The Louisiana Highway Project Delivery Process

This seven-stage project delivery system takes an integrated, multi-disciplinary team approach to managing and delivering projects, streamlining an often complex process. Project managers are responsible for a given project from "cradle to grave" and project timetables reflect project delivery dates, rather than the more unpredictable bid letting date, to more accurately represent project schedules.

**Stage 0: Feasibility Study**
- **TYPICAL ACTIVITIES**
  - Develop preliminary purpose and need for project
  - Examine technical feasibility
  - Conduct preliminary scan to identify potential impacts to the human & natural environment
  - Develop preliminary scope and budget
- **TIME REQUIRED**
  - Typically one year for major projects
  - Very large or highly complex projects may require several years to properly evaluate
- **OUTCOME**
  - Go / No Go decision

**Stage 1: Planning / Environmental**
- **TYPICAL ACTIVITIES**
  - Develop alternative corridors/alignment
  - Conduct public meetings and hearings
  - Document impacts to both the human and natural environment
  - Select preferred alternatives
  - Identify mitigation for environment impacts
  - Develop project scope
  - Develop project budget
- **TIME REQUIRED**
  - Typically 1 to 2 years for major projects
  - Very large or highly complex projects may require 3 years or longer
- **OUTCOME**
  - Conceptual design and environmental decision, scope and budget memorandum

**Stage 2: Funding**
- **TYPICAL ACTIVITIES**
  - Identify funding for design and construction
  - Establish project delivery date
- **TIME REQUIRED**
  - Indefinite period
  - Funds for a project are dependent on appropriation of State and/or Federal funds
- **OUTCOME**
  - Financial Plan

**Stage 3: Final Design**
- **TYPICAL ACTIVITIES**
  - Develop final plans, specifications, and estimates
  - Obtain any required Federal or railroad permits or agreements
  - Acquire right-of-way
  - Obtain utility relocation agreements
  - Develop traffic management plan and procedures
- **TIME REQUIRED**
  - Typically 1 to 3 years for major projects
  - Very large or highly complex projects may require more than 3 years
- **OUTCOME**
  - Delivery of R/W, utility agreements, and final construction documents

**Stage 4: Letting**
- **TYPICAL ACTIVITIES**
  - Establish letting date
  - Determine construction period
  - Prepare contract
  - Develop public information plan
  - Conduct bid letting
  - Award the contract
- **TIME REQUIRED**
  - Typically 1 year for major projects
- **OUTCOME**
  - Project scheduled, bids received, contract awarded

**Stage 5: Construction**
- **TYPICAL ACTIVITIES**
  - Construction process continues until project is completed
  - Implement Public Information Plan
  - Implement Traffic Management Plan
  - Follow through on environmental mitigation
- **TIME REQUIRED**
  - Typically 1 to 3 years for major projects
  - Completion of the construction process is dependent on many variables such as complexity, location, and weather
- **OUTCOME**
  - Construct and open to use

**Stage 6: Operation**
- **TYPICAL ACTIVITIES**
  - Dispose of excess right-of-way
  - Comply with environmental monitoring and commitments
  - Document new utilities
  - Monitor materials performance and warranties
  - Evaluate project for ease of maintenance and for smooth traffic operations
- **TIME REQUIRED**
  - Indefinite period
- **OUTCOME**
  - Operate, evaluate performance, and maintain