

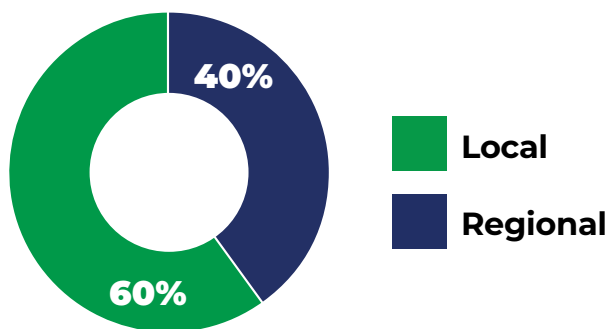
APRIL 2022 STUDY UPDATES

State College Area Connector Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL) Study Open House Public Meeting

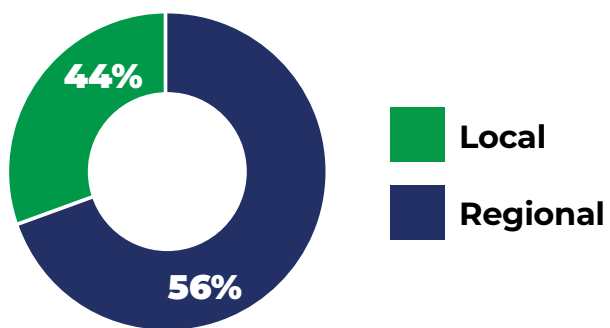
Meeting Purpose: to provide an update on the PEL Study environmental data collection efforts, traffic analyses, and Build Alternative corridor refinements that have occurred since the Sept. 2021 open house meetings.

Traffic Update: PennDOT refined the traffic analysis to better understand how traffic moves throughout the study area.

The study confirmed that passenger and truck vehicles have different travel patterns, and a solution is needed for both modes. Since passenger vehicles predominately travel locally, trucks tend to make more regional trips.



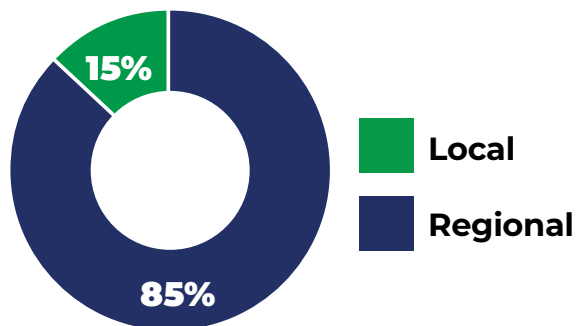
Eastbound trips by all vehicle types



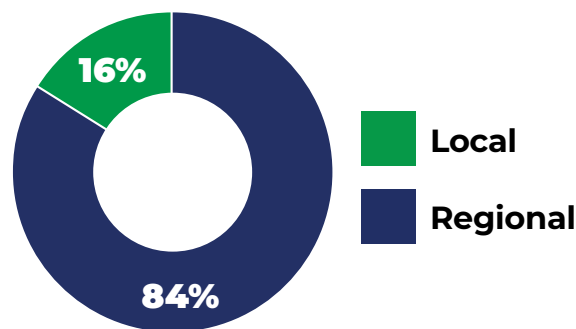
Westbound trips by all vehicle types

- *Regional trips* = Starting and ending point of the trip occurred outside of the study area.
- *Local trips* = The beginning or endpoint of the trip was within the study area.

For both scenarios, the State College area was the origin or destination for nearly **50%** of all trips.



Eastbound trips by all truck types

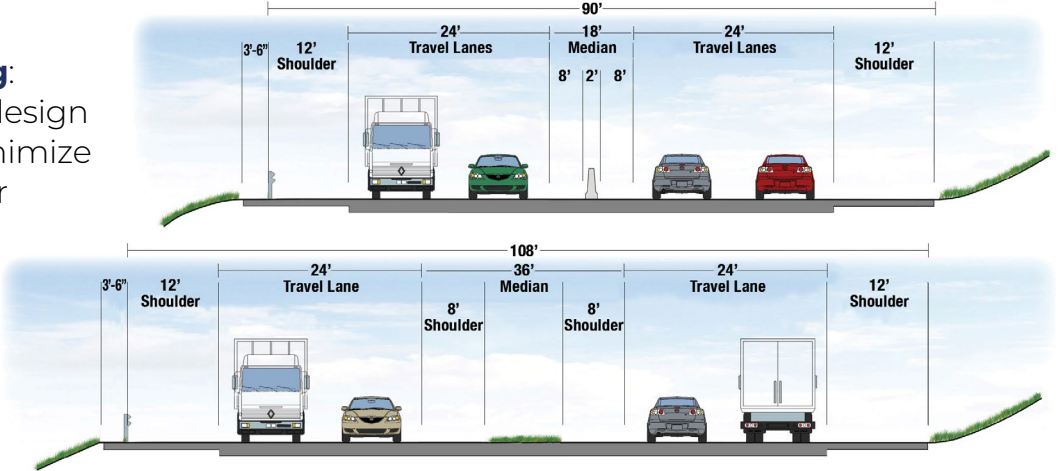


Westbound trips by all truck types

Northwest PA or beyond was the destination or origin for nearly **50%** of all truck trips.

Alternatives & Engineering:

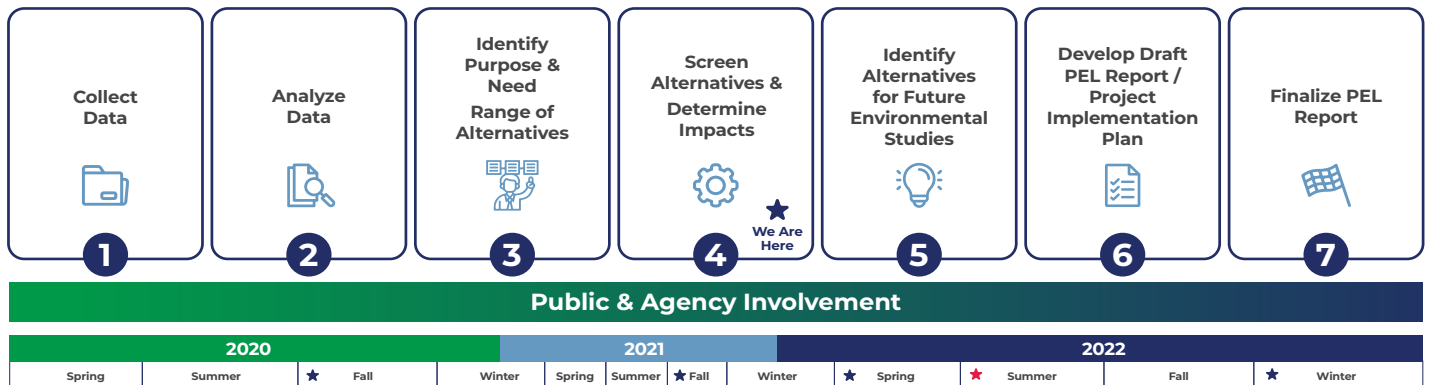
Planning and engineering design criteria were updated to minimize the corridor footprint further reducing potential impacts to area resources. Key changes include reducing the median width (space between travel lanes) to 18 or 36 feet depending on local land uses or topography, lowering the anticipated design speed and allowing for steeper slopes in rock cut areas. For the US 322 Build Alternative corridors, an alternative that follows existing US 322 for approximately 2.5 miles was developed at the corridor's east end. All changes to the proposed Build Alternative corridors can be viewed on the open house meeting displays.



Environmental & Mapping Update: Many of the environmental resource datasets were updated, based on windshield surveys, drone footage, and local outreach to supplement aerial imagery until newer aerial mapping is available in the spring/summer 2022.

The team is maintaining all the datasets, which can be viewed on the study webmap at www.PennDOT.pa.gov/SCAC.

State College Area Connector PEL Process



Next Steps in this PEL Study:

PennDOT will consider comments from the April 2022 Public Open House Meetings and work with the Federal Highway Administration to identify the Build Alternative corridors to advance for detailed environmental investigation and preliminary engineering. The results of the PEL Study will be documented and circulated for public review in the summer of 2022.

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