

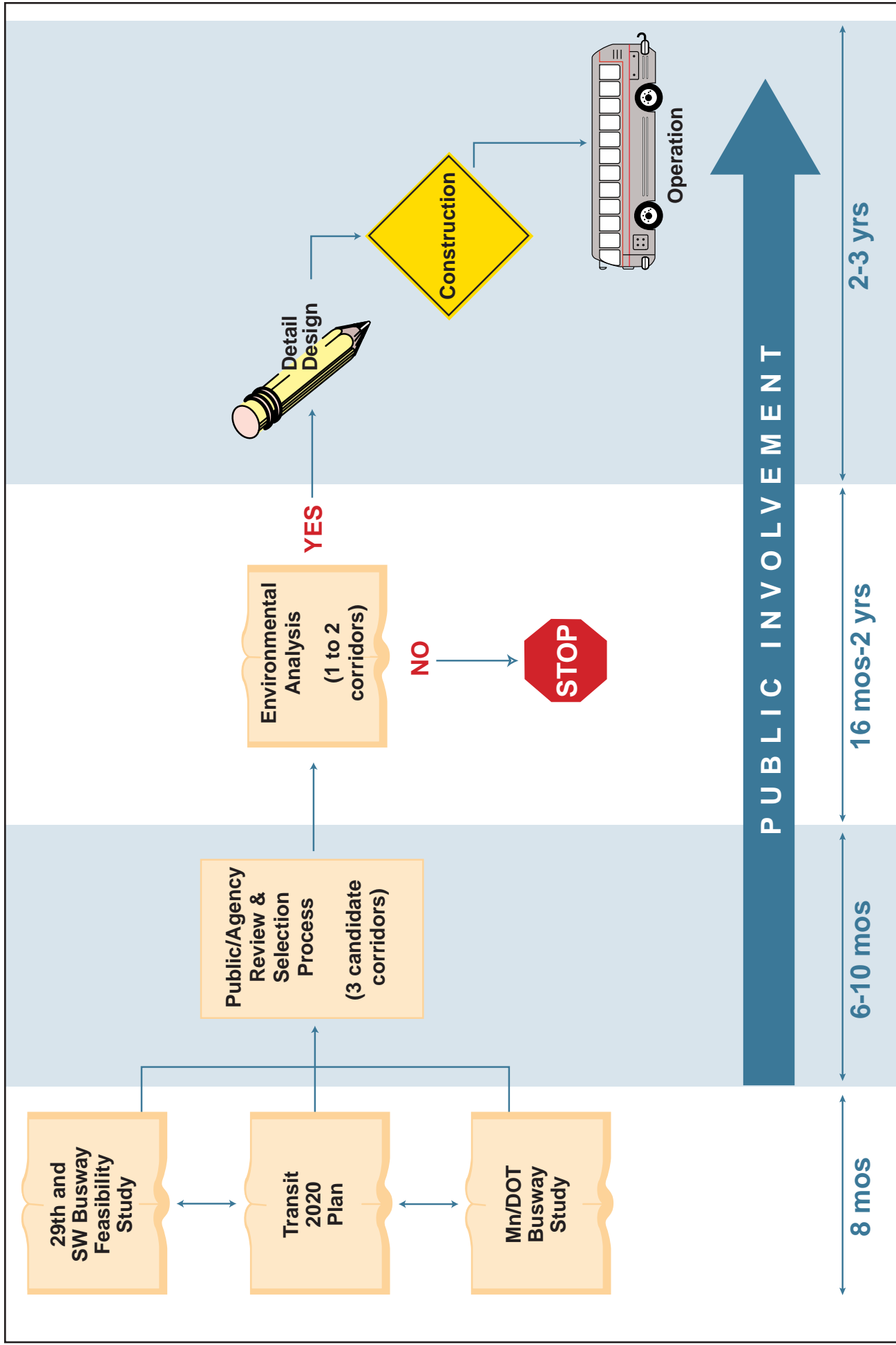


## VIII – NEXT STEPS

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As illustrated in Figure 14, this busway feasibility study is only the first step in the 29th Street and Southwest Corridors transit planning process. The next step will be a process of agency and public review to determine which of three corridors in the region (one of them being the 29th Street and Southwest Corridors) moves forward into the environmental review process. This effort will be led by the Metropolitan Council in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Transportation, affected cities and counties and the general public.

Following the process for agency and public review, the next step will be to initiate an environmental analysis, most likely either an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement, based on state and federal environmental review criteria. Alternatives analyzed are likely to include busway and LRT and will be identified during the agency and public review process. The environmental analysis will focus on identifying, analyzing and recommending mitigating strategies for any environmental impacts directly arising from project implementation. Depending on the conclusions of the environmental analysis, subsequent steps in the transit planning process carry forward with project design and construction and, finally, system operation.



**FIGURE 14**

**BUSWAY PLANNING PROCESS**