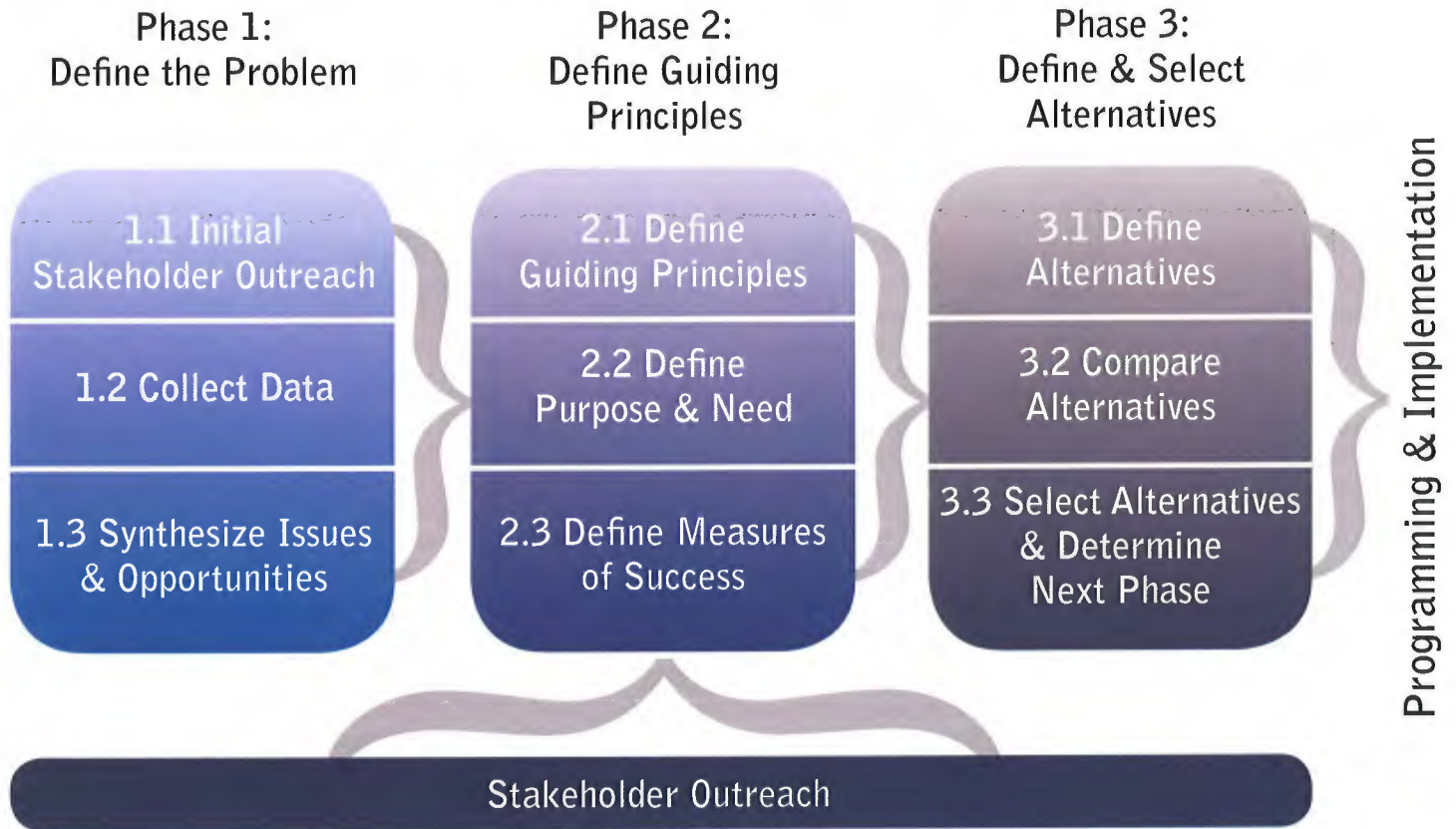


MULTI-MODAL CORRIDOR PLANNING PROCESS



GUIDING QUESTIONS AT EACH PHASE

Phase 1:

You have successfully completed Phase 1: Define the Problem, if you can answer the following questions.

- Is there a clear understanding of the problem?
- How often, and for how long, does the problem occur?
- Are the stakeholders in agreement with what the problem is and what the objectives of the study are?
- What is the transportation problem? Is the problem a challenge related to mobility, safety, capacity, or facility condition? What modes are experiencing these problems?
- What are the major land use and transportation issues and opportunities that we should know about as we proceed with the study?
- How much money is available to solve this problem?

Phase 2:

You have successfully completed Phase 2: Define Guiding Principles, if you can answer the following questions.

- Do the guiding principles, purpose and needs statements capture the vision and goals of the community for the study area?
- Have you translated these principles and purpose and needs statements into evaluation measures that will be used for comparing and selecting the alternatives in Phase 3?
- Have you reached an agreement with stakeholders/decision makers on these evaluation measures?

Phase 3:

Proceed to step 3.3: Select Alternatives & Determine Next Phase only if you can answer yes to the following questions.

- Have alternatives been considered based on a wide range of measures of success?
- Does the alternatives evaluation process produce easily reproduced results, rather than producing different answers to different users for the same conditions?
- Do the evaluation results yield degrees of success, not just “pass” or “fail”?



DRAFT | January 29, 2013

MULTI-MODAL CORRIDOR PLANNING GUIDEBOOK

District 5
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

IT ALL STARTS WITH ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

Alexander von Humboldt was a 19th Century German naturalist and explorer after whom the Humboldt Current, off the west coast of South America, was named. At one point in his life, Humboldt said: "From my earliest youth I had felt an ardent desire to travel into distant regions, which Europeans had seldom visited." This desire arose, he said, when he felt "an irresistible attraction in the impetuous agitations of the mind." At the age of 29, he traveled to Central and South America on an expedition that lasted five years. With the information that he collected, he compiled a 30-volume chronicle of his travels.

Everything attracted Humboldt's attention—the temperature of the ocean, the fish that lived in it, the plants he found in his path. He climbed mountains, explored rivers, and sailed the oceans. Humboldt's research laid the foundation in several fields of modern science. It all began with his intense curiosity, and his insatiable desire for knowledge that accompanied him throughout his life. In the words of American essayist Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Humboldt was one of those wonders . . . who appear from time to time, as if to show us the possibilities of the human mind, the force and the range of the faculties."

What do we learn from Humboldt? The benefit of asking questions and the wealth of knowledge derived from acquiring the answers. A robust and thorough planning process yields its greatest success when we seek to know and understand what we need to plan for and what endeavor will make us successful.

It has become an unfortunate practice to seek to find a look-up table or generic write-up as if they will adequately and properly address every issue or problem handed to us.

As planners, managers, and decision-makers, we should not fear to use judgment and make bold decisions in our development of responsive, comprehensive and effective transportation plans. Let's never assume nor generalize factors that could lead to inadequate or incorrect conclusions.

This planning guidebook has been prepared to provide an effective approach to accumulating useful data and information needed for stakeholder engagement, problem identification and the development of appropriate transportation solutions. It all starts with asking the right questions.

Ask questions to understand stakeholders' visions, perception of transportation problems, values and desires.

Be curious and ask questions to understand the existing conditions of the entire transportation context. Do not assume or surmise.

Ask questions to learn the conflicts and hot buttons in the community.

Again it all starts with asking questions and can result in effective and successful planning.

- John Philip Moore, EIT
FDOT District 5