

We're going to now look at the PEL's draft purpose statement and its supporting goals and objectives.



First, let's look at why a purpose statement is so important for transportation projects.

The purpose statement is what helps shape the development of alternatives. Within transportation, there are certain project purposes that are used to deliver projects that are focused on transportation resources. This is also the first touch point between a transportation project and the resource agencies. Does the resource agency approve of this purpose statement?

The PEL process also is intended to produce products that may be taken into subsequent NEPA and CEQA environmental processes.

The Purpose is one of the first products that the PEL process can produce. You may wonder how non transportation issues such as climate change and restoration are included as part of the project. Goals and objectives are powerful tools that can be used as evaluation criteria for alternatives. We will discuss goals and objectives a little later on.



A need is a specific problem, area for improvement or opportunity that exists now or is expected in the future. This word cloud shows the needs that have been identified by the PEL stakeholders. The larger the letters indicate the frequency the need was identified. You will also have the opportunity to identify any needs you have on the corridor. We look at each need and how it can be studied or measured. Each need for action is used to evaluate alternatives through measurable objectives.

The purpose and need statement may identify other goals related to the primary transportation purpose. The PEL team will determine whether a need should be addressed in the purpose statement with a transportation related objective or as a goal or objective that can be used to differentiate amongst alternatives in the screening process.



Building off previous studies and stakeholder involvement on the PEL process thus far, we have drafted a preliminary Project purpose statement that we will look at in the next five slides. Remember from our discussion earlier, that alternatives developed for the PEL study must meet the project purpose as articulated in the purpose statement.

The first element is preserving a critical regional transportation corridor that is resilient to extreme events while integrating ecological resiliency which facilitates adaptation to sea level rise.

As you may recall, sea level rise resiliency and flooding were two important needs identified for the corridor.



The next element is providing reliable travel time and increasing person through-put.

As you can see from this picture, and as you probably have experienced, the backups can be extensive along the corridor. We understand it is important to you, as a member of the traveling public, to have a reliable travel time to get across the corridor.



The next element is providing safe mobility for bicyclists and pedestrians.

One of the important needs identified by stakeholders was a safe route for bicyclists and pedestrians, and considering E-bikes are gaining in popularity, a safe route could allow folks to commute to work.



The next element is maintaining and enhancing public access, including to recreational areas.

For example, San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge provides numerous recreational opportunities that include wildlife viewing, wildlife photography, boating, fishing, and hunting. This area allows for public enjoyment of the refuge while still protecting the wildlife and habitats.



The last element is providing an equitable transportation solution that improves access for, and meaningful benefits to, underserved communities.

In December 2020, Caltrans adopted an equity statement that recognizes our leadership role, an unique responsibility to state government to eliminate barriers to provide more equitable transportation for all Californians. We're reaching out to all communities to listen and incorporate their needs on our projecs.



Several of the needs identified by the stakeholders do no have transportation nexus. However, by using goals and objectives as evaluation criteria, we preserve the purpose statement, which must be focused on transportation. To create a holistic project, goals and objectives can link resource agency and stakeholder priorities to the transportation project to produce both an effective transportation solution and environmentally responsible outcomes.

In the next four slides, we will be discussing the drafts goals and objectives that have been developed for the PEL.

The first goal is to evaluate State Route 37 alternatives for long term integrated solutions that address the SR 37 highway's vulnerabilities and facilitate the restoration of the surrounding baylands in conjunction with the anticipated sea level rise affecting the corridor.



Another goal is to improve route reliability, mobility and connectivity across all modes and maintain public access for corridor commuters, residents, and essential services and industries in the area.



Another goal is to implement to the extent practicable nature-based solutions to enhance resilience in the coastal environment to flooding, wave action, and erosion while simultaneously facilitating natural ecosystem function and adaptation to the stresses of climate change.



By planning for future conditions and working through partnership collaboration and cooperation with federal, state, and local agencies, we could achieve ancillary benefits such as improved water quality, habitat and fisheries within the Northern Baylands.



These are the draft goals and objectives we have identified so far. Are there other needs, goals or objectives you want to see included in the PEL study?

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	Call the SR 37 Public Information Line: (510) 286-1204		
	Take a survey/Fill out the questionnaire www.Resilient37.org/Questionnaire	::	
(May	"ONE CORRIDOR, ONE TEAM, ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪	MANY SOLUTIONS."	14

We encourage you to leave a message on the phone line at area code 510-286-1204, complete the survey or use the interactive map to notate your comments. We look forward to hearing from you. I will turn this over to Kelly now. Thank you.