

ELIZABETH LINE (Crossrail)

A strategic recommendation-focused presentation, supported by tools and a tailored project management plan.

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Agenda

01	Project Brief
02	WBS Analysis – Identifying Problem zones
03	Problem Diagnosis
04	Solution Tools and Frameworks
05	Methodology Alignment
06	Conclusion

Project Brief

Crossrail is one of Europe's largest railway infrastructure projects, aimed at improving rail capacity, connectivity, and travel times across London. The project involved the construction of 42 km of new tunnels and the integration of new and existing rail systems to deliver the Elizabeth Line

Our Focus

Implementation phase

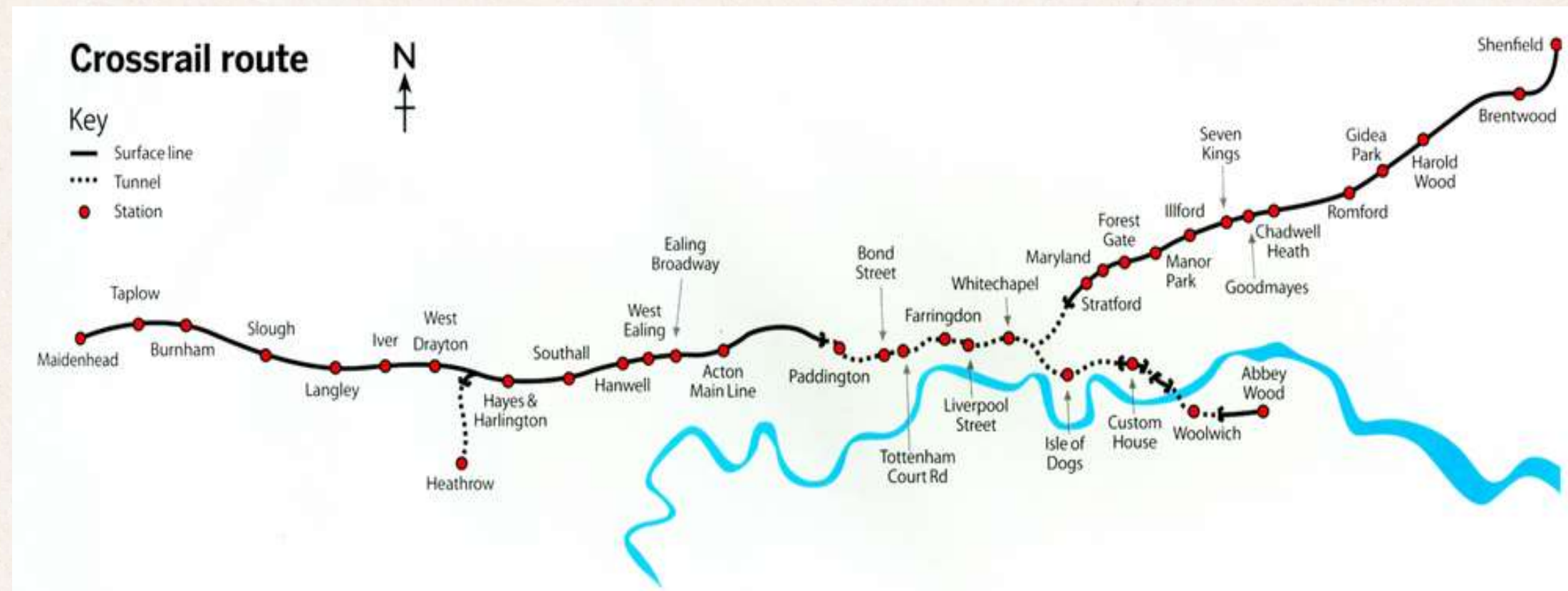
- 💰 Cost overruns
- 🕒 Time delays
- ⚙️ Coordination gaps

Project Goals

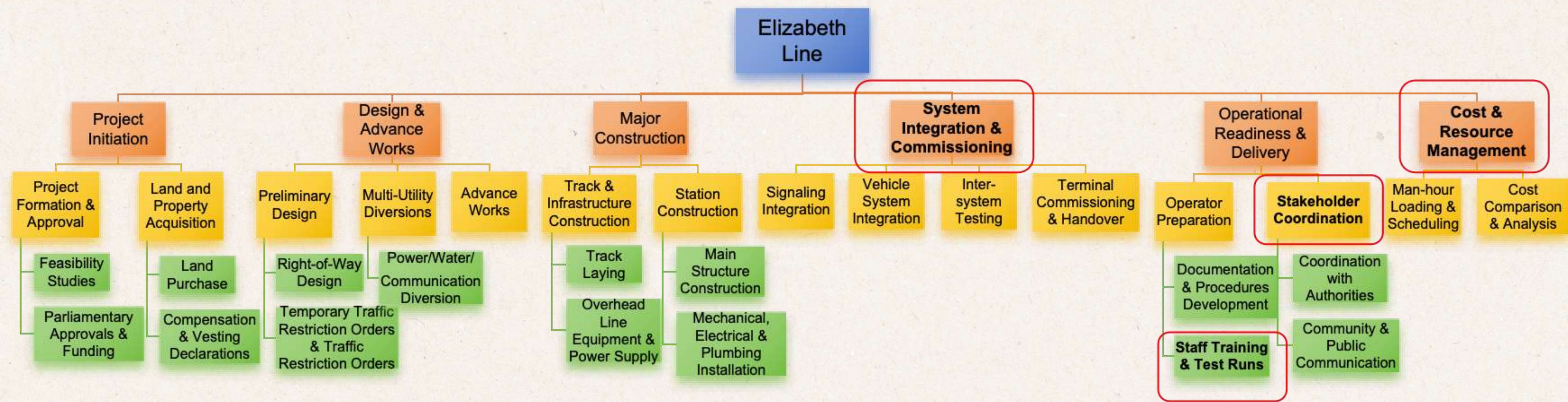
1. Deliver a safe and reliable high-capacity rail service connecting East and West London.
2. Complete infrastructure-signaling and software integration across the entire line.
3. Launch operations in line with approved timelines and Budgets.
4. Ensure seamless collaboration among multiple contractors and agencies

Deliverables

1. New tunnels and upgraded stations across London.
2. Fully commissioned signaling and train control systems.
3. successfully tested and operational Elizabeth Line.
4. Comprehensive safety and reliability certification



Work Breakdown Analysis – Where Did It Go Wrong?



High-Risk Problem Areas

PROBLEM DIAGNOSIS

---What should be improved

1. Risk Register

Risk ID	Risk Description	Category	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Level	Mitigation Strategy	Owner
R-001	Integration failures between multiple signalling systems (ERTMS, CENELEC standards)	Technical	High	High	Critical	Establish a centralized integration team; conduct joint testing	Systems Integration Lead
R-002	Delays in software development and testing for train control system	Technical	High	High	Critical	Implement agile development; increase testing frequency	Software Development Manager
R-003	Inadequate coordination among contractors causing schedule overruns	Organizational	High	High	Critical	Appoint a dedicated coordinator; hold regular coordination meetings	Project Coordination Manager
R-004	Shortage of skilled labor affecting construction timelines	Human Resources	Medium	High	High	Develop training programs; hire specialized contractors	HR Manager
R-005	Supply chain disruptions leading to material shortages	Supply Chain	Medium	High	High	Diversify supplier base; maintain inventory buffers	Supply Chain Manager
R-006	Safety incidents during construction causing work stoppages	Health & Safety	Low	High	Medium	Enforce strict safety protocols; conduct safety audits	Safety Officer
R-007	Regulatory changes impacting project compliance requirements	Regulatory	Low	Medium	Medium	Stay updated with regulatory changes; consult legal counsel	Compliance Officer
R-008	Public opposition due to environmental concerns delaying project approval	External Stakeholder	Low	Medium	Medium	Engage in community outreach; address concerns proactively	Community Relations Manager
R-009	Financial constraints leading to budget overruns	Financial	Medium	High	High	Implement strict budget control; optimize resource allocation	Finance Manager
R-010	Cybersecurity threats to project management and control systems	Technological	Low	High	Medium	Deploy robust cybersecurity measures; conduct regular audits	IT Security Manager

- Tools Referenced:**
- Risk Register (High-priority risks)
 - Stakeholder Register (Misalignment shown in strategy mismatch)
 - SWOT Analysis

2. Stakeholder Register

Stakeholder	Role	Power	Interest	Engagement Strategy	Notes	Engagement Method	Frequency
Department for Transport (DfT)	Sponsor / Driver	High	High	Manage Closely	Provides funding, policy oversight	Steering committee updates, high-level reports	Bi-weekly
Transport for London (TfL)	Operator / Driver	High	High	Manage Closely	Will operate the line post-handover	Daily briefings, integration workshops	Daily
Crossrail Ltd Board	Strategic Oversight	High	Medium	Keep Satisfied	Governance and assurance	Monthly reporting, milestone dashboards	Monthly
Network Rail	Contributor	Medium	Medium	Keep Satisfied	Integration with UK rail network	Technical coordination meetings	Weekly
Contractors (Siemens, Alstom, Bombardier)	Contractors	Medium	High	Keep Informed	Delivery of signaling, trains, and systems	Task tracking, agile board sharing	Weekly
MTR Elizabeth Line	Operator	Medium	Medium	Keep Informed	Day-to-day operations post-launch	Transition planning sessions	Bi-weekly
Local Councils	Informed Stakeholder	Low	Medium	Monitor	Engage with local communities and issues	Community newsletters, local meetings	Monthly
London Commuters	End Users	Low	High	Keep Informed	Main beneficiaries; affected by delays	Public announcements, service alerts	As Needed
Media/Public	Observers	Low	Medium	Monitor	Affects reputation and public opinion	Media briefings, press releases	As Needed

PROBLEM DIAGNOSIS

---What should be improved

3. SWOT Analysis

SWOT Analysis

SWOT stands for **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities, and **T**hreats.

Internal factors

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Strong backing from UK government (DfT, TfL)Use of advanced technologies (e.g., BIM, CBTC, ETCS)Involvement of experienced industry contractors (Alstom, Siemens, Bombardier)High-impact urban infrastructure project with long-term benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Misalignment and poor coordination among multiple contractorsDelayed integration of signalling and software systemsInadequate risk escalation and stakeholder communicationIneffective resource planning and cost control

External factors

Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Technological advances in project delivery (modular builds, automation)Urban development and economic uplift in connected areasSustainability focus – chance to set green infrastructure benchmarksLessons learned can inform future megaprojects in the UK and globally	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Regulatory and compliance changes during implementationPublic and media criticism over delays and cost overrunsPolitical pressures due to increased scrutiny on government spendingRisk of technology obsolescence and vendor lock-in

Problem 1: Contractor Misalignment

The lack of effective coordination mechanisms among multiple contractors leads to inconsistent schedule and standards.

Problem2: System Integration Delays

The lack of early planning tests and phased joint debugging resulted in repeated failures of key systems in the later stages of delivery.

Problem 3: Resource Scheduling Gaps

Resource and task scheduling are not dynamically coordinated, resulting in multiple path resource contention and scheduling conflicts.

Problem 4: Delayed Risk Response

Major risks were not reported in time, the handling process was unclear, and responsibilities across different management levels were poorly defined.

Tools Referenced:

- ✓ Risk Register (High-priority risks)
- ✓ Stakeholder Register (Misalignment shown in strategy mismatch)
- ✓ SWOT Analysis

Solution Tools & Frameworks – Practical Fixes

Agile (Scrumban-lite)

Problem Area

Contractor Misalignment

System Integration Delays

Resource Bottlenecks

Delayed Risk Response

Solution Tool/ Framework

RACI Chart + IPD
Principles

Agile (Scrumban-lite)

CCPM Buffers +
Resource Histogram

Risk Breakdown
Structure + Escalation

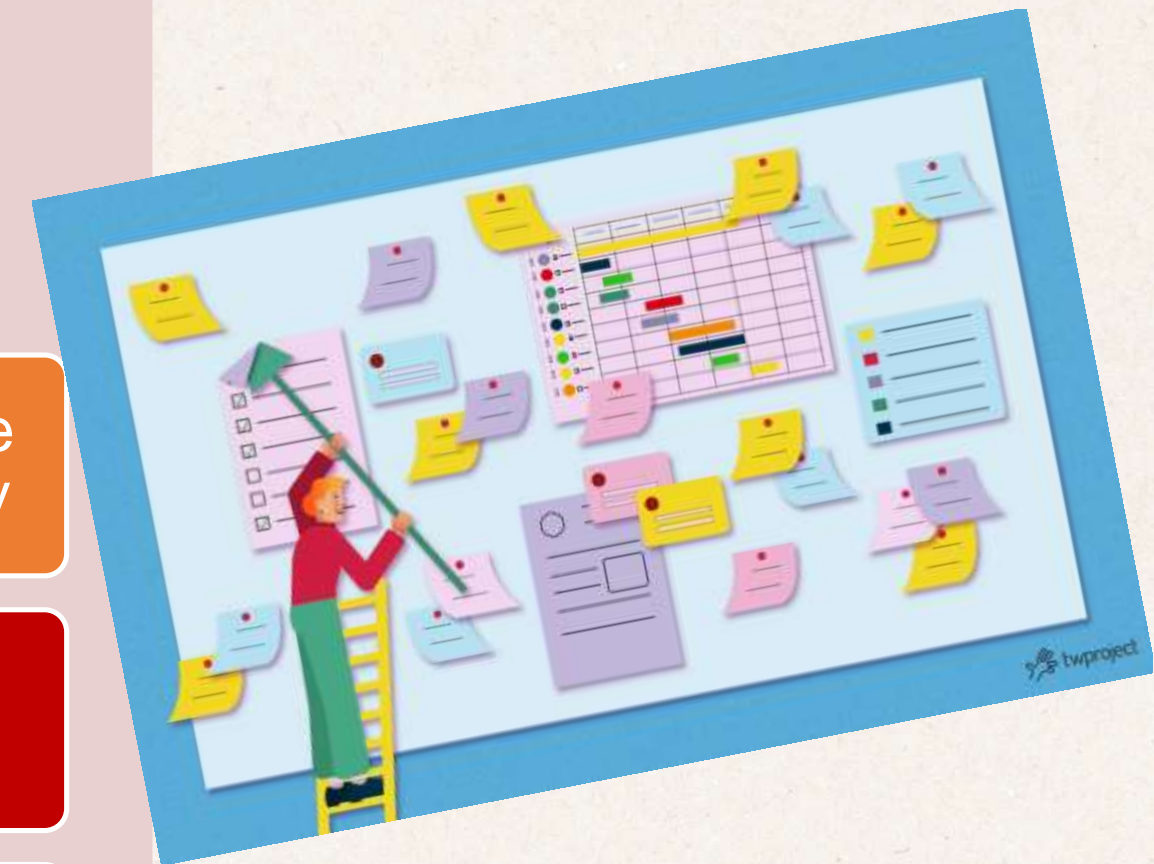
Purpose

Clarify roles, promote
shared accountability

Allow iteration, early
feedback loops

Prioritise critical tasks,
apply buffer
management

Structured early
warning and reaction
path



Conclusion

A tailored hybrid methodology combining predictability, flexibility, collaboration, and risk control

Workstreams/ Challenges

Civil-works & Safety-Focused
Construction

Testing & Integration

Multi-Party Collaboration

Timeline Managment

Best-Fit Methodology

Waterfall / Stage-Gate

Scrumban-lite (One of Agile
PMM)

Integrated Project Delivery (IPD)

Critical Chain Project
Management (CCPM)

Why Is It

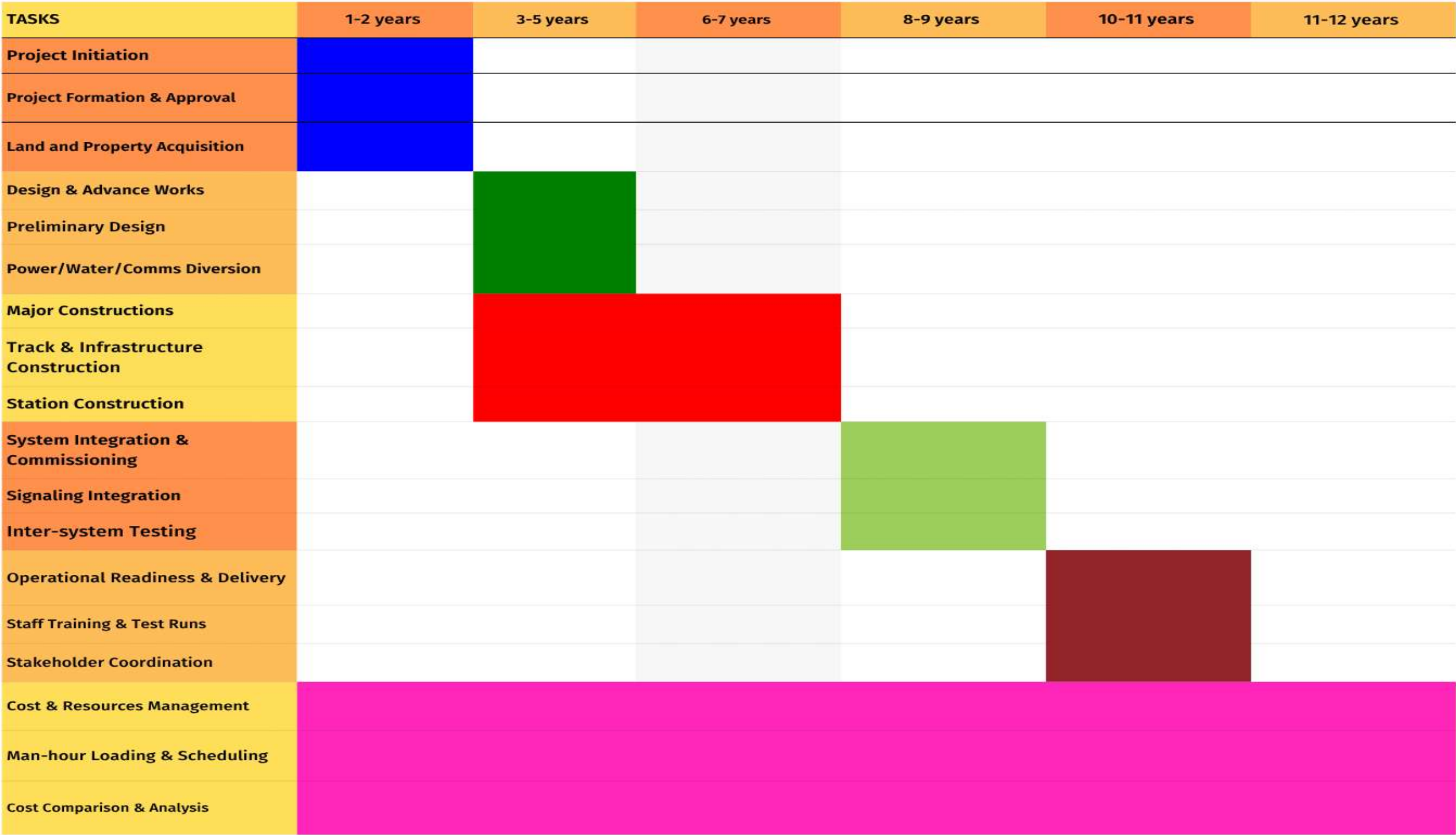
Providing the rigorous structure
and predictability essential for
fixed-scope elements

Providing rapid feedback loops for
complex and interdependent
systems

Alignment of contractors, sharing
risk and reward to improve
transparency and efficiency.

Using buffers to absorb
uncertainty and ensure smooth
task flow

Elizabeth Line – Recommended Gantt chart by phase



Our Formula For Smarter Implementation:

**Waterfall backbone (Stage Gate), Agile for
integration tasks,
IPD (Delivery approach) + CCPM as horizontal
enablers**

Many thanks for your listening!