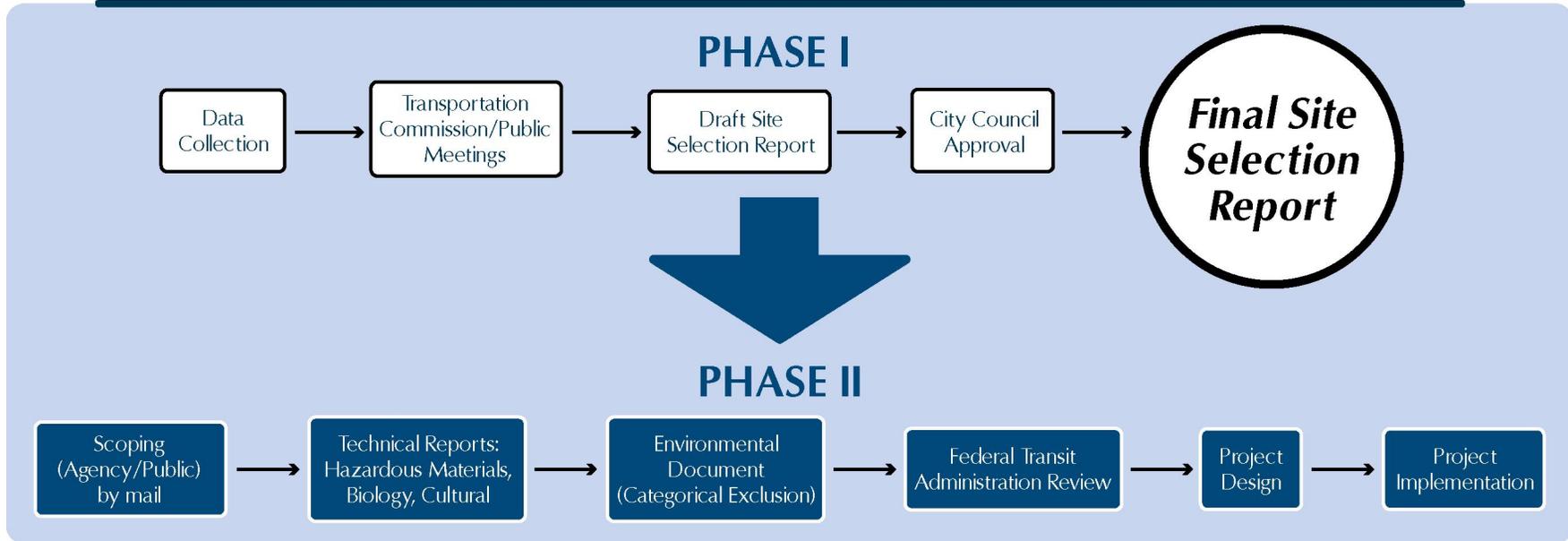


CHANDLER REGIONAL PARK AND RIDE

Project Number ST0501-201

Environmental Process



In 2000, the Maricopa Association of Governments initiated a regional park and ride site selection process that resulted in the identification of a need for a location in Chandler to serve Express Bus patrons and commuters who carpool. Funding for the construction of a regional park and ride lot in Chandler was included in Proposition 400 and, since its passage, the City has hired an engineering consulting firm to facilitate the site selection process.

The consultant identified five feasible locations. An initial evaluation of all five potential park and ride sites was conducted. The criteria used to evaluate each site included land use compatibility, opportunity for joint use, connectivity to local transit routes, freeway proximity, ease of access, community/neighborhood concerns, and environmental impacts. After the initial evaluation, three sites (Site Numbers 2, 3, and 4) were further evaluated.

After a public meeting, presentations to the Chandler Transportation Commission, and approval of the Chandler City Council, Site Number 2—a 9-acre site within a 25-acre parcel located south of Germann Road and east of the Union Pacific Railroad tracks—was selected.

The Final Site Selection Report is currently being completed and will conclude Phase I. In Phase II, agency and public scoping letters will be distributed by mail to solicit comments regarding this project. Technical analysis of hazardous materials, and biological and cultural resources will be completed, and a categorical exclusion (which will document any unique environmental circumstances and requirements) will be prepared.

After the Federal Transit Administration approves the environmental document, the project will move into final design and project implementation.