

16.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND AGENCY COORDINATION

16.1 Public Involvement

The Notice of Intent for the I-93 Improvements Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) was published in the Federal Register on March 12, 2008 (Volume 73, Number 49, pages 13272-13273). In accordance with 23 CFR 771.130(d) and 40 CFR 1502.9(c)(4), scoping was not reinitiated for the SEIS. The scope of the Draft SEIS (DSEIS) was determined based on the specific issues identified in the court order and the reevaluation of the 2004 FEIS.

During the preparation of the DSEIS, public information meetings were held on March 18 and 19, 2008 in Londonderry and Salem, respectively. The purpose of the meetings was to inform the public of the current status of the project, explain the SEIS process and analysis scenarios, and present preliminary traffic analysis results. In total, approximately 33 people attended the meetings. Information on the DSEIS, including the presentation shown at the meetings, was made available on the project website (www.rebuildingi93.com/).

The DSEIS will be distributed to federal agencies, state agencies regional agencies municipalities in the Delphi study area and other individuals and organizations that have expressed an interest in the project during previous public involvement activities or by commenting on the 2004 FEIS (See Chapter 17: Draft SEIS Distribution List). The DSEIS will also be made available for public review at local libraries and on the project website. A 45-day public comment period will be provided for written comments. A public hearing will also be conducted where comments on the DSEIS will be accepted. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the public hearing.

Any comments that are received during the public comment period that address the issues for which the SEIS is being prepared will be considered before Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) renders its decision regarding the 2005 Selected Alternative. Any comments that are received which address issues which the court has already determined have been adequately addressed will be reviewed, but not considered unless they raise significant new information.

16.2 Agency Coordination

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation has continued to conduct extensive coordination with federal and state resource agencies since the release of the 2004 FEIS. This coordination has addressed issues such as the design of the project stormwater treatment practices, and the status of project mitigation commitments. Coordination has also occurred with the Nashua Regional Planning Commission, Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission, and the Rockingham Planning Commission regarding the regional emissions sensitivity analysis (See Chapter 5: Air Quality). Agencies that received a copy of the 2002 DEIS and/or 2004 FEIS will be provided a copy of the DSEIS for review (See Chapter 17: Draft SEIS Distribution List).