



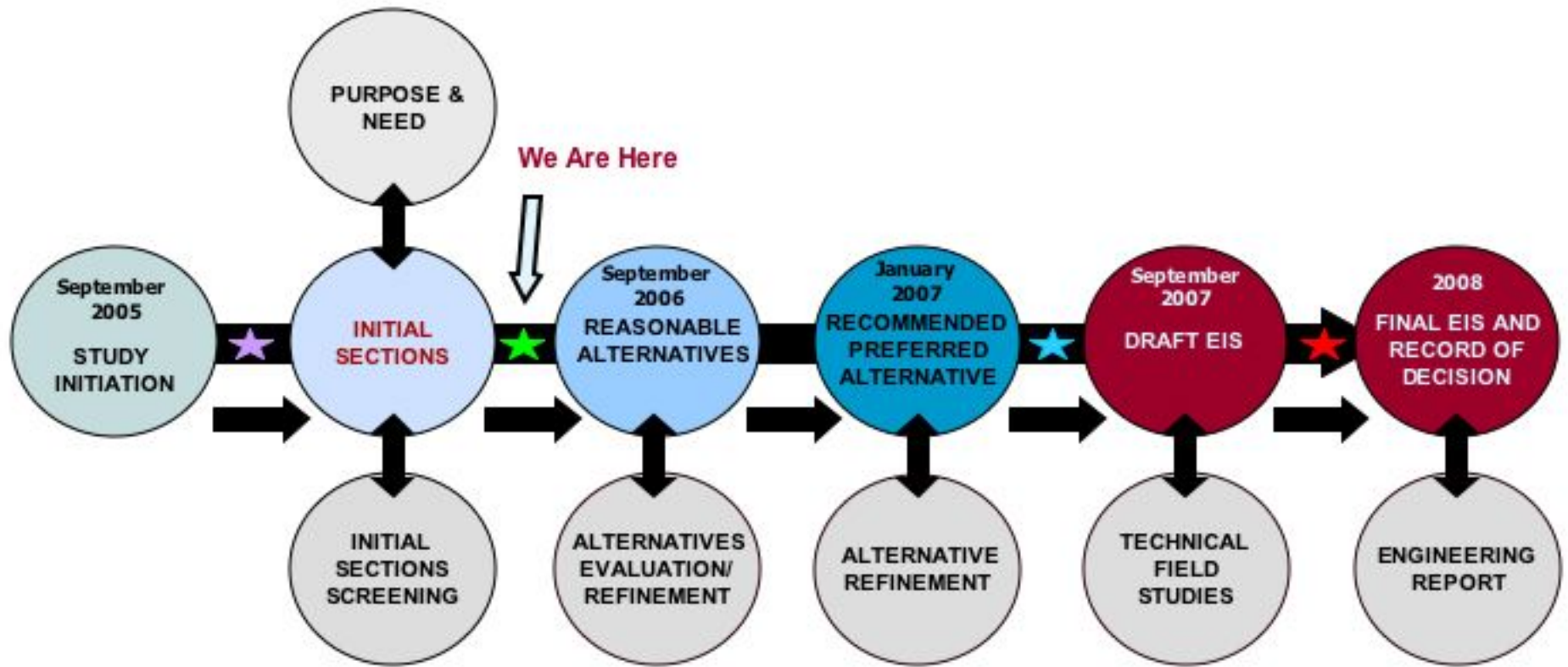


## **Open House #2 outline**

- Open house information stations
- Phase 1 – Bridge and Street design & aesthetics
  - Phase 1 – Land use planning & development
  - Phase 1 – MLK EIS re-evaluation
  - Phase 2 – EIS update



# EIS Study Process



- ★ Public Meeting #1 – September 18, 2005
- ★ Public Meeting #2 – July 11, 2006
- ★ Public Meeting #3 – Spring 2007
- ★ Public Hearing – Fall 2007



# EIS - Purpose & Need/Goals

- **Enhance System Connectivity**  
Provide a more direct transportation route between downtown and U.S. 65
- **Improved Capacity**  
Accommodate future transportation levels, ensuring more efficient travel
- **Access to Emergency Services**  
Minimize or eliminate barriers to secure, reliable emergency services
- **Access to Opportunity**  
Improve connectivity between residential areas and employment opportunities
- **System Safety**  
Provide a safer corridor and minimize conflict points
- **Goods Movement**  
Improve shipping routes for businesses distributing goods to and from the project area
- **Economic Development**  
Provide economic development and redevelopment opportunities for southeast Des Moines
- **Neighborhood Enhancement**  
Provide opportunities for neighborhood enhancement in the project area
- **Part of Overall Plans for Des Moines**  
Tie the project together with other community plans (land use, transit etc.)



# **EIS – Corridor Section Screening Criteria**

- **Access to Existing Businesses**
- **Access to Proposed AgriMergent Development**
- **Connectivity between Downtown and U.S. 65**
- **Use of Existing U.S. 65 Interchange**
- **Neighborhood Impacts**
- **Existing Business Impacts**
- **Impacts to Natural Environment**
- **Impacts to Community Facilities**
- **Impacts to Hazardous Materials Sites**
- **Engineering – 90 Degree Turns**
- **Engineering – Rail Crossing Issues**
- **Engineering – Intersection Issues**
- **Maintenance of Alternate Truck Routes**
- **Use of Existing Available Rail Corridors**



# Timeframe for SE Connector EIS and Phase II Activities

**2005**

- Initiate project with state and local agencies
- Develop Study Purpose & Need
- Develop preliminary concepts
- Screen preliminary concepts
- Initial screening report

**2007**

- Recommend Preferred Alternative
- Draft Environmental Impact Statement
- Public Hearing
- Public comment & review

**2009 and After**

Ready for design, right of way & construction as funds become available

**2005**

**2006**

**2007**

**2008**

**2009**

**2006**

- Select reasonable alternatives
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage Screening
- Environmental Analysis

**2008**

- Final Environmental Impact Statement
- Receive Record of Decision

**Transportation Improvement Process**





# Public Involvement (PI)

PI enables area stakeholders to be well-informed of project developments and actively provide input to assist in decision-making that affects the corridor.



## *Our philosophy:*

PI is the cornerstone of any project that impacts the future of the community and those living in it.

## Key Aspects of the PI Program

- Public meetings
- Advisory Committee
- Stakeholder groups
- Communication outlets



# Thank you for attending the SE Connector Open House

## Make the connection:

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