

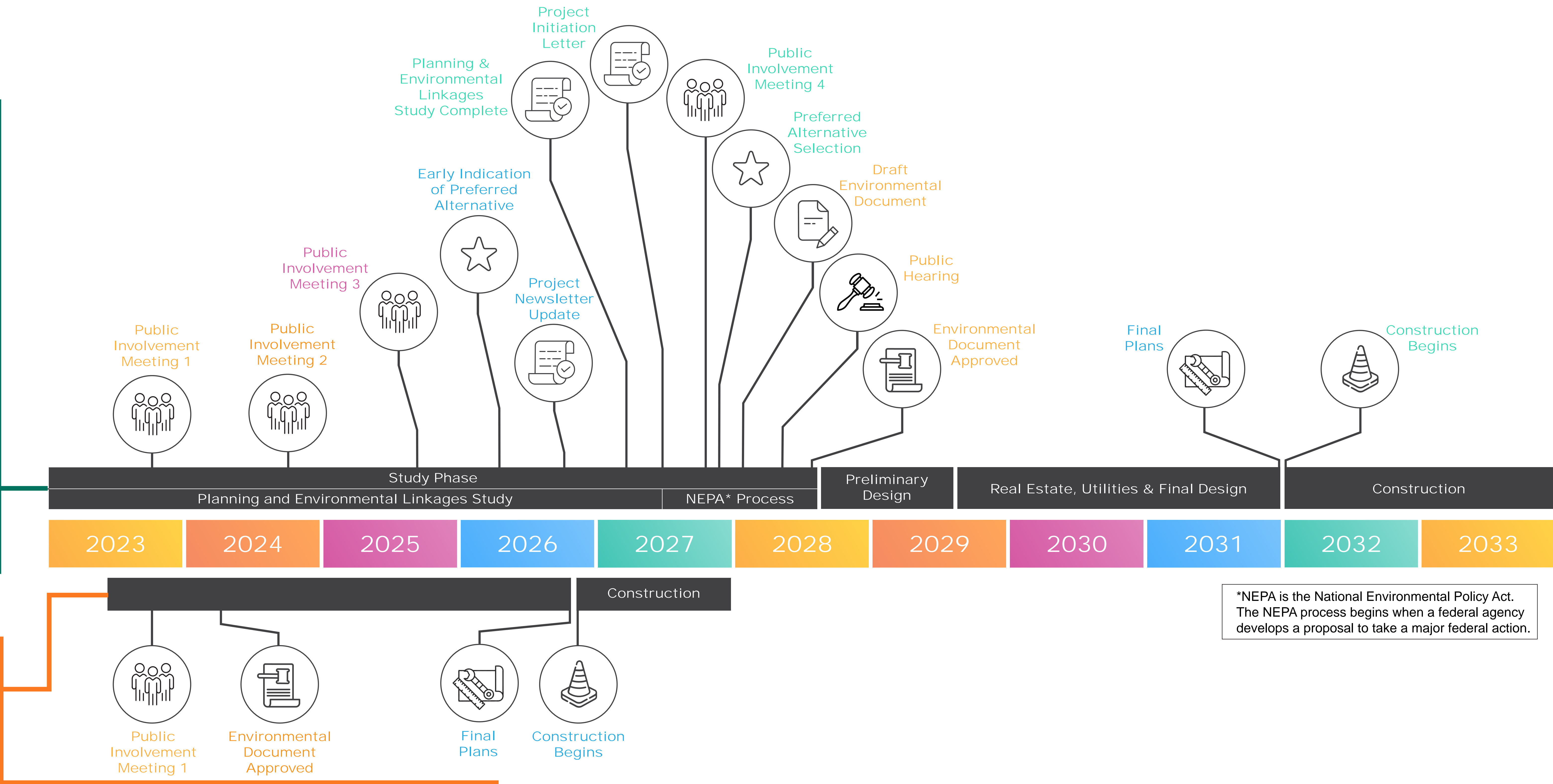
TWO PROJECTS, FOCUSED ON MASON STREET

Donald A. Tillemans Bridge
(WIS 54/Mason Street)
Reconstruction or Replacement Study
PEL (2023-2026)
NEPA (2027-2028)

The study limits include approximately 1.5 miles of Mason Street from 12th Avenue on the west side of the Fox River to Webster Avenue on the east side of the Fox River. It also includes the ramps at S. Broadway, S. Jefferson Street, S. Madison Street, and S. Quincy Street that carry traffic between the elevated portion of Mason Street and the at-grade downtown street network.

This study will consider a wide range of alternatives to address the short-term and long-term needs for the Donald A. Tillemans Bridge and approach infrastructure. The study began in 2023 within the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) framework. Due to the duration of the study and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) updated guidance, WisDOT has elected to evaluate alternatives as part of a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study. This FHWA framework will allow WisDOT to analyze alternatives for community and environmental impacts ahead of the project inclusion in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Work done within the PEL study will streamline the NEPA process planned to begin in 2027.

This process allows for a broad range of funding options for construction of the preferred alternative. The study includes a comprehensive review of alternatives that would address the condition of the infrastructure, review mobility for all users of the corridor, and identify any areas of concern for project improvements.



2027 Donald A. Tillemans Bridge
Rehabilitation Project

The study limits are restricted to the operable (bascule) bridge at the Fox River.

The purpose of this project is to preserve the long-term operation of the bridge and to address structural deterioration in advance of the larger study project being constructed. Since the larger study project will not determine a preferred alternative until 2026; WisDOT has identified needed maintenance items that are planned to occur in advance of the larger project. Currently, the planned improvements include:

- Structural Elements
 - Replace steel grid deck with a new steel grid deck (in kind, or with same).
 - Replace corroded steel center median barrier and stringers on bascule span in kind.
 - The bascule span structural steel would be cleaned and painted to prolong its life and prevent further deterioration.
 - Existing bird proofing/netting within the bascule piers would need to be removed to allow cleaning and painting. A new bird proofing system would be installed after painting is complete.
 - Portions of the existing timber fender system which are rotted, missing, or deteriorated would be replaced with new timber fenders.
 - Missing rubber bumpers on dolphins would be replaced in kind. Dolphins would be cleaned and painted.
 - The deteriorated areas of concrete on the bascule piers would be repaired by removing the bad concrete, cleaning the reinforcing steel, and placing new concrete on the surface.
 - A full concrete overlay would be provided on the decks directly over the operating machinery to extend its life and address cracking and patching that has occurred.
 - Miscellaneous additional repairs would occur including replacement of the compression joint seals.
- Mechanical & Electrical Elements
 - Rehabilitate center lock gearbox.
 - Install electrical heat tracing.

The final scope of work for this project will be influenced by the findings of the Reconstruction or Replacement Study and the identification of a preferred alternative.

