



Railyard Enterprise Project

Local Concerns Public Meeting

March 7, 2013
Burlington City Hall

- Study Purpose
- Project Development Process & EDC/PEL Initiative
- Steering Committee
- Study Scope of Work and Timeline
- Questions and Comments
- Breakout Group Discussions - What are your Concerns and Ideas?

Study Purpose

The *Railyard Enterprise Project (REP)* will develop multimodal transportation facilities for the Waterfront south area that:

- Enhance local circulation
- Advance economic growth
- Improve access to the Vermont Railway rail yard
- Enhance neighborhood livability



Summary of VTrans' Project Development Process

Problem Definition and Authorization to Proceed

Project Definition (Scoping/Conceptual Design/NEPA)

Design: Preliminary & Semi-Final Project Plans

Right-of-Way Acquisition

Final & Contract Plans

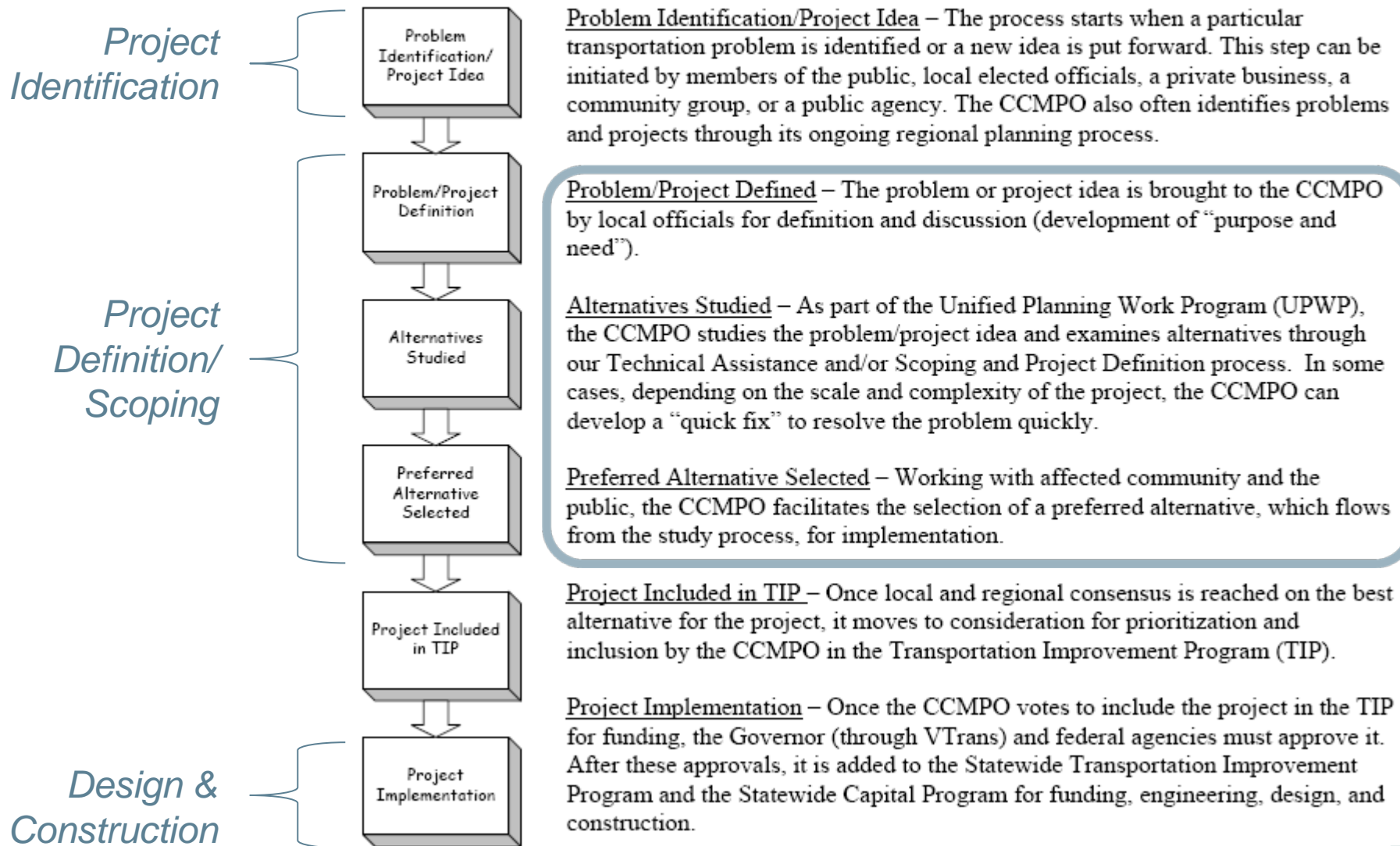
Construction

The process can take anywhere from 4 to 6 years depending on NEPA (EA or EIS), ROW, and other issues

What is a Scoping Study?

The Life of a Project: From Concept to Reality

Typical Stages in the Development and Funding of Transportation Projects



Problem Identification/Project Idea – The process starts when a particular transportation problem is identified or a new idea is put forward. This step can be initiated by members of the public, local elected officials, a private business, a community group, or a public agency. The CCMPO also often identifies problems and projects through its ongoing regional planning process.

Problem/Project Defined – The problem or project idea is brought to the CCMPO by local officials for definition and discussion (development of “purpose and need”).

Alternatives Studied – As part of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the CCMPO studies the problem/project idea and examines alternatives through our Technical Assistance and/or Scoping and Project Definition process. In some cases, depending on the scale and complexity of the project, the CCMPO can develop a “quick fix” to resolve the problem quickly.

Preferred Alternative Selected – Working with affected community and the public, the CCMPO facilitates the selection of a preferred alternative, which flows from the study process, for implementation.

Project Included in TIP – Once local and regional consensus is reached on the best alternative for the project, it moves to consideration for prioritization and inclusion by the CCMPO in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Project Implementation – Once the CCMPO votes to include the project in the TIP for funding, the Governor (through VTrans) and federal agencies must approve it. After these approvals, it is added to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and the Statewide Capital Program for funding, engineering, design, and construction.

FHWA Initiative: EDC/PEL

Issue: Work done under Scoping was often duplicated when the project moved into the environmental review process (NEPA)

- Duplication of effort created delays in project delivery

Solution: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) developed the Every Day Counts (EDC)/Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) initiative that allows for planning/scoping level information and data to be used in the NEPA process

The Railyard Enterprise Project (REP) will follow a PEL process that will streamline the project development process and expedite delivery (construction) of the project

Steering Committee

- City Council
- City of Burlington (CEDO, Public Works, and Planning & Zoning)
- Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC)
- Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans)
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- Ward 5 Neighborhood Planning Assembly and Residents
- King Street Revitalization Corporation
- Champlain Housing Trust
- Vermont Railway System
- Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA)
- Local Motion
- The Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation (GBIC) and a Business Representative

Work Tasks & Timeline

1. Project Kickoff & Data Gathering *(Feb/April)*
2. Local Concerns Public Meeting / Draft & Final Purpose and Need Statement *(March/April)*
3. Develop Alternatives *(April/June)*
4. Evaluate Alternatives & Identify Constraints *(May/September)*
5. Alternatives Presentations *(September/November)*
6. Draft & Final Scoping Report *(November/December)*

Questions and Comments

Consultant Team Manager (RSG)

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CCRPC Project Manager

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Project Web Site

[www.ccrpcvt.org/transportation/scoping/
railyard-enterprise-project](http://www.ccrpcvt.org/transportation/scoping/railyard-enterprise-project)

Breakout Session - Guidance & Ground Rules

- **Guidance:** We need to know your concerns and ideas about this study.
 - Talk
 - Draw
- **Ground Rules:**
 - Listen actively: simply listen carefully to the other speakers and to your own reactions
 - Respect: accept the validity of another point of view, even if you disagree
 - Suspend judgment: consider the possibility that others may be right or have an approach that you had not considered
 - Speak up: Share your views fully and honestly with everyone