

Preferred Alternative Refinement Process

Phase	Description
<p>Initial Feasibility Studies <i>Jan/Mar 2008</i></p>	<p>Evaluate options that minimize the need for Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way. Recommend options to be evaluated in the DEIS.</p>
<p>Preliminary DEIS Analysis <i>Mar/Apr 2008</i></p>	<p>Engineer feasible options and begin EIS-level analysis in 20 resource categories (the same that were used to evaluate the Preferred Alternative). Share preliminary impact findings and proposed mitigations.</p>
<p>Complete DEIS Engineering & Analysis <i>Spring 2008</i></p>	<p>Finalize EIS-level engineering and analysis of the feasible options. Complete the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.</p>
<p>Publish DEIS <i>Summer/Fall 2008</i></p>	<p>Complete the analysis of impacts and mitigation recommendations for the Preferred Alternative and the potential refinements. Public comments on the analysis and recommendations will be accepted for 45 days.</p>
<p>Publish Final EIS <i>Early 2009</i></p>	<p>Final recommendations on all elements of the project — including recommendations about the potential refinements — will be submitted to the Federal Transportation Administration.</p>