

Seward to Glenn Connection PEL Study



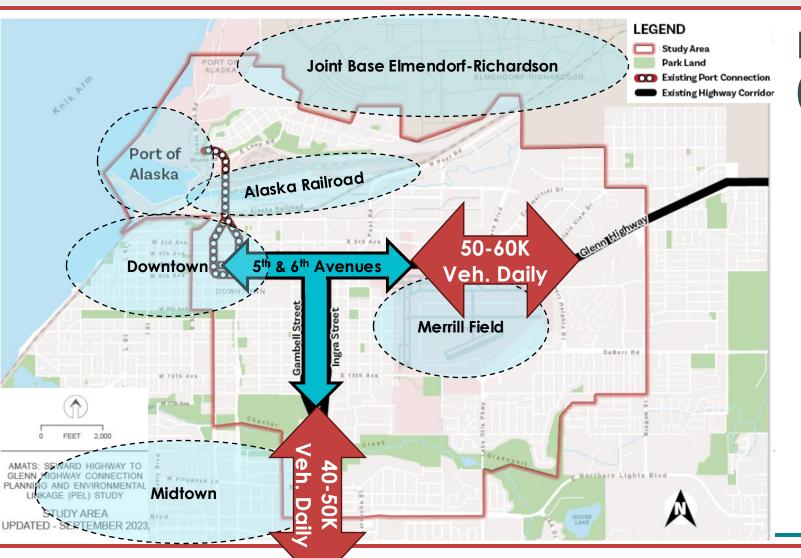
AMATS Community Advisory
Committee

April 22, 2025



Get People Where They Need to Go



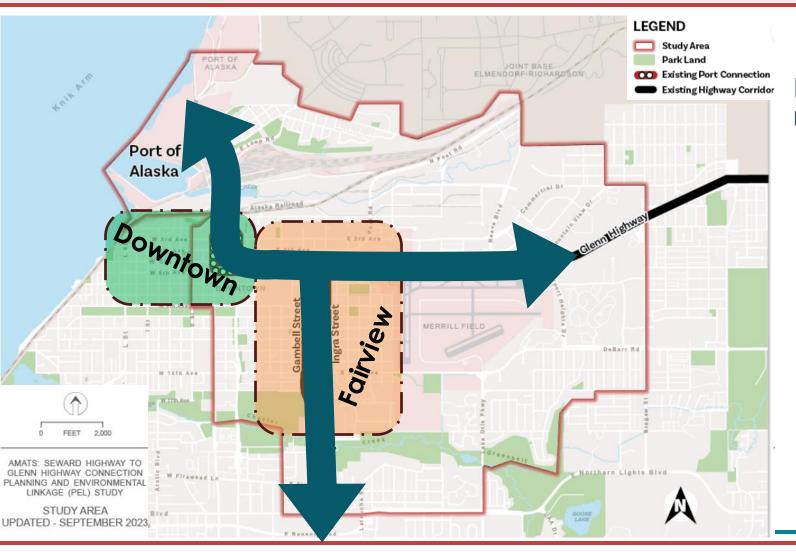


National Highway System (NHS): Functions

- Provides efficient movement of goods & services within the region
- Connects people to key employment centers
- Supports longer distance (regional) trips
- State, national, & defense importance
- Significant vehicle & large truck traffic

Get Freight Where it Needs to Go





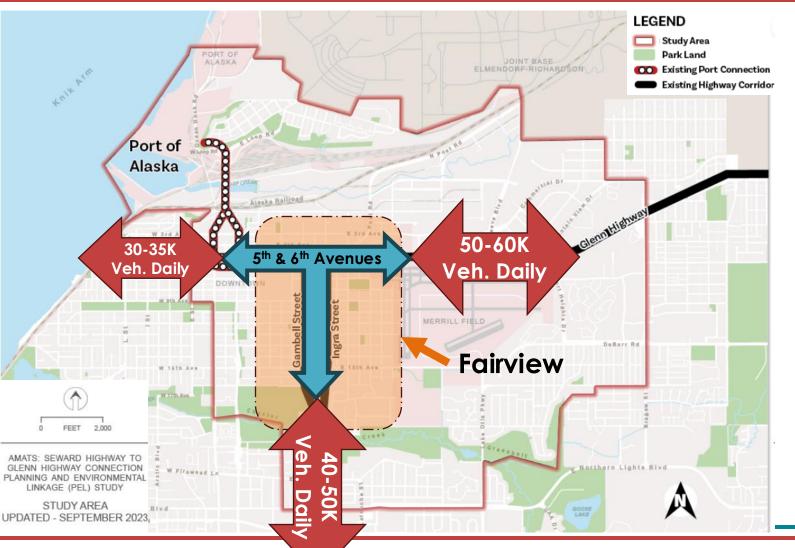
Freight Routes:

Impacts to commercial & residential uses

- Noise
- Community cohesion
- Nonmotorized user safety
- Economic growth
- Inefficient
 - Tight corners
 - Stop lights
 - High vehicle volumes
- Truck operator safety

Address Impacts to Fairview

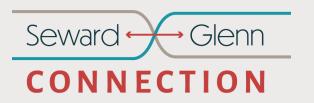


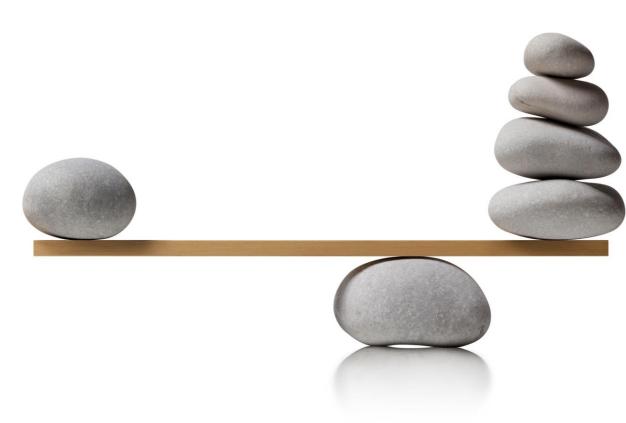


NHS + Freight: a Burden on Fairview for Decades

- Bisects this vulnerable neighborhood
- Heavy, fast-moving traffic & wide streets
- Not pedestrian-friendly
- Safety issues
- Economic development challenges
- Neighborhood cohesion impacts

Balancing Issues & Challenges





- Improve Safety for <u>all</u> users
- Reduce Travel Conflicts between regional and local user groups
- Maintain National Highway System (NHS) functionality
- Improve Port Access to the NHS
- Improve Livability in neighborhoods
- Spread the Burden from regional traffic
- Minimize New Impacts to other neighborhoods

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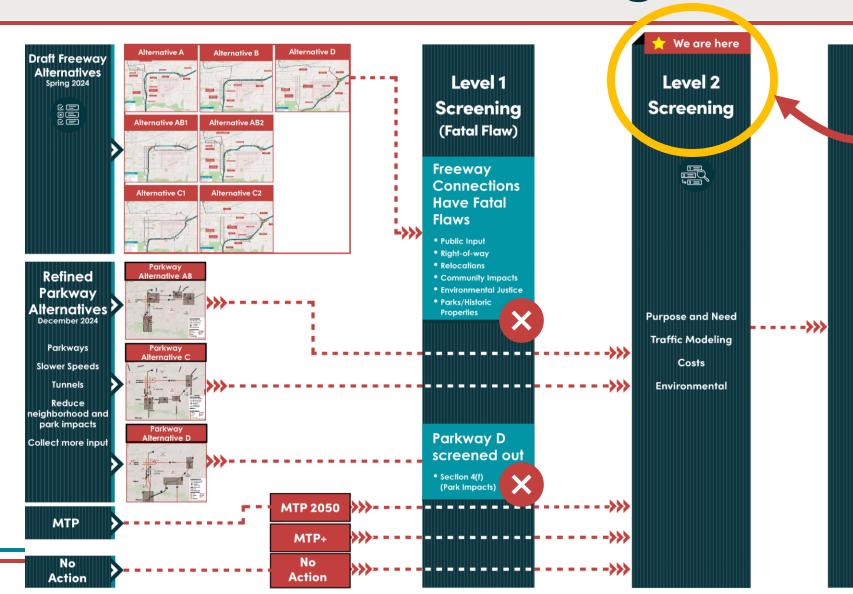
Compromise is Key to Success!





Alternatives Screening Processes





4/22/2025

Another round of screening to come:

Public
 Feedback

Recommendations

- Traffic Modeling
- Project Costs
- Environmental Impacts

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Freeways Out! Parkways to Refine...



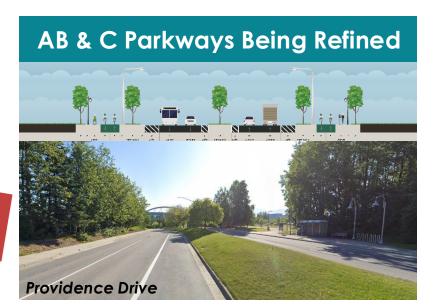
ALL <u>freeway</u> alternatives have been screened out...



Freeways are no longer under consideration as part of the study



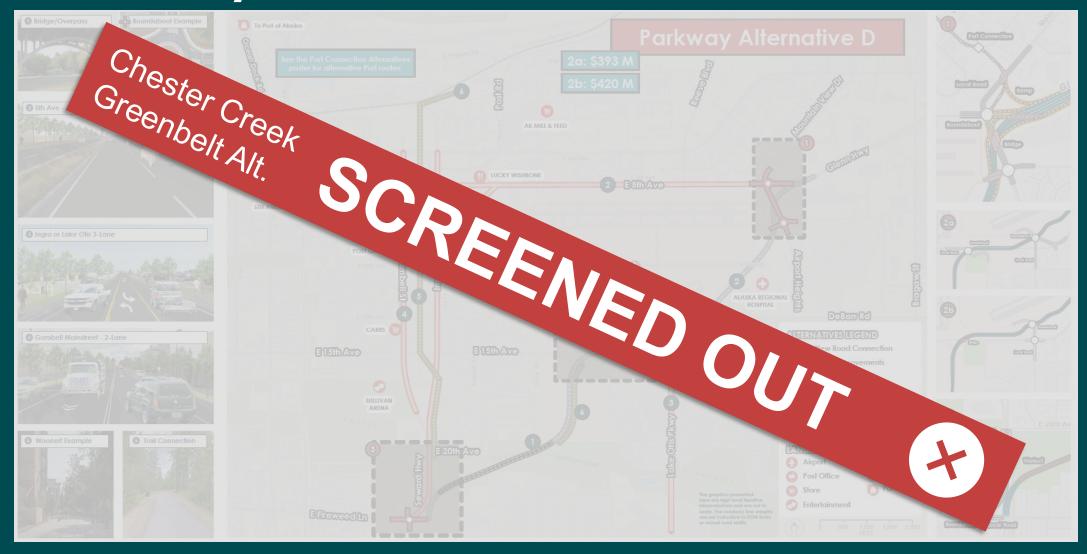
- Six 12-foot Freeway Lanes
- 55 MPH
- Fenced Right-of-Way
- Interchanges
- No sidewalks or bike paths
- Minimal landscaping
- 150-200 foot Right-of-Way



- Four 11-foot Parkway Lanes
- 40 MPH Speed Limit
- Usable Right-of-Way
- Roundabouts or signals
- Sidewalks or separated multi-use paths
- Robust landscaping
- **100-125 foot** Right-of-Way

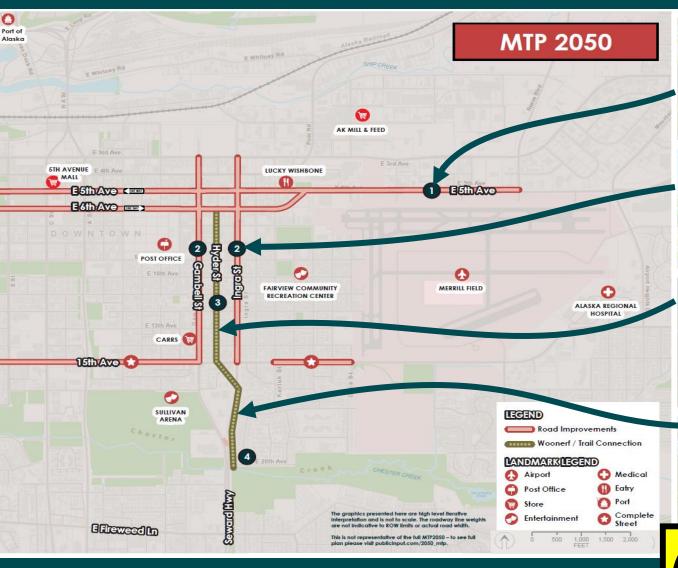
Parkway Alternative D - ELIMINATED





MTP 2050 Alternative – Stays the Same













- Lane reductions: 5th, 6th, Gambell, Ingra, 15th
- 4 Lanes on 5th Ave along Merril Field
- Gambell & Ingra:
 - 6-Lane couplet through Fairview
 - Reduce posted speed from 35 to 30 mph
- No new Glenn
 Highway-to- Seward
 Highway connection

MOVING FORWARD

Is a 6-lane Couplet the "Mainstreet" Envisioned by the Community? No.



No Action:

8-lane Couplet (4-Lanes each, 1-way)





MTP 2050:

6-Lane Couplet (3-Lanes each, 1-way)





MTP Plus:

Main Streets

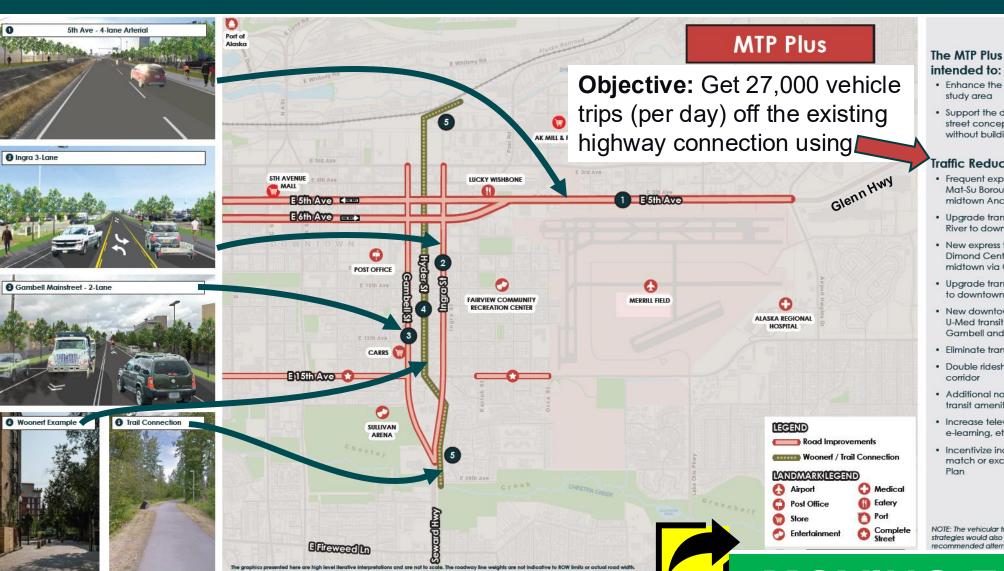
(2-lanes each, 2-way)





MTP Plus Alternative – To Refine





The MTP Plus alternative is

- . Enhance the MTP 2050 within the
- · Support the desired Fairview main street concept on Gambell Street without building a new parkway

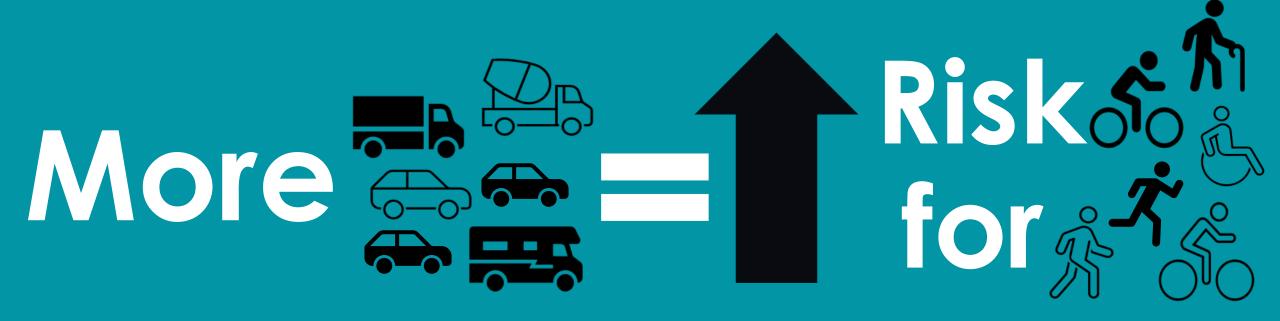
Traffic Reduction Ideas:

- · Frequent express bus service from Mat-Su Borough to downtown and midtown Anchorage
- · Upgrade transit service from Eagle River to downtown
- New express transit service from Dimond Center to downtown and midtown via C Street
- · Upgrade transit route from Huffman to downtown
- · New downtown, midtown, and U-Med transit service via Ingra/ Gambell and 36th
- · Eliminate transit fares system wide
- · Double rideshare program in project
- · Additional non-motorized and transit amenities
- · Increase telework, telemedicine, e-learning, etc.
- · Incentivize increased density to match or exceed the 2040 Land Use

NOTE: The vehicular traffic demand reduction strategies would also add value to a

MOVING FORWARD





The PEL Study is exploring how to *meaningfully* reduce risk for non-motorized users

What is a Parkway? Anchorage Examples:





W. Northern Lights Blvd

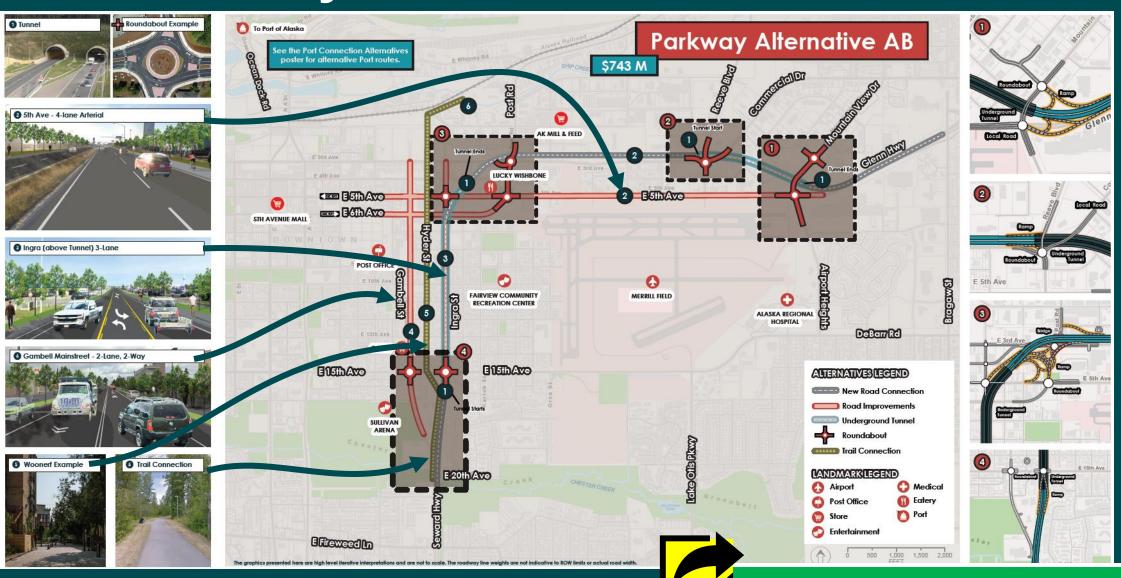






Parkway Alternative AB – To Refine

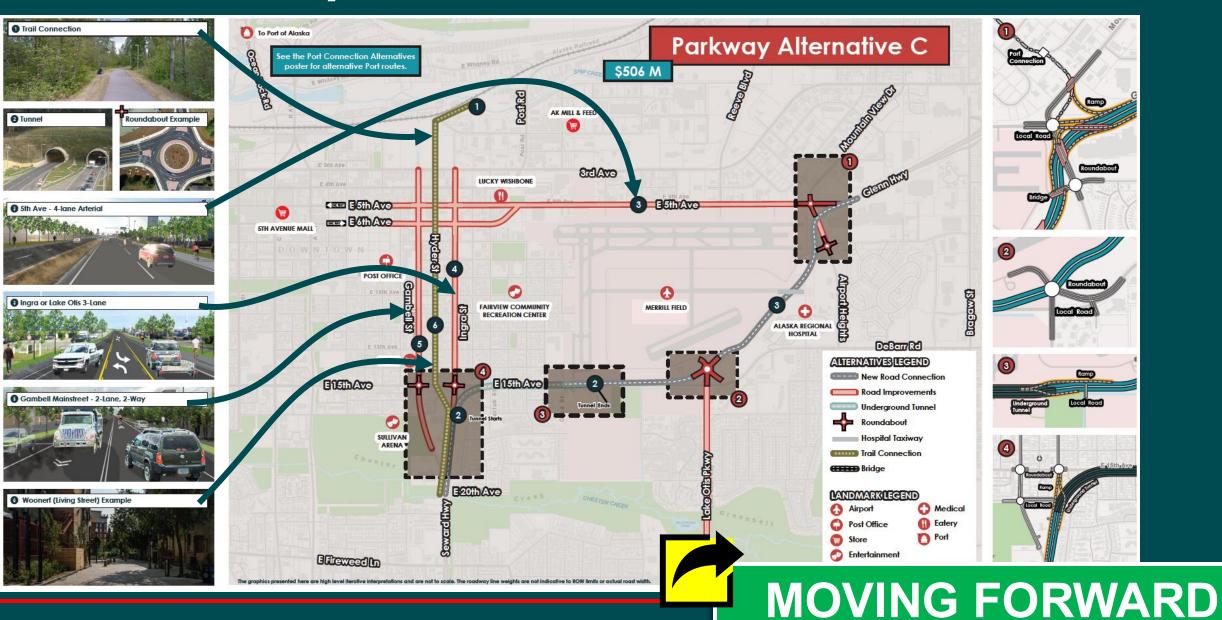




MOVING FORWARD

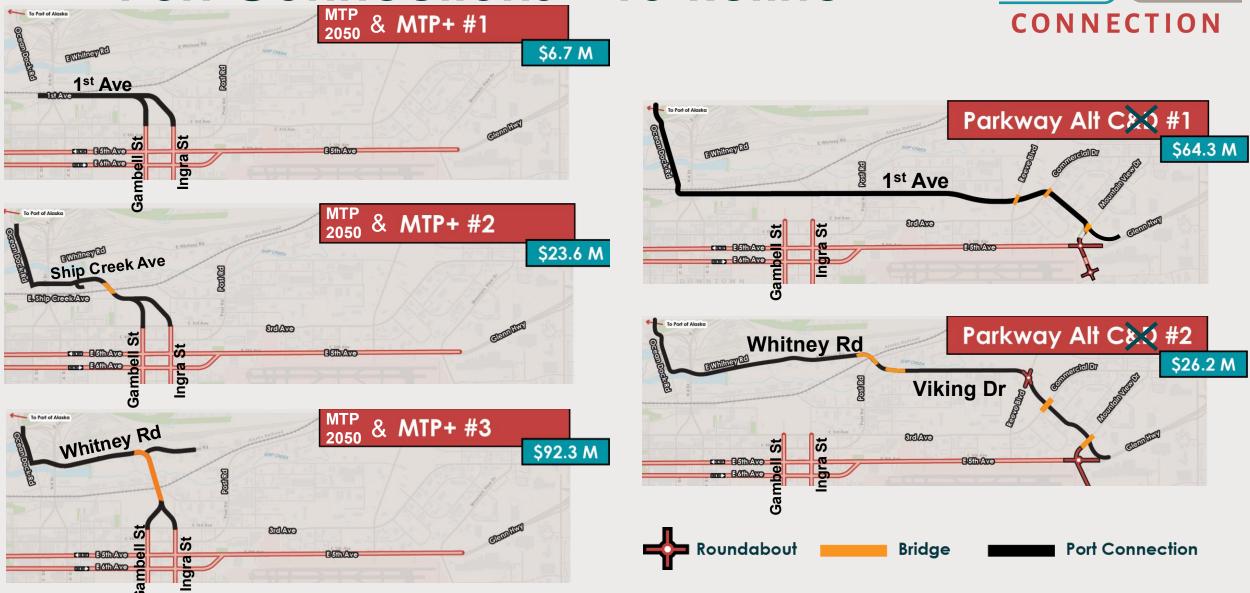
Parkway Alternative C – To Refine





Port Connections – To Refine





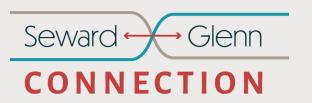
What's Happening RIGHT NOW?!



- More alternatives refinement
- Cost estimating
- Travel trip modeling
- Level 2 screening
 - Travel Trip Modeling
 - Project Costs
 - Environmental Impacts
 - Purpose & Need



What's Next? Finalizing the PEL!





May-August

- Level 2 screening
- Identify projects in recommended sub-area plan(s)
- Recommended projects phasing plan

September

- Identify recommended alternative(s)
- Draft PEL published
- Host public meeting & comment period

October 2025

Release FINAL PEL Study

Stay in Touch!





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