#### **USMCA Tijuana River Watershed**

#### **Public Information Meeting**

Date & Time: May 24, 2021, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm PT (4:00 -6:00 pm ET)

**Goal:** Provide an overview of grouping major projects into alternative packages and the method for evaluating alternatives.

Time	Agenda Topic	Lead  Andrew Sawyers, Director of the EPA Office of Wastewater Management	
1:00-1:10pm	Welcome and Overview		
1:10-1:20pm	<ul> <li>Part 1: Updates</li> <li>USMCA project updates</li> <li>Address recent transboundary flows - IBWC</li> <li>Objective: Provide an overview and progress update on the USMCA process and address recent transboundary flows.</li> </ul>	Doug Eberhardt, Manager- Water Infrastructure Section, EPA Region 9	
1:20-1:45pm	Part 2: Grouping Projects into Alternatives  Objective: Review approach to group major projects into alternatives.  • Alternatives development approach • Demonstration of alternatives	Doug Eberhardt, Manager- Water Infrastructure Section, EPA Region 9	
1:45-2:15pm	Part 3: Method for Evaluating Alternatives  Objective: Provide an overview of the upcoming evaluation method.	Sarah Shadid, Ross Strategic	
2:15-2:20pm	Next Steps & Upcoming Milestones	Doug Eberhardt, Manager- Water Infrastructure Section, EPA Region 9	
2:20-2:55pm	Question and Answer Session	Jake Strickler, EPA Office of General Counsel's Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center	
2:55-3:00pm	EPA Closing Remarks	Andrew Sawyers, Director of the EPA Office of Wastewater Management	



### **USMCA Tijuana River Watershed**

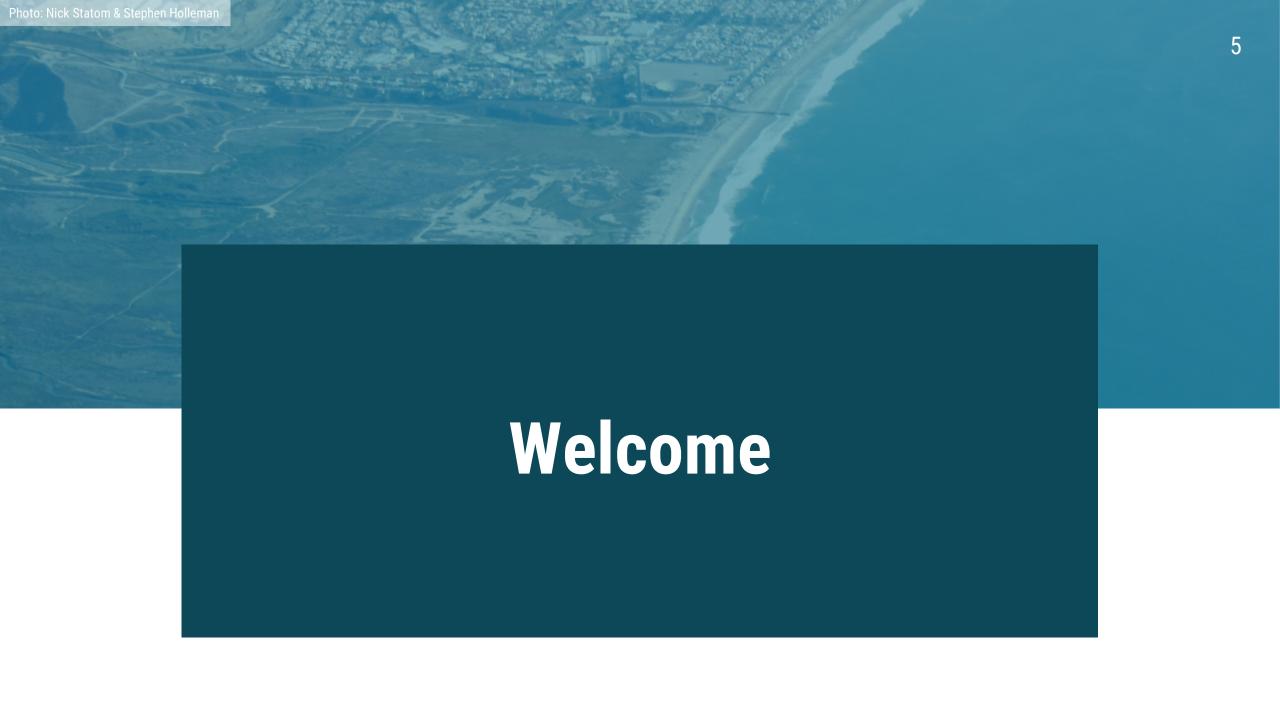
#### **Public Information Meeting**

Virtual Meeting: May 24, 2021



## **Today's Agenda**

- Part 1: Updates
  - USMCA project updates
  - Addressing recent transboundary flows
- Part 2: Grouping Projects into Alternatives
  - Alternatives development approach
  - Demonstration of alternatives
- Part 3: Method for Evaluating Alternatives
  - Overview
- Next Steps & Upcoming Milestones
- Questions & Answers



# **Part 1: USMCA Process**

**Overview & Updates** 

Doug Eberhardt, EPA Region 9

# **USMCA Project Development Updates**

- Initial Feasibility Analysis: Completed
  - Provided overview to stakeholders / Received Input & feedback
  - Carried forward 9 technically feasible projects
- NEPA: In-Process
  - Public scoping meeting held April 20; comment period ended on May 20
  - Field surveys
  - Introductory meetings with cross-cutting Agencies
- Additional Feasibility Analysis
  - Based on stakeholder feedback, conducting additional targeted analyses of specific projects (e.g., U.S. Side River Diversion and Treatment)
- Expected decision on preferred alternative(s): July-August 2021



### CILA Pump Station Tijuana, MX

EPA Public Meeting USMCA May 24, 2021

Morgan Rogers, P.E.
Area Operations Manager
San Diego Field Office
IBWC - U.S. Section





**CILA Pump Station** 



History

Commissioned in 1991

- Owned and operated by CESPT (TJ sewer services provider)
- Constructed to capture low-volume non-stormwater releases into the TJ River and prevent non-stormwater transboundary flows
- Diverts flows to the SBIWTP and SABTP
- Initial design capacity 10 MGD (million gallons/day) (500 l/sec)

#### Modifications 2012

- Modifications due to increased non-stormwater flows into the TJ River
- Pump station capacity increased to 20 MGD (1,000 l/sec)



#### **Current Improvements**

- Ownership and operations transferred to CILA (Mexican Section IBWC) in 2020
- Improved pump station management and coordination with IBWC
- All pumps new or refurbished for greater system reliability
- Addition of trash and grit removal to prevent clogged system and
  - reduce maintenance
- Electrical upgrades
- SCADA control system installed
- 24-Hour on-site operators
- Increased capacity to 30 MGD















For additional information, contact:

Morgan Rogers, P.E.

Area Operations Manager

San Diego Field Office

IBWC - U.S. Section

(619) 662-7601 Morgan.Rogers@ibwc.gov

# Part 2: Grouping Projects into Alternatives

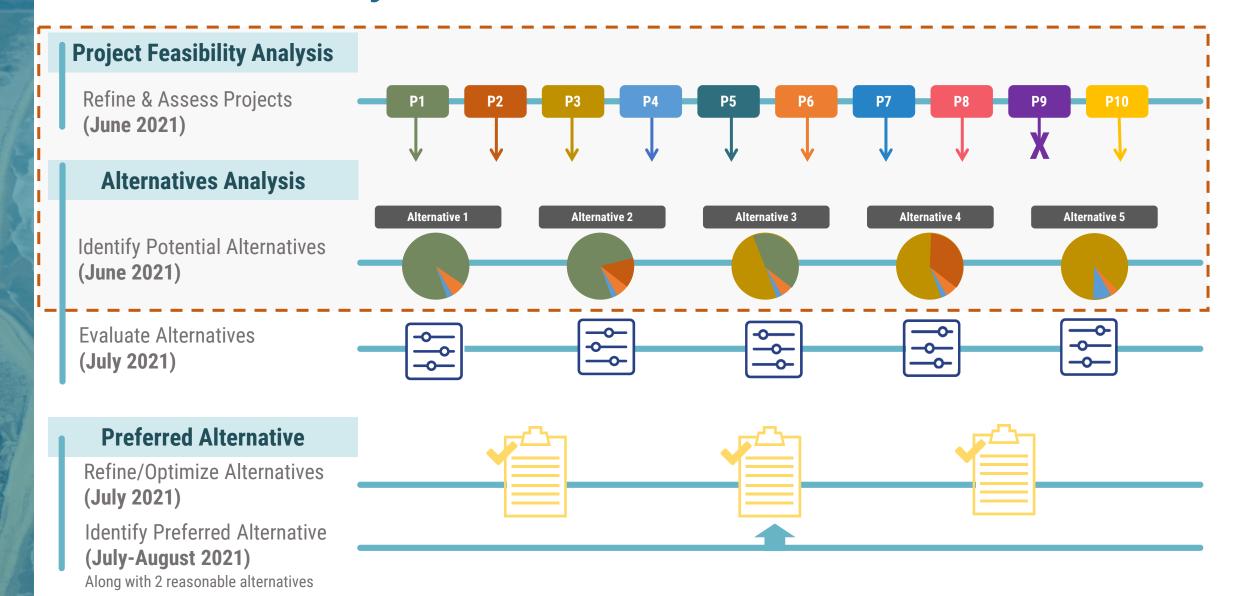
**Overview & Discussion** 

Doug Eberhardt, EPA Region 9

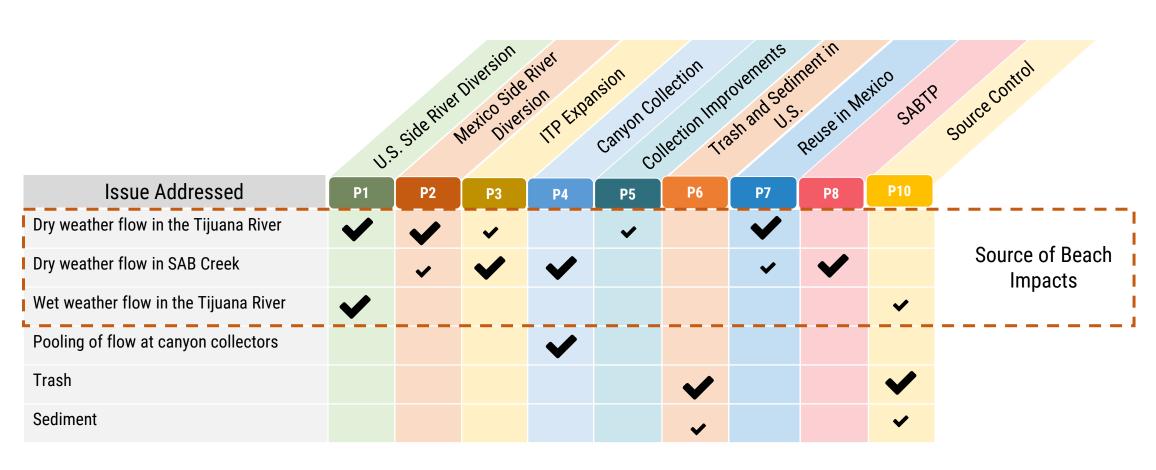
# **Potential Projects**



# **Technical Analysis: Process Overview**



# **Potential Projects and Issues Addressed**

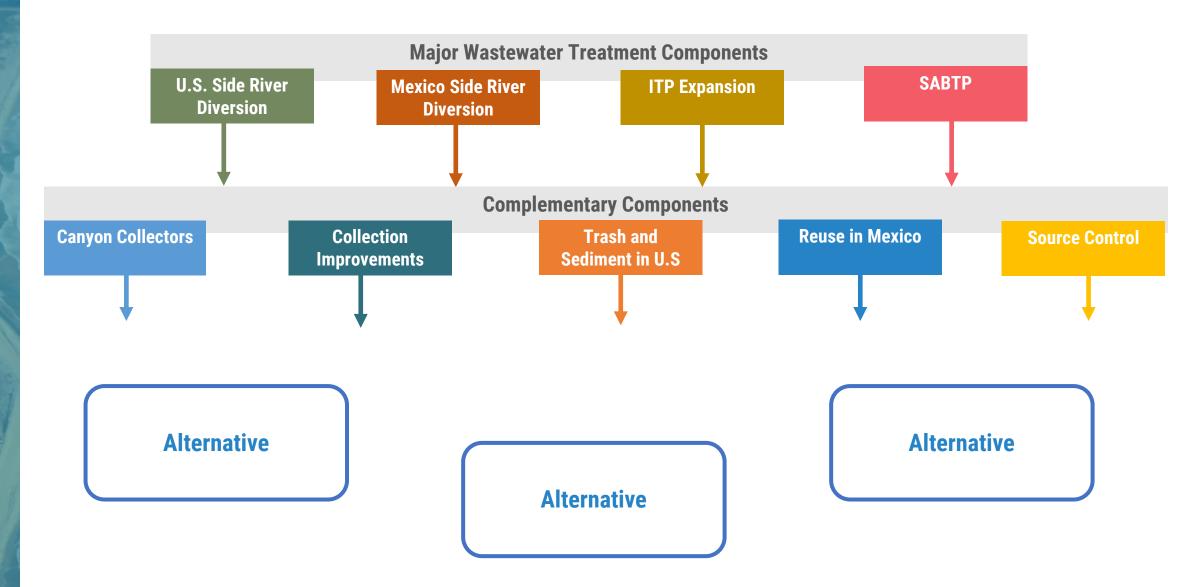


- Substantially Addresses
  - Moderately Addresses

# **Alternatives: Development Approach**

- An alternative is a grouping of one or more components from different projects
- Considering every potential alternative involving major wastewater treatment components
- Complementary components also included (e.g., trash capture booms)
- Feasibility, cost, and location assumptions:
  - Technically feasible
  - Most of USMCA funding to go to U.S. side solutions
  - May use BWIP funds for additional Mexico-side projects

# **Alternatives: Development Approach**



#### **Demonstration Alternatives**

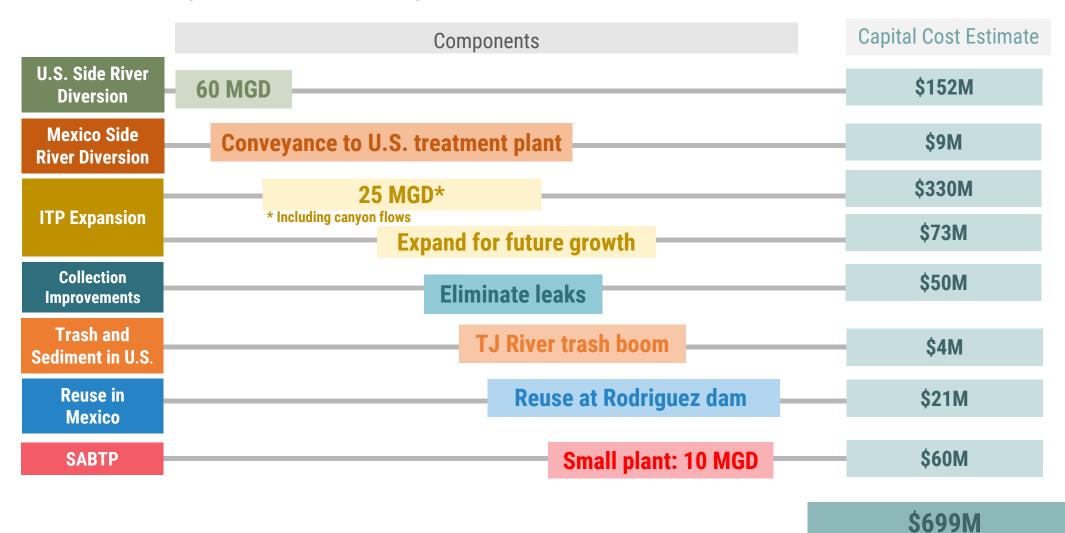
Included for today's demonstration only.





# **Comprehensive Alternative Example**

Included for today's demonstration only.



# Part 3: Method for Evaluating Alternatives

**Overview & Discussion** 

Sarah Shadid, Ross Strategic

# **Technical Analysis: Process Overview**

# Project Feasibility Analysis Refine & Assess Projects (June 2021) Alternatives Analysis Identify Potential Alternatives (June 2021) Alternative 1 Alternative 2 Alternative 3 Alternative 4 Alternative 5 (June 2021)

#### **Preferred Alternative**

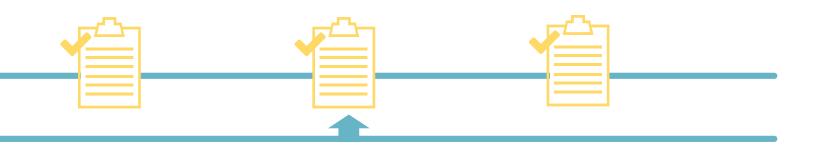
**Evaluate Alternatives** 

(July 2021)

Refine/Optimize Alternatives (July 2021)

Identify Preferred Alternative (July-August 2021)

Along with 2 reasonable alternatives



# **Method for Evaluating Alternatives**

- 1. Ground the evaluation in the USMCA Investment Goals
- 2. Identify the importance of each goal relative to the others
- 3. Refine big picture goals to measurable metrics
- 4. Create a basis for comparison across metrics
- 5. Score alternatives against metrics for composite score

# **USMCA Project Investment Goals**

Public Health & Community Livability

Stewardship of Public Resources

Ecological Protection

System Resiliency

Public
Health &
Community
Livability

Stewardship of Public Resources

**Ecological Protection** 

System Resiliency

### **Method for Evaluating Alternatives**

- 1. Ground the evaluation in the USMCA Investment Goals
  - Based on the initial criteria list presented to EPECG Oct 16
  - Operationalized with information gathered from:
    - Feasibility Assessments
    - EPECG Members
    - Public Meeting Discussions
    - Technical Experts
    - Previous Studies/Research

# **Method for Evaluating Alternatives**

- 1. Ground the evaluation in the USMCA Investment Goals
- 2. Identify the importance of each goal relative to the others
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# What is the importance of each goal relative to the others?

Public Health & Community Livability

**Ecological Protection** 

**Stewardship of Public Resources** 

System Resiliency

# **Method for Evaluating Alternatives**

- 1. Ground the evaluation in the USMCA Investment Goals
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# How will each investment be evaluated against the goals?

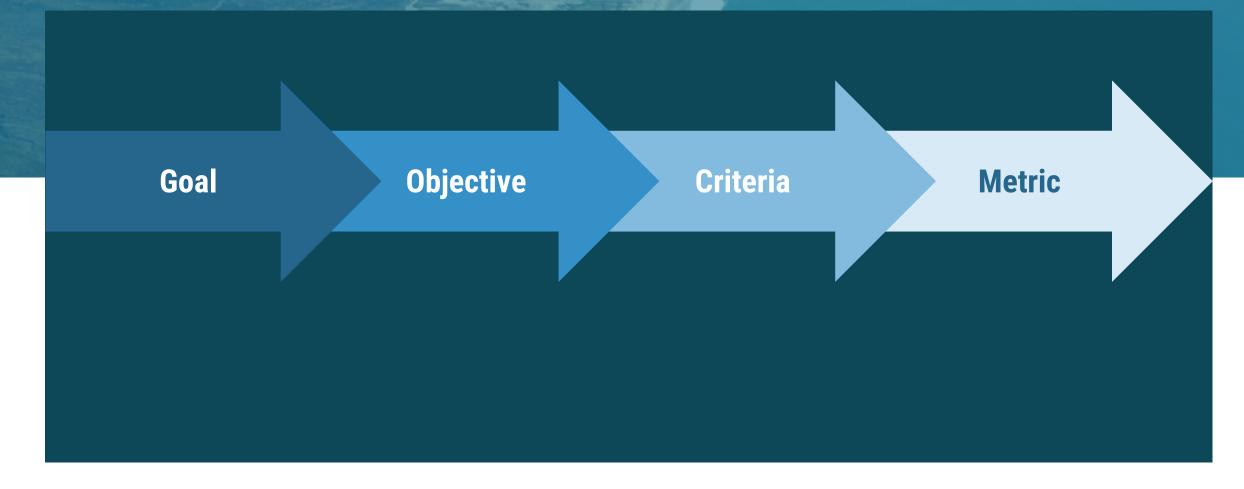
Public Health & Community Livability

Stewardship of Public Resources

**Ecological Protection** 

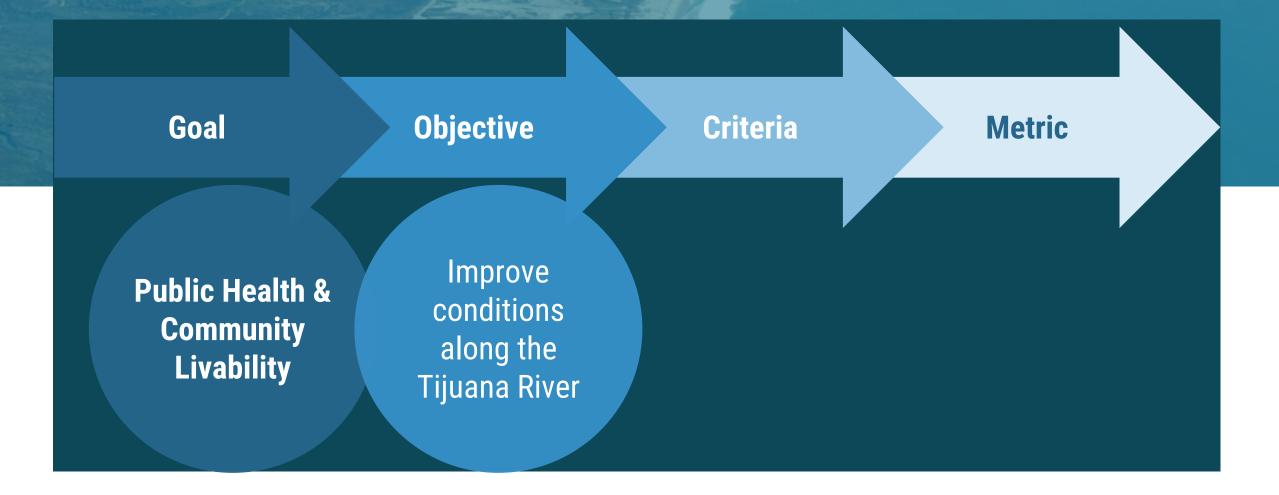
System Resiliency

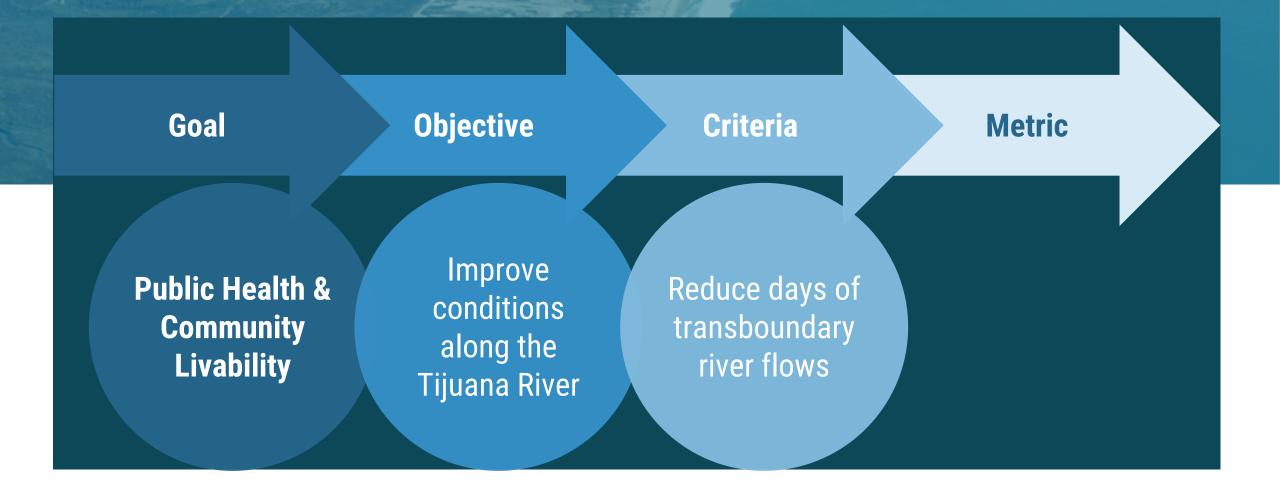
# How will each investment be evaluated against the goals?



Goal Objective Criteria Metric

Public Health & Community Livability





Goal **Objective** Criteria Metric Percent change **Improve Public Health &** Reduce days of in days of conditions transboundary **Community** transboundary along the Livability river flows river flows Tijuana River (annual)

# Each goal may have multiple objectives, criteria, and metrics

Public Health & Community Livability

Improve conditions along the Tijuana River

Improve water quality at U.S. beaches

#### **Alternatives Evaluation Process**

- 1. Ground the evaluation in the USMCA Investment Goals
- 2. Identify the importance of each goal relative to the others
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# A basis for comparison across metrics

Goal	Objective	Criteria	Metric
Public Health & Community	Improve conditions along the Tijuana	Reduce days of transboundary river	% change in days of transboundary river
Livability	River	flows	flows

<b>-5 -4 -3 -2 -1</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5
	0-20% reduction in days of transboundary river flows.	20-34% reduction in days of transboundary river flows.	35-49% reduction in days of transboundary river flows.	50-64% reduction in days of transboundary river flows.	65-79% reduction in days of transboundary river flows.	80-100% reduction in days of transboundary river flows.

Baseline Condition

Highest Possible Outcome

#### **Alternatives Evaluation Process**

- 1. Ground the evaluation in the USMCA Investment Goals
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Example Performance

# A basis for comparison across metrics

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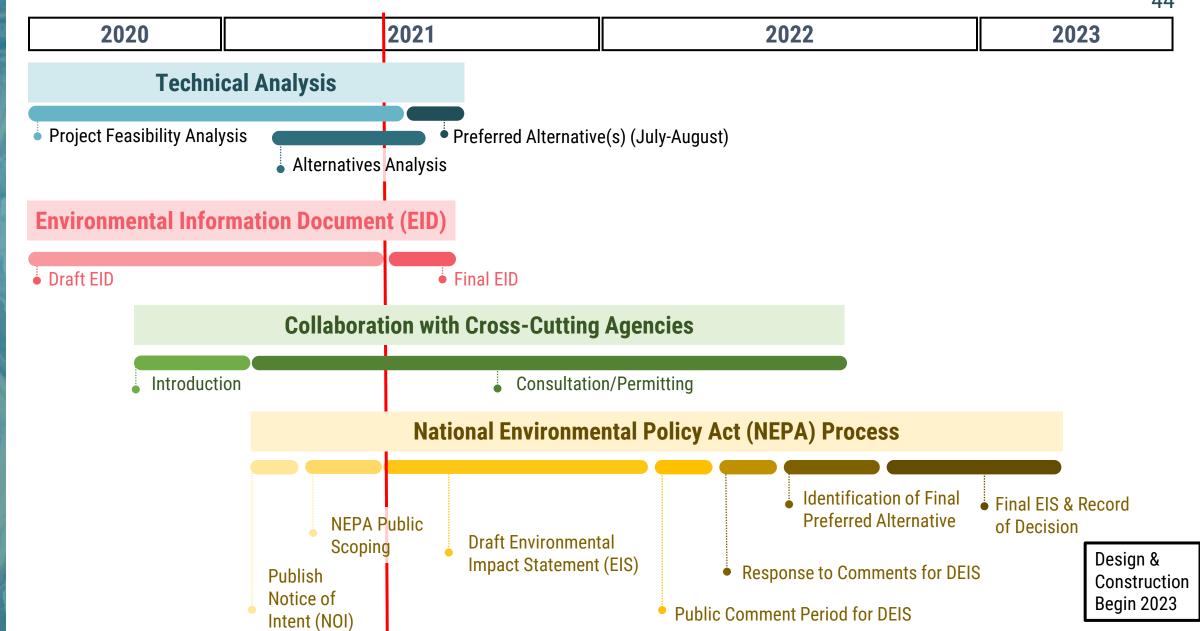
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Next Ste	Next Step: Evaluate Alternatives		
Example Alternative A	2		
Example Alternative B	1		
Example Alternative C	5		

# **Next Steps & Upcoming Milestones**

Doug Eberhardt, EPA Region 9

#### **USMCA Process: Overview**



# **Upcoming Milestones**

- Finalize Additional Targeted Analyses of Specific Projects Per Stakeholder Feedback
- Score and Select Preferred Alternatives
- Prepare Draft Environmental Impact Statement