

3.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Due to the high level of public interest and potential controversy related to the project, MDT and FHWA elected to provide a pro-active public involvement program as part of the Re-evaluation process even though it is not a NEPA requirement. Public involvement included two public open houses; a Citizens Working Group (CWG), representing major interest groups in the community; and a Decision Team. A total of ten CWG meetings were held between 2005 and 2007. On January 7, 2008 the Whitefish City County passed Resolution No. 08-01 expressing the City's position with respect to the Whitefish West project. Public input provided valuable information related to changed conditions and potential project impacts.

Meeting summaries and the City Council Resolution are included in **Appendix C**.