



ITEM 6: NEPA PROCESS, SCHEDULE, & ALTERNATIVES



Tri-Valley & San Joaquin Valley
REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY



Acronyms

- **CEQA:** California Environmental Quality Act
- **NEPA:** National Environmental Policy Act
- **OMF:** Operations and Maintenance Facility
- **PSR-PDS:** Project Study Report – Project Development Support
- **PA&ED:** Project Approval and Environmental Documentation
- **Alameda CTC:** Alameda County Transportation Commission
- **FTA:** Federal Transit Administration
- **Caltrans:** California Department of Transportation
- **EIS:** Environmental Impact Statement
- **ROD:** Record of Decision
- **SEIR:** Supplemental Environmental Impact Report
- **SJCOG:** San Joaquin Council of Governments

Board Certification of the CEQA Document

- Analysis of a set of Alternatives
- Selection of a Preferred Alternative based on:
 - Technical analysis
 - Public input
 - Stakeholder input
 - Feasibility
 - Operational efficiencies
 - Constructability
 - Cost considerations

Major Project Milestone
May 2021



Why study alternatives?

- Required part of CEQA and NEPA
- Avoid impacts
- Minimize impacts
- Public input
- Stakeholder input
- Coordinate with other agency studies
- Cost savings
- Travel time savings

CEQA Studied Alternatives

Preferred Alternative

Station Alternatives

- Southfront Road Station Alternative (Livermore)—Alternative to Greenville Station.
- Mountain House Station Alternative—Alternative to Mountain House Station.

Parking Alternatives

- Downtown Tracy Station Parking Alternative 1 - three-level parking structure at the site of the existing surface parking lot
- Downtown Tracy Station Parking Alternative 2 - three-level parking structure at the southwest corner of the North Central Avenue/West Sixth Street intersection

OMF Alternative

- West Tracy OMF- Alternative to Tracy OMF

Alignment Alternative

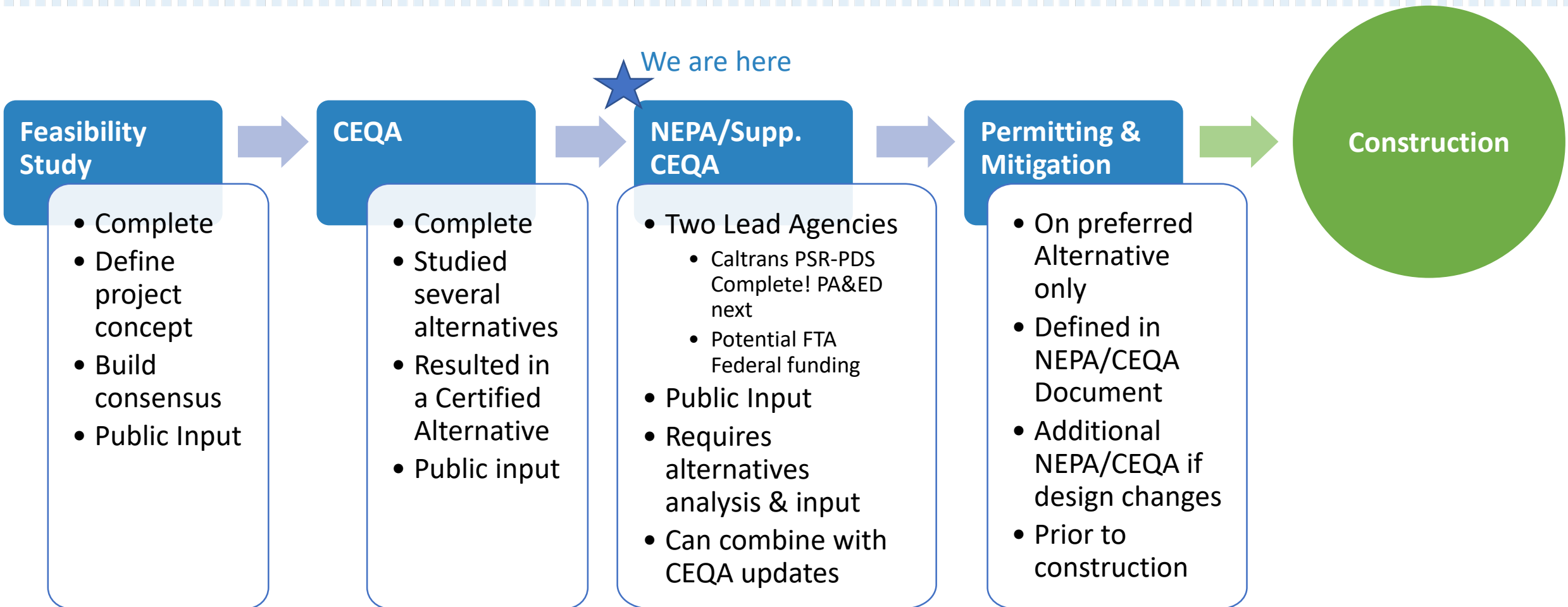
- Stone Cut Alignment Alternative – Alternative to the SP Alignment Tunnel



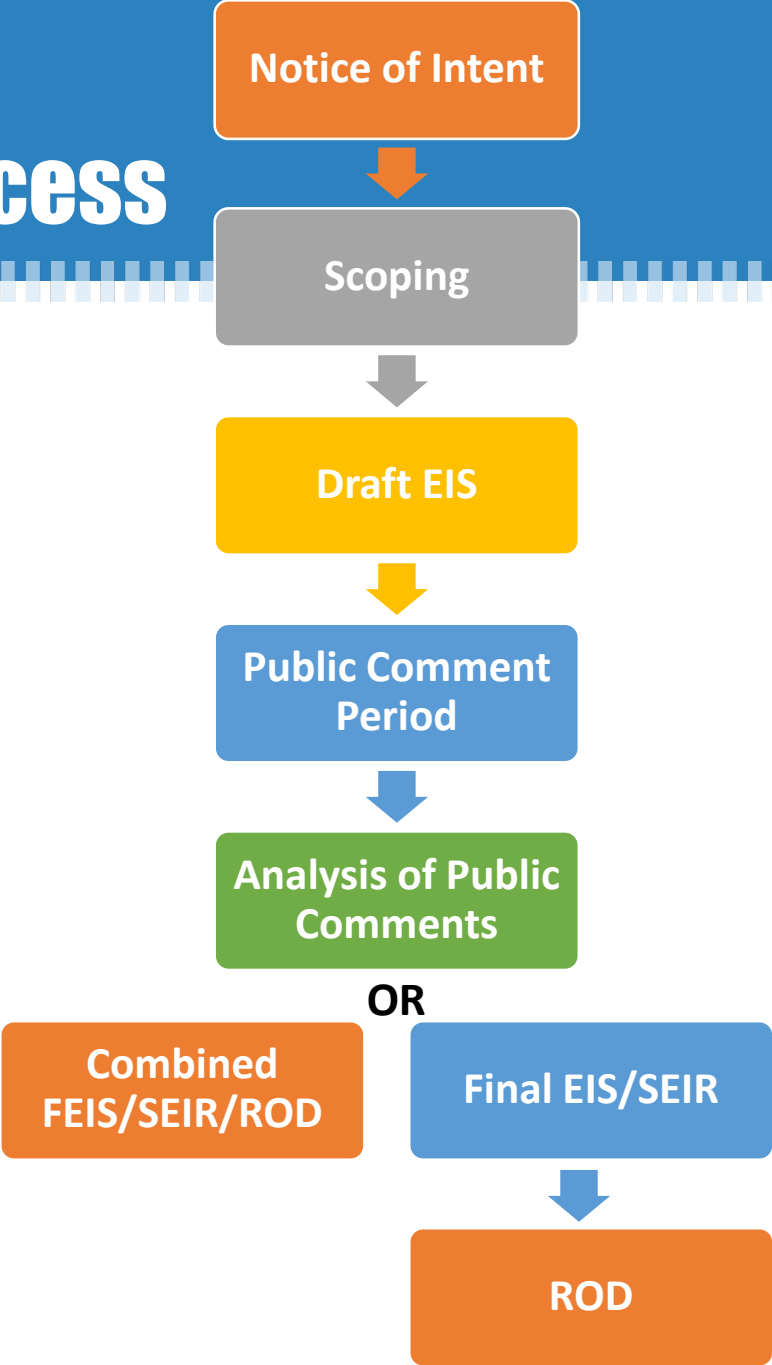
CEQA Certified Alternative – May 2021



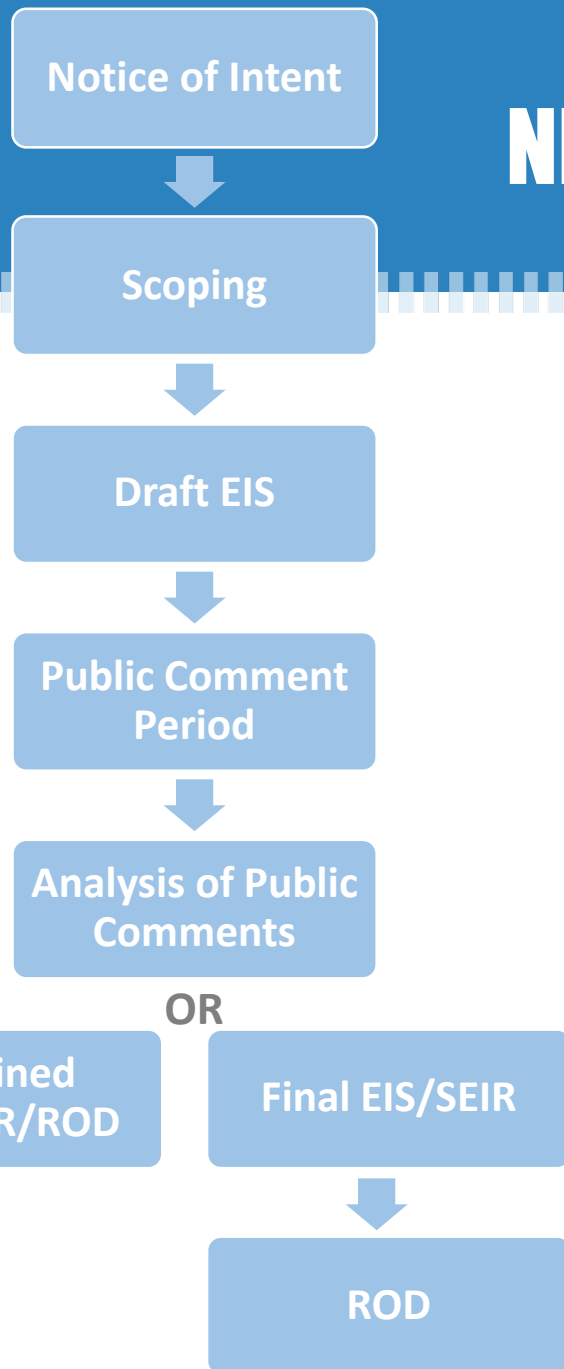
Environmental Clearance Steps



Closer Look at NEPA \ Supplemental CEQA Process



NEPA / Supplemental CEQA Draft Schedule



Milestone	Completion Date
Prepare NOP/NOI	January 2022
Complete 15% design and submit plans	Spring/Summer 2022
Complete field surveys	Spring/Summer 2022
Administrative Draft EIS/SEIR	Summer 2022
Draft EIS/SEIR Release	January 2023
Draft EIS/SEIR 45-Day Comment Period	Spring 2023
Draft Response to Comments	Spring/Summer 2023
Administrative Draft Combined FEIS/ROD/SEIR	Summer 2023
Combined Final EIS/ROD	Fall 2023

Valley Link CEQA Certified Alternative – Adopted May 2021



SJCOG I-205 Managed Lanes Fixed Guideway Alternative



Valley Link Potential Alternatives



Valley Link Potential Alternatives

- I-205 Alternative (orange) is being studied by SJCOG
- Anticipate inclusion in NEPA
 - IOS to Mountain House
 - Altamont Straightening Alignment Alternative (Green)
 - Mt House Station Alternative
 - Further study \ coordination required
- Benefits of each Alternative will be studied in NEPA
- Tracy OMF to North Lathrop studied in future NEPA process



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Next Steps

“Goal: Project implementation that is fast, cost-effective and responsive to the goals and objectives of the communities it will serve.”

- Provide updates to Board of Directors monthly
- Meet with the Public and stakeholders throughout the year
- Continue coordination with FTA and FHWA\Caltrans
- Complete Co-op agreement and kick-off PA&ED with Caltrans
- Prepare and Publish NEPA Notice of Intent
- Bring proposed consultant contracts for next environmental and design phases to Board of Director for consideration
- Coordinate with SJCOG on their I-205 Project
- Review cost saving concepts for I-580 and coordinate with Caltrans and Alameda CTC



QUESTIONS