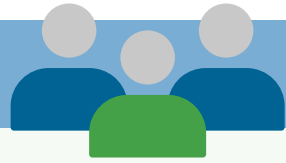


Next Steps

How does a PEL Study transition to NEPA and what happens after?



PUBLIC & AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

Planning & Environmental Linkages Study (PEL)

1.5 - 2.5 Years

- Planning studies
- Existing conditions analysis
- Future forecasts
- Study goals
- Purpose & need
- Range of alternatives and screened reasonable alternatives
- Cost estimates and Implementation Plan
- Level of NEPA analysis: Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment, or Environmental Impact Statement

NEPA

1 - 2 Years

- Confirm/refine purpose & need
- Detailed environmental studies & noise analysis
- Refine alternatives
- Explore mitigation & commitments
- Prepare decision document

Project Implementation

- Final design
- Right-of-way acquisition
- Permitting
- Mitigation commitments
- Construction

Maintenance Operations

- Maintenance of roadway and right-of-way

- ✓ The PEL provides SCDOT leadership the estimated project costs to better plan the schedule for future improvements
- ✓ Schedules for construction will be established in the next phase based on:
 - Priorities
 - Estimated Costs
 - Available Funding
 - Design details
- ✓ Detailed noise and environmental analysis will be done in NEPA

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions. This is the next step after the PEL study.