

Environmental Review Process and Alignment Refinement

Atlanta BeltLine East and West and
North Avenue/Luckie Street

Study Group Meeting



- **Introductions**
- **Today's Agenda:**
 - Review project background
 - Introduce environmental review process
 - Introduce Alignment Refinement (AR) process
 - Discuss next steps
- **Adjourn**



Project Background





Connect Atlanta Plan

November 2008

Draft Atlanta BeltLine/Atlanta Streetcar System Plan (SSP)

March 2014

**Atlanta Streetcar Finding of No
Significant Impact (FONSI)**

April 2011

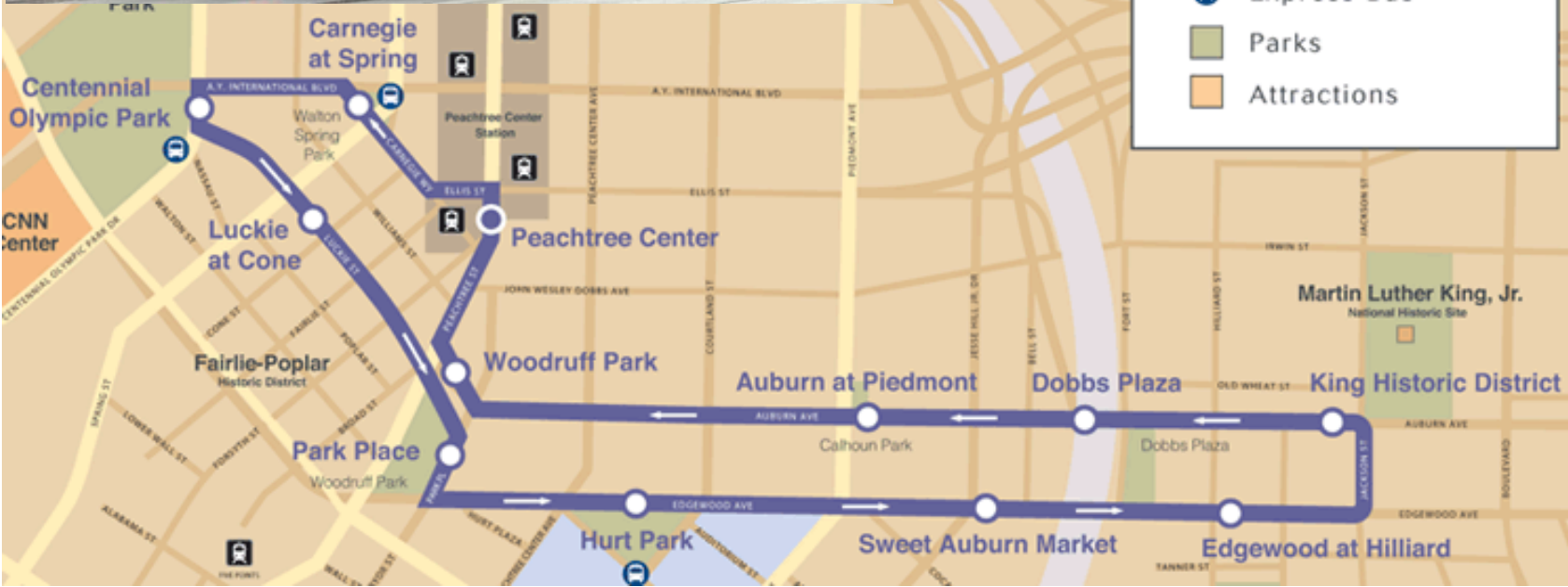
**Record of Decision (ROD) for Tier 1
EIS**

August 2012

Atlanta BeltLine/Atlanta Streetcar System Plan



Integrates Atlanta Streetcar lines and Atlanta BeltLine into a unified system



Project Background

Projects in Environmental Review Process



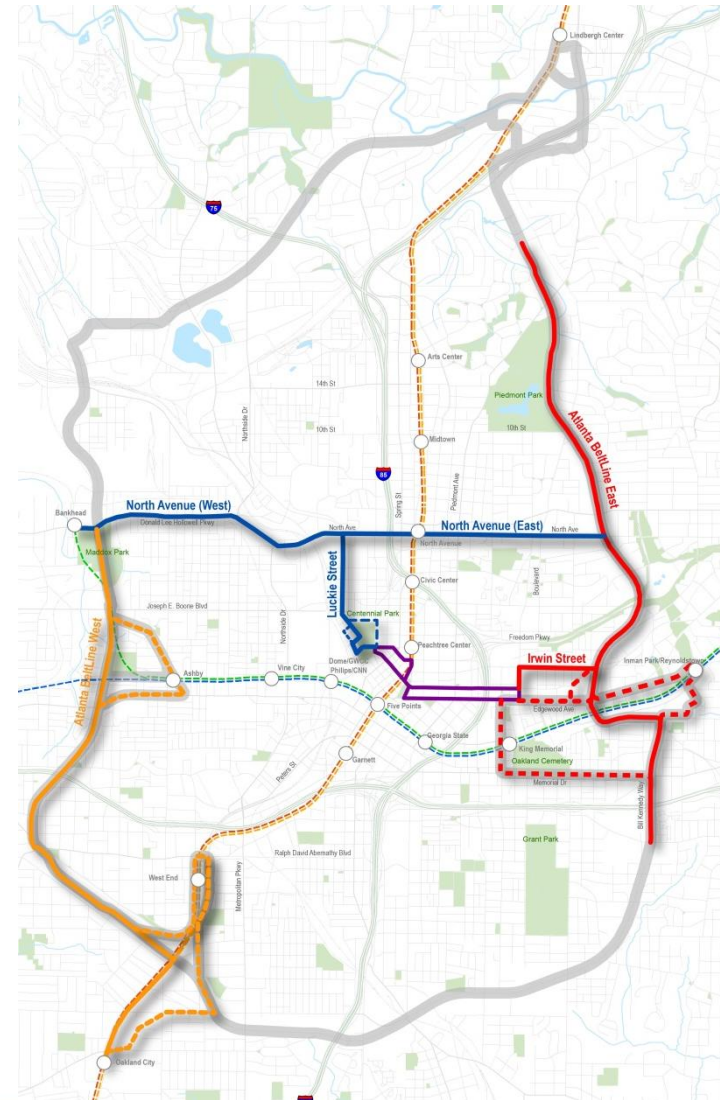
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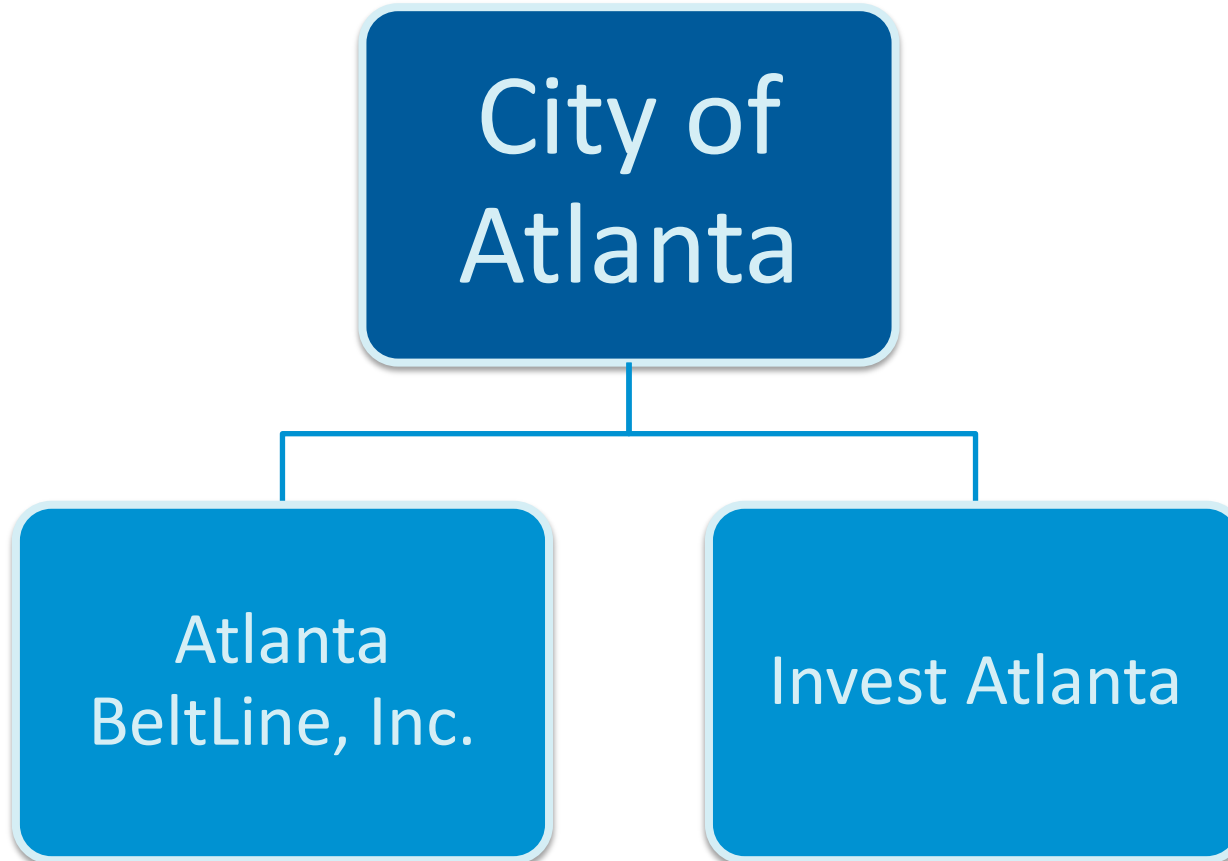


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- Phase 1 and part of Phase 2 of the **Draft Atlanta BeltLine/Atlanta Streetcar System Plan** (SSP) represents the near-term priorities for the City of Atlanta
- Streetcar Projects currently in Environmental Review Process:

-  Atlanta BeltLine East
-  Atlanta BeltLine West
-  North Avenue/Luckie Street







Environmental Review Process



Environmental Review Process

What is the Environmental Review process?

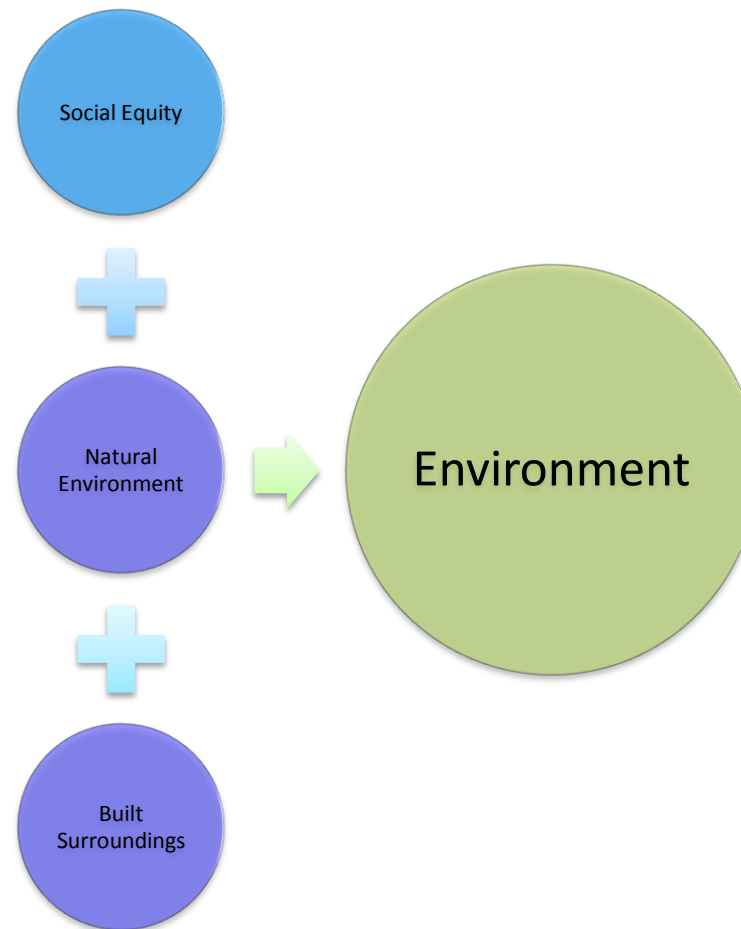


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- Required for all actions seeking Federal funding as regulated by National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1972



Environmental Review Process

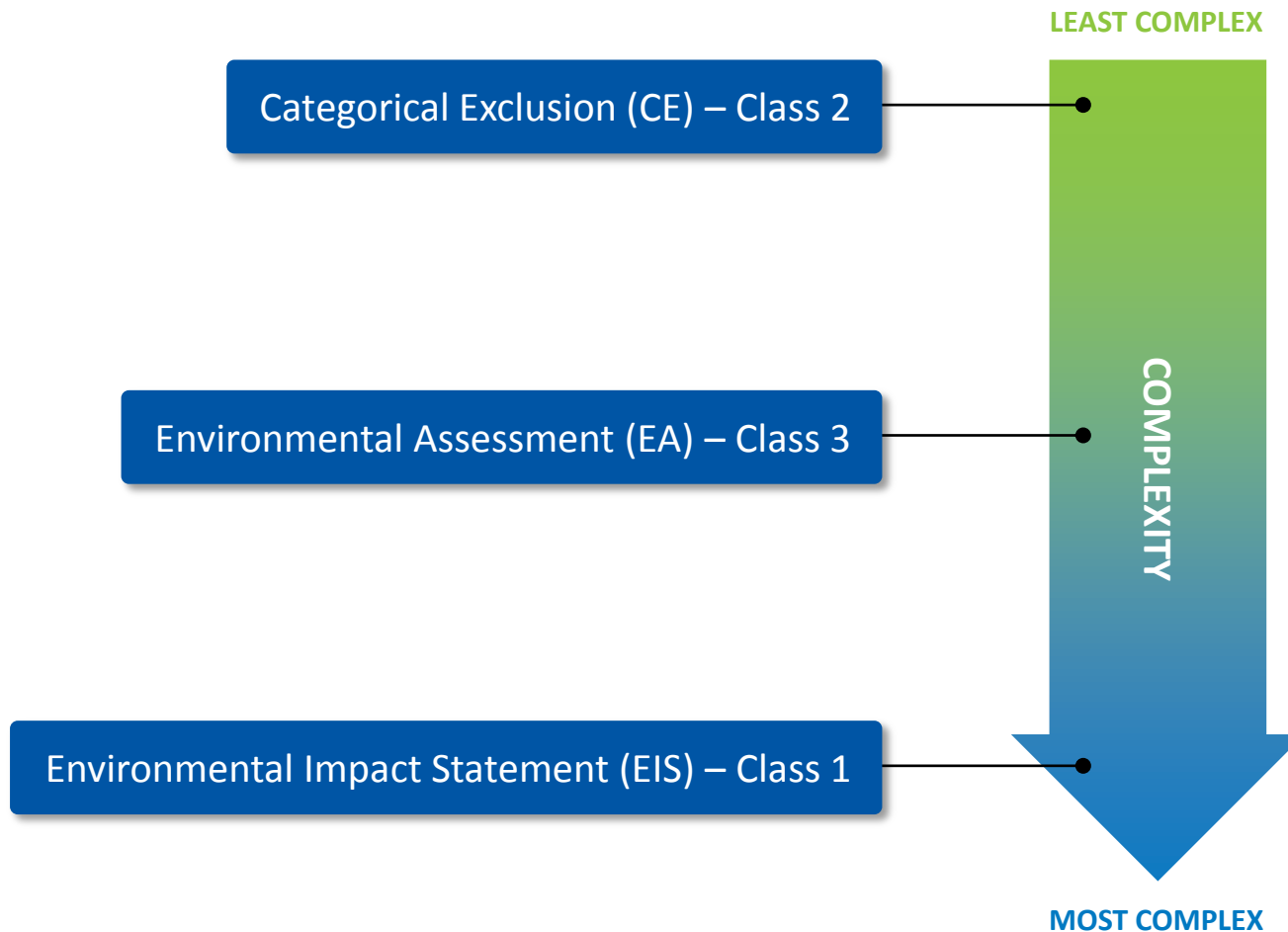
What documentation is required?



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Environmental Review Process

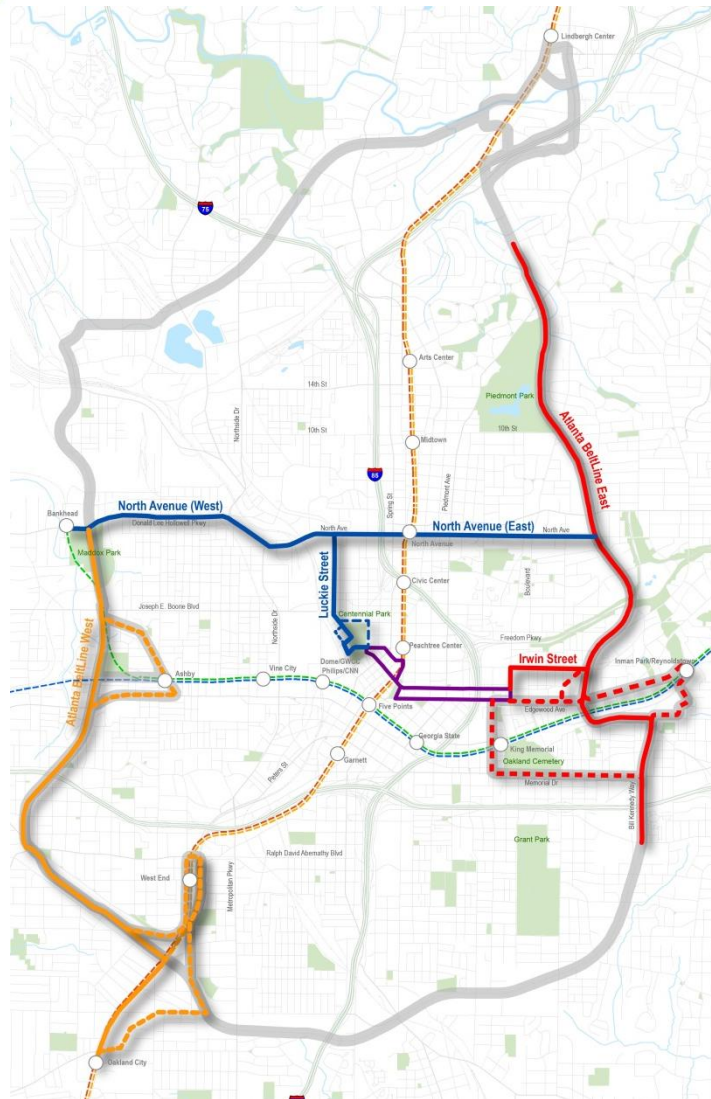
Which corridors are involved?



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Atlanta BeltLine East and
Irwin Street connection



-Alignment Options



North Avenue/Luckie Street



-Alignment Options



Atlanta BeltLine West



-Alignment Options



Atlanta Streetcar*



MARTA Red/Gold Line*



MARTA Blue/Green Line*

* Shown for Reference

Environmental Review Process

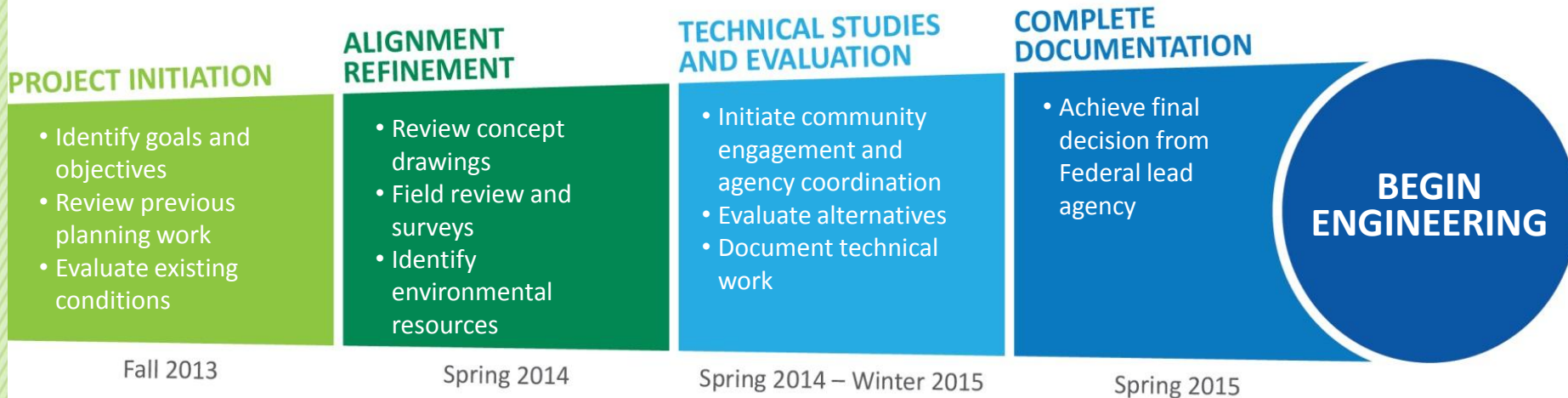
Timeline



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We are here



Alignment Refinement



Alignment Refinement: Hulsey Yard Example

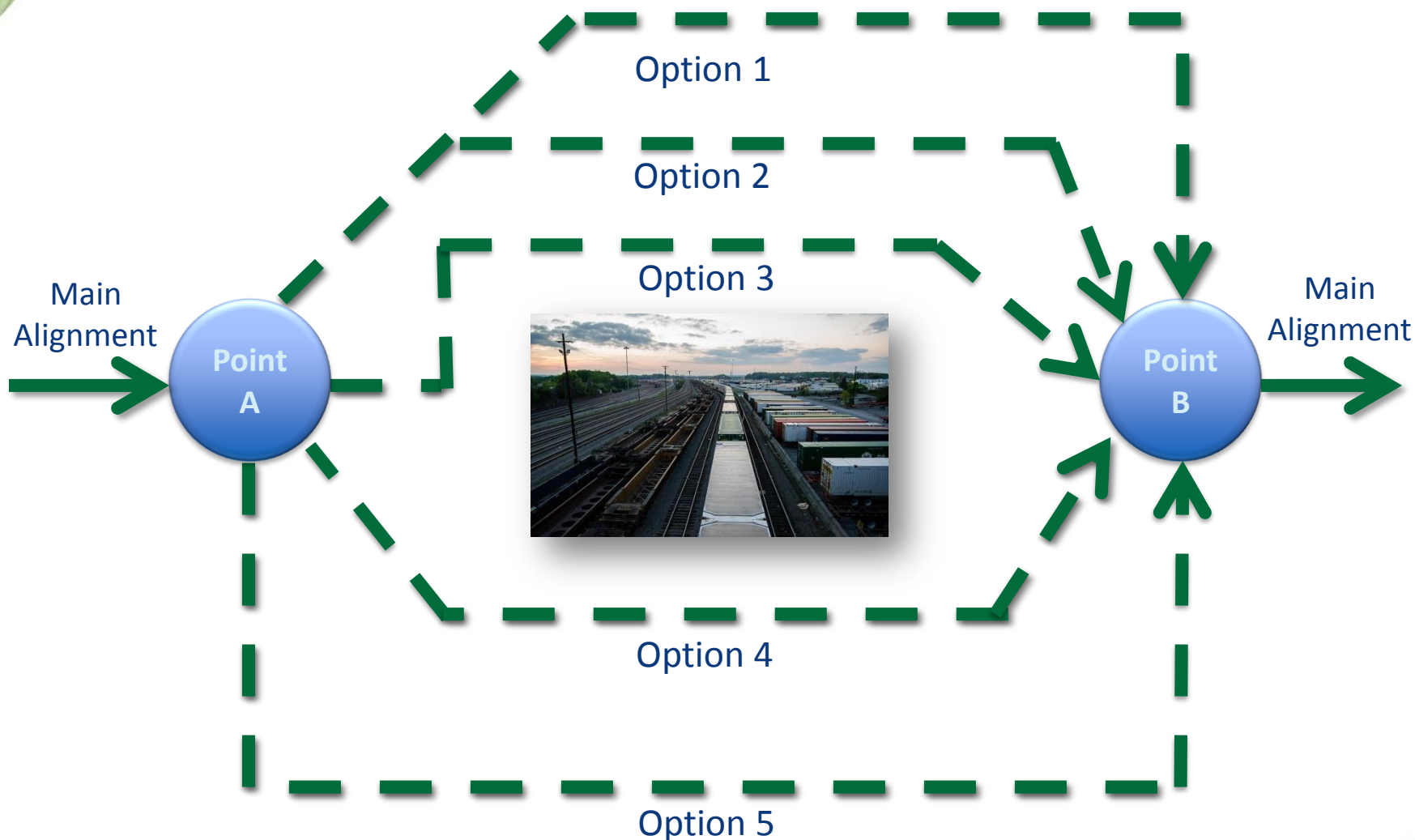
Why are we doing alignment refinement (AR)?



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Alignment Refinement

Preliminary Evaluation Criteria



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Guiding Principle	Alignment Refinement Focus Areas and Alignment Options
	Alignment Refinement Measures
Project Readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of Right of Way (ROW) acquisitions required • Amount of time needed for agency coordination/political and public acceptability – effects on project cost effectiveness and implementation schedule • Cost to overcome significant engineering/design constraints – effects on project cost effectiveness and implementation schedule
Practicality / Ridership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population served – existing and projected in areas served by streetcar • Potential ridership from transfers – connections to high-capacity transit • Convenience – transfer requirements to destinations • Mobility and access options for all potential riders • Travel time from Atlanta BeltLine neighborhoods to regional job centers • Effect of potential delays on mode choice – exclusive guideway compared to mixed traffic
Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will use Atlanta Regional Commission's Equitable Target Area (ETA) data • Mobility and access options for potential riders from EJ communities • Travel time from EJ communities to regional job centers
Financial Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term operating and maintenance (O&M) costs for each option • Effect on TAD/Funding Partners/Effects on potential Federal funding • Amount of commercial land and multi-family land available per alignment that could be used for a Local Improvement District assessment
Development Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effect on land value/improvement ratio • Effect of existing and proposed development density on rail investment • Consistency/compatibility with land use, zoning, neighborhood character • Market potential for implementing subarea master plan development (Atlanta BeltLine East and West) • Amount of new development per mile

Alignment Refinement

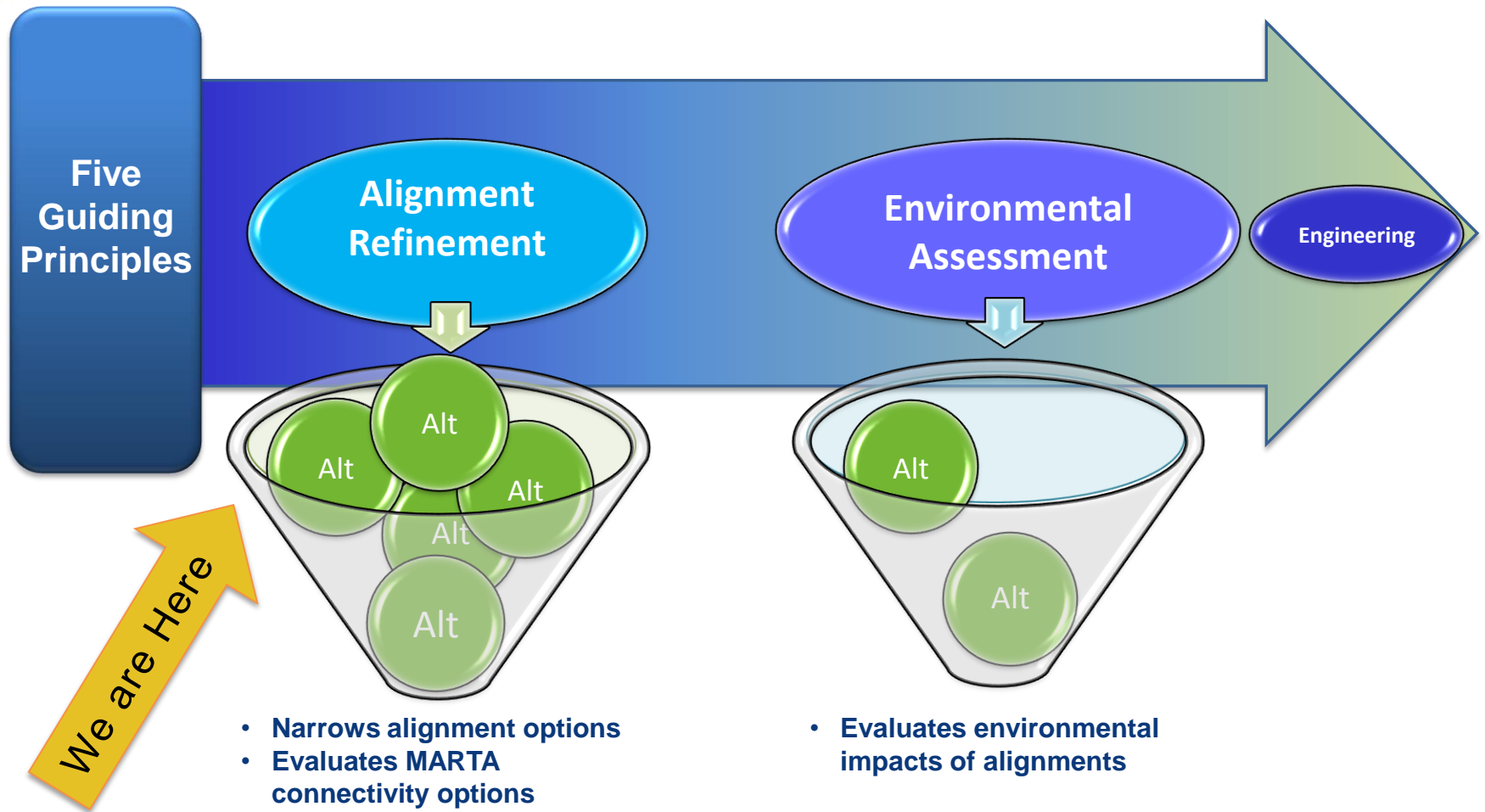
Where does AR fit in the planning process?



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Alignment Refinement

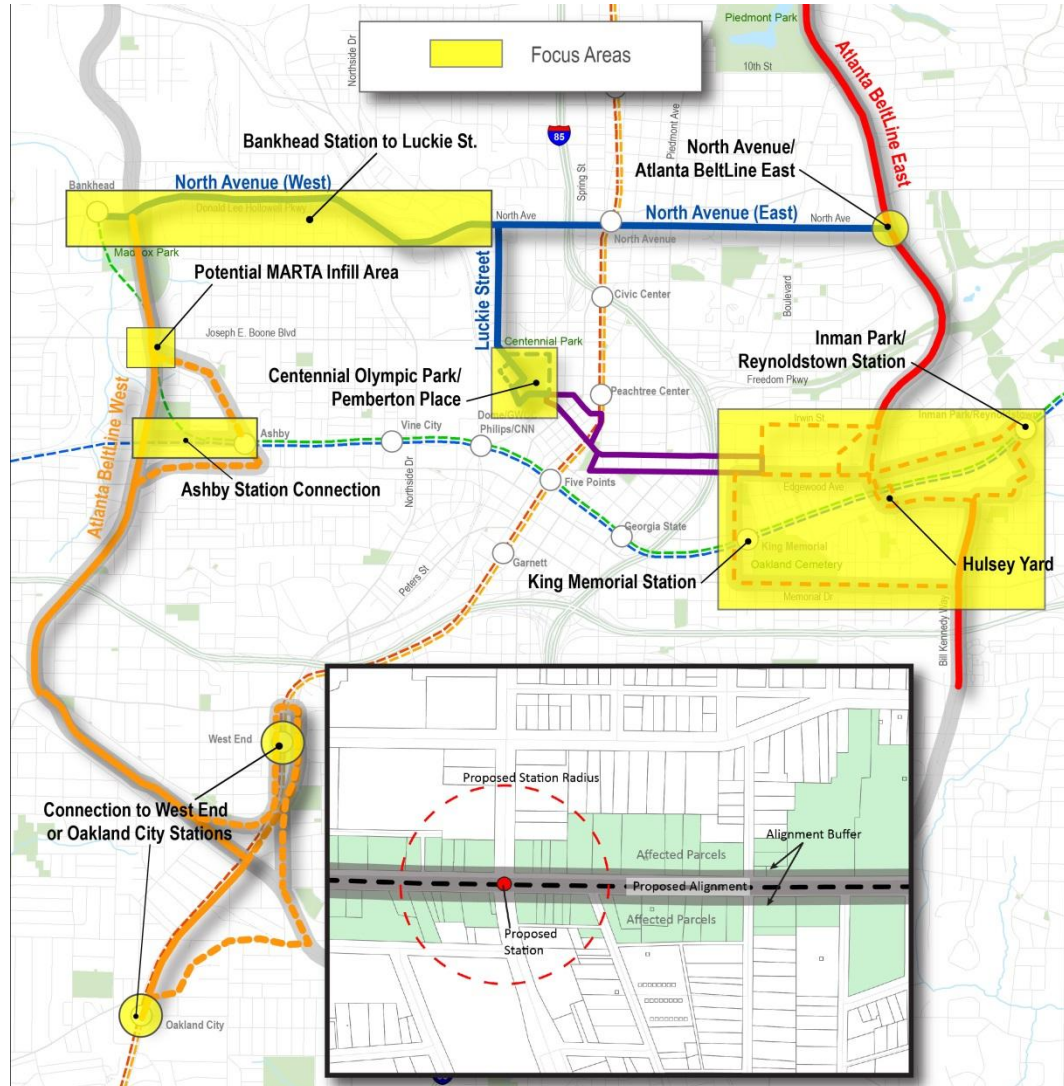
What are the focus areas for AR?



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Milestone Schedule

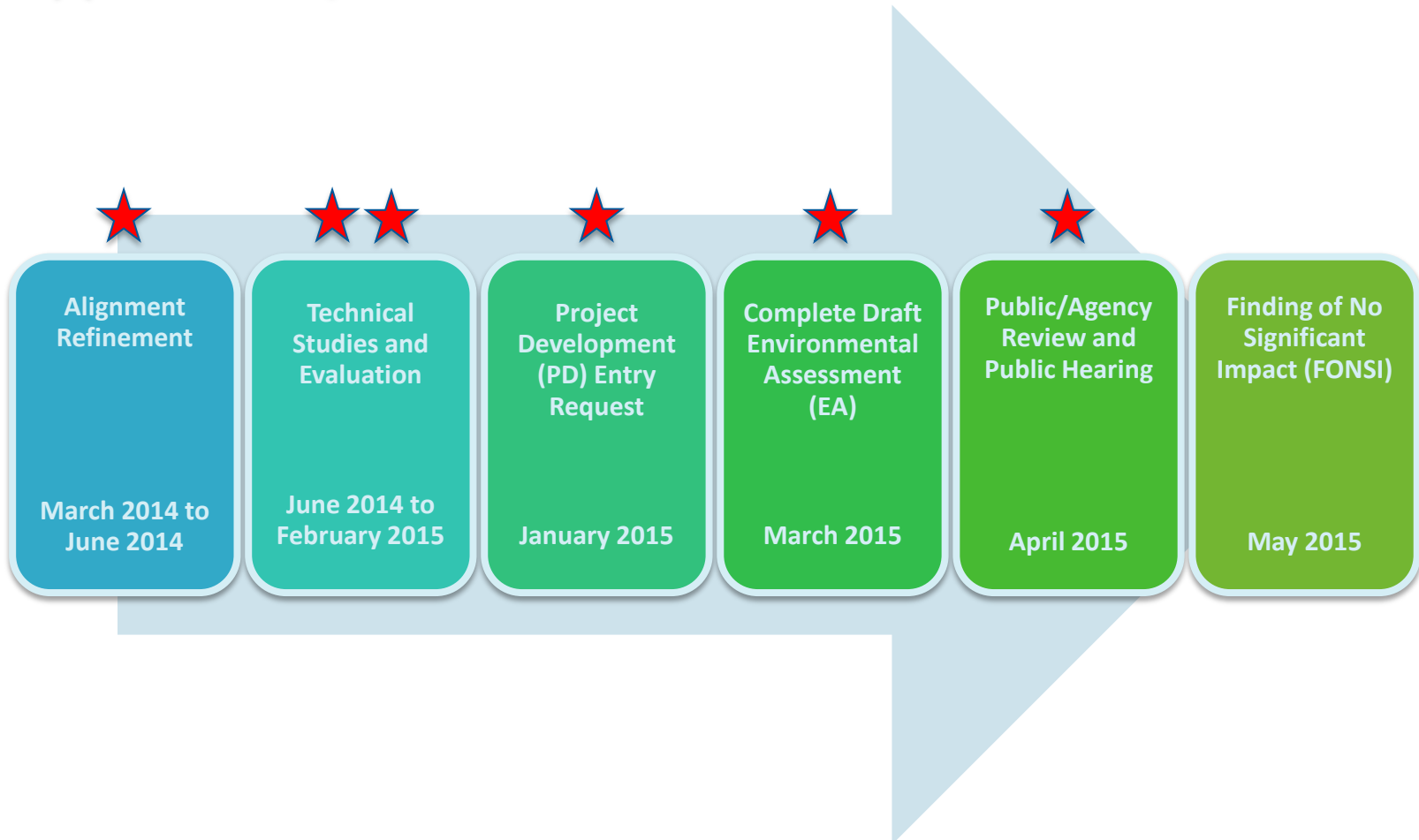


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★ = Community Check In





**City of Atlanta
Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.
Consultant Team**

Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC)	Meets at Project Milestones
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	Meets at Project Milestones
Study Groups	Follows SAC/TAC Meetings
Citywide Conversation	When Necessary
Public Hearing	Draft EA Document



Questions or Feedback?



- **Project Background**
- **Environmental Review Process**
- **Alignment Refinement**

Contact Information



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Alignment Refinement: Hulsey Yard Example

What are we doing during the alignment refinement (AR) process?



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Community Engagement Check Points

