

6.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

The *State Highway Access Code* requires at least one advertised public meeting be held during the development of an ACP. For this particular ACP, a four-tiered public involvement process was followed, including:

- Newsletters
- Initial Public Open House
- Second Public Open House
- Website Postings

6.1 NEWSLETTERS

The SH 392 EOS was initiated in early 2005 and was well underway when the ACP started in late 2005. In December of 2005 the EOS issued a newsletter to be mailed to residents and business owners along the SH 392 corridor. The purpose of this newsletter was to update the stakeholders of the current status of the EOS project and to announce the scheduled open house in January of 2005. This newsletter was used to create awareness and inform the public that the ACP study was beginning and information would be presented at the EOS open house. In addition, the newsletter was used to explain what access control is, how access is controlled, who benefits from access control, why access control is important, and what happens if access is not controlled. The newsletter was mailed to all identified property owners on the mailing list developed by the EOS project team. The mailing occurred in December of 2005.

In May of 2006, a second newsletter was generated to inform the general public regarding the upcoming open house for the ACP to be held in June of 2006. This second open house was conducted exclusively for the ACP, with the emphasis of the meeting focusing on the recommended changes to existing access along the corridor. The newsletter was mailed out in early June 2006. The newsletter was used to generate interest in the open house and the ACP itself by explaining some of the possible changes to existing access. A copy of the newsletters can be found in Appendix K.

6.2 INITIAL PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

The initial ACP public open house was held on January 25, 2006 in the Town of Windsor. The open house was conducted in conjunction with the final open house for the EOS project. The open house was advertised in local newspapers, via a mailed newsletter, and on the CDOT website. The purpose of the open house was to introduce to the stakeholder what access control is, the existing traffic operations, existing access conditions, accident data, provide examples of preferred access treatments, provide a project schedule, and to gather initial comments from the public. Representatives from the local agencies (Town of Windsor, Town of Severance, Larimer County, Weld County, City of Fort Collins, and City of Greeley), CDOT, and the consulting team were on hand to answer questions from those in attendance. A copy of the meeting materials and received comments can be found in Appendix L of this report. These comments were taken into consideration during the development of the ACP.

6.3 SECOND PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

A second public open house was held on June 6, 2006 in the Town of Windsor. This open house was strictly for the ACP as the EOS project was beyond its public outreach phase by this time. The open house was advertised in local newspapers, via a mailed newsletter, and on the CDOT website. The purpose of the open house was to present basic information about what access control is, present the recommended access configurations for the study corridor, provide a project schedule, discuss how the plan would be implemented, and to gather comments/feedback from the public. Again, representatives from the local agencies (Town of Windsor, Town of Severance, Larimer County, Weld County, City of Fort Collins, and City of Greeley), CDOT, and the consulting team were on hand to answer questions from those in attendance. A copy of the meeting materials and received comments can be found in Appendix M of this report.

The large turn out at the second ACP open house (excess of 80 visitors) resulted in a highly successful meeting. The meeting did generate some input from the public, but none of the received comments resulted in any significant changes to the recommended access control plan. Thus, having met the requirements of the access code (conducting at least one advertised public meeting), the project team and CDOT decided additional public involvement was not necessary and the study could produce a final report at this time.

6.4 WEBSITE POSTINGS

During the EOS study, a CDOT website was developed for posting information regarding the status of the project, newsletters, open house materials, and advertisements for upcoming open house meetings. Once the ACP started, the same website was used to post similar information. The information was posted at http://www.dot.state.co.us/SH392EOS/control_plan.cfm.