



What is a Project Problem Statement?

A concise narrative, prepared at the beginning of the project, defining the fundamental situation or circumstances to be solved. A problem statement will generally describe a particular situation in which an expected level of performance is not being achieved, and will list one or more important factors which cause or contribute to the unacceptable performance.

What was used to draft the Problem Statement?

The I-290 problem statement was prepared to concisely describe the issues, concerns, goals, and objectives from the Corridor Advisory Group /Task Force Group meeting on October 14, 2009, the November 18, 2009 Public Meeting, and all (including the website) stakeholder comments through December 4, 2009.

I-290 Problem Statement

The I-290 study area is a multimodal corridor with a complex network of roadway, public transit, freight railroad, and non-motorized facilities and services that is a critical component of the local and regional transportation system. Improved mobility, modal options, connectivity (north-south and east-west), and integration of transportation and land use are desired to support urban reinvestment, access to jobs, livable communities, and physical community cohesion. Study area roadway related issues include traffic congestion on the Eisenhower Expressway and arterial roads, infrastructure condition, safety, truck traffic, and the resultant noise and air pollution. Public transit related issues include lack of modal choices, connectivity, reverse commute options, access, speed of service, and infrastructure condition. Improved connectivity, accessibility, safety, and suitability of pedestrian and bicycle facilities are study area non-motorized transportation related issues.

The existing built environment presents significant challenges in improving the corridor's transportation elements. Sustainable solutions to transportation problems need to be developed, while avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating impacts to the surrounding environment, including disproportionate social and economic effects on minority and low-income populations. These solutions need to be cost-effective and may require substantial funding. The solutions also need to be coordinated with all modes, promote economic development, and be integrated with community land use plans. Stakeholder participation in arriving at workable and effective solutions is a fundamental part of the process.