



Wide range and narrowing

Moving from the projects and ideas generated for the wide range of potential projects to a manageable list of projects is a big job. Moving forward required a qualitative assessment of about 500 transportation projects and more than 300 parks, trails, natural areas, community open space and water quality management projects.

Wide-range process

The wide range of potential projects included ideas from:

- residents, businesses and other stakeholders through outreach in fall 2011
- the Regional Transportation Plan
- local transportation system, land use and parks and trails system plans
- plans from non-governmental transportation and community organizations
- projects that would meet needs discovered through the existing conditions and needs analyses.

The sources for generating the wide range process received public support during the outreach and involvement stage that culminated in an online open house and questionnaire, which was available June 22 through July 31, 2012. The 543 responses to that questionnaire told project partners:

- 78 percent agree/strongly agree these are good sources to generate a list of projects
- 64 percent agree/strongly agree these sources take advantage of past planning and community engagement work
- 58 percent agree/strongly agree this will result in a comprehensive list of project ideas.

Respondents also offered about 75 ideas for projects that they wanted considered. Those ideas that were not already part of the list were added to the wide-range list in advance of the narrowing process.

Narrowing process

The narrowing process asked four basic questions:

- Does the project support community and corridor vision?



- Does the project meet transportation needs and local land use goals?
- Can we afford it and when?
- Are there too many impacts?

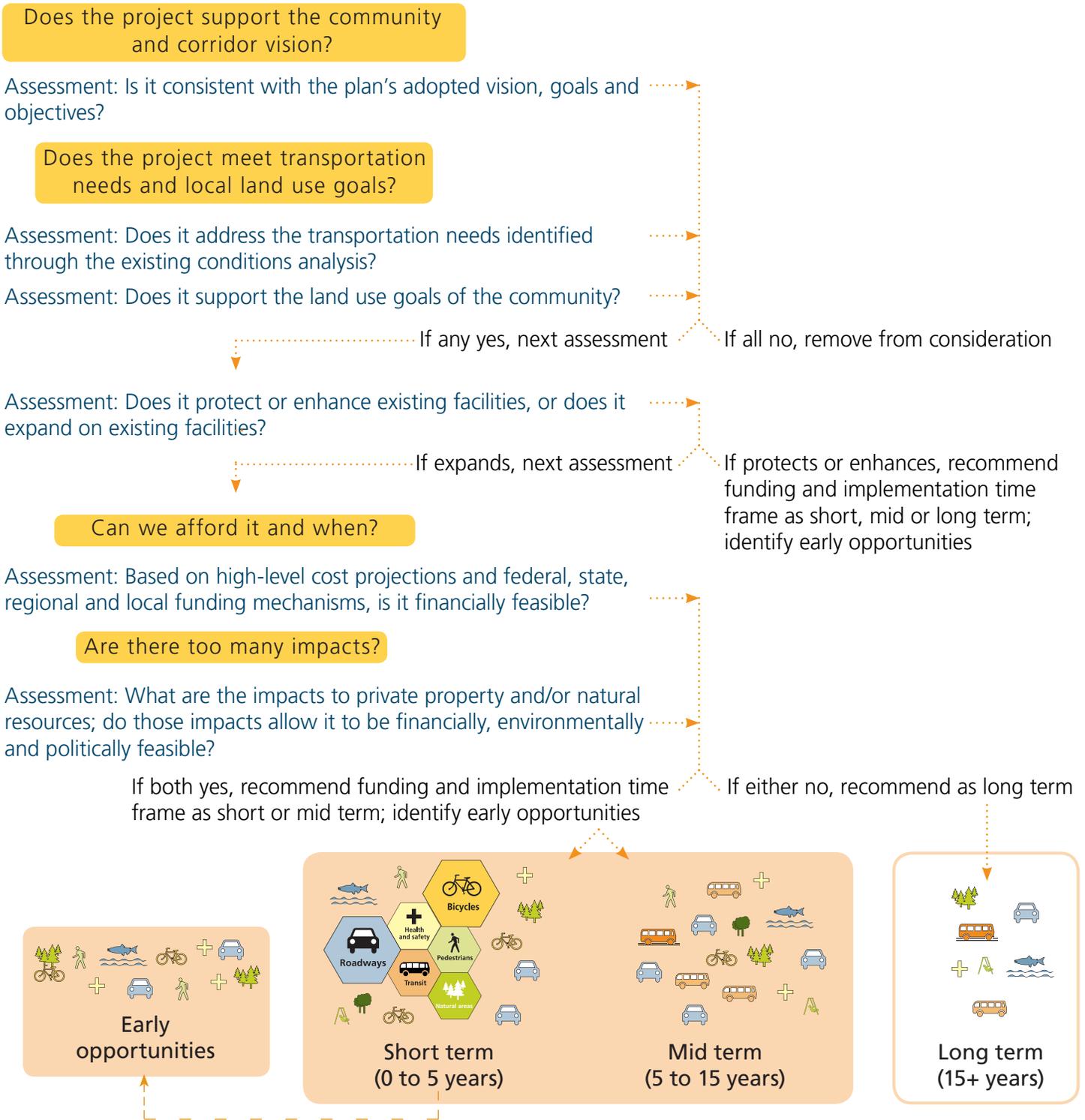
This qualitative narrowing process received public support in responses to the questionnaire. These responses told project partners:

- 67 percent agree/strongly agree this screening process enables us to focus effort on the most promising projects rather than evaluating everything
- 79 percent agree/strongly agree the narrowing questions are good questions to ask about cost and benefits
- 62 percent agree/strongly agree that the narrowing questions relate to the goals that reflect people's values
- 67 percent agree/strongly agree that narrowing will help focus efforts on achieving projects that support community supported vision and goals
- 80 percent agree/strongly agree that it is important to consider if and when we can afford projects in light of other priorities.

Narrowing process

The narrowing process was designed to help project partners focus efforts on the most promising projects. It also helps determine when projects might be implemented by projecting whether resources would be available in the short term (within five years), mid term (five to 15 years) or long term (15 plus years). Focussing on short- and mid-term projects will move project partners toward determining an integrated investment package.

Since this is a qualitative assessment based on funding projections, project partners – through the plan’s steering committee – may alter the determinations for the short-, mid- and long-term lists based on their judgement of local funding capacity and long-term benefits to their residents.



Note: it is not expected that all, or even a majority, of projects on the short- and mid-term list will be implemented; further choices will be made during the investment packaging and related discussions.