

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> |