 - Two mile separation desired in urban areas



Purpose and Need Factors

- Does it Improve Regional Connectivity?
- Does it Accommodate Community and Regional Growth?





Operational Factors or Characteristics

- Safety Improvements
- Capacity Improvements
- Operational Efficiencies – LOS and Weave Issues
- Limited Additional Access Points
- Minimal Design Criteria Exceptions
- Accommodates Truck Access



Social, Community & Environmental Factors

- Right of Way Area Required
- Number of Displacements – Business or Residential
- Wetland Impacts
- Floodplain/Floodway Impacts
- Water Quality/Water Resources Impacts
- Section 4(f) Impacts
- Historical
- Off-site Detention Impacts
- Noise Impacts
- Natural Resources
- Threatened & Endangered Species
- Community Support
- Socio/Economic Impacts
- Estimated Construction Cost



Initial Range of Alternatives

- Improve existing interchanges
- New interchange locations
- Improve cross road & frontage road systems
- Combination of all three



Ways to Contribute Feedback

- Discuss your questions to study team members
- Submit written comment forms
- Submit alternative concepts
- Review website at www.airportand126study.com
- Comments received by July 9th, 2012 will become part of the public meeting record





Thank You

Please visit the exhibit room and meet
with the study team members

