# ATTACHMENT A

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Comment #1: Jon Dilliard

Sent: Friday, November 28, 2003 9:35 PM
To: mstudt@state.mt.us
Subject: I-15 FEIS

Mr. Studt:

I see by the website that a CD disk of Volume 2 of the I-15 FEIS is available. If possible, I would appreciate getting a copy for review. Please send it to:

Jon Dilliard
1659 Karmen Rd.
Helena, MT 59602-7310

I appreciate your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Jon Dilliard

Response to Comment #1;

A CD copy of the Final EIS, Volumes 1 and 2, was sent to Mr. Dilliard on December 2, 2003.

Comment #2: Tammy Stefanik

From: Stefanik, Tammy
Sent: Wednesday, December 03, 2003 4:37 PM
To: Studt, Mark
Subject: RE: Custer interchange

Mark,

I live in the valley and work behind Walmart. I feel that a Custer Interchange is very important to the city of Helena's growing transportation needs. With so much growth in this direction I believe that it would relieve a lot of pressure off of Montana Ave. I am very much in support of a Custer Ave interchange. Please relay my beliefs on the importance of this issue.

Tammy Stefanik
Driver Examiner, Dept of Justice
443-9270

Response to Comment #2;

Thank you for your comments.
Comment #3: Allen Chambers

Sent: Wednesday, December 03, 2003 4:42 PM
To: msbud@state.mt.us
Cc: ALCAMBERS@aoi.com
Subject: I15 Corridor Study Comments

Mr. Studt,

For the record, I believe the priority for construction of new highway interchanges in the Helena area should be as follows:

1. Custer Avenue Interchange
2. Capital Interchange
3. South Helena Interchange

I recently heard in a speech given by Janice W. Brown, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration at a highway Pre-Construction Conference that "Safety is Our Main Concern." With this in mind, I believe the Montana Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration should consider resolving existing highway safety issues at the Custer Avenue Overpass and Capital Interchange before committing Federal and State funds on a new South Helena Interchange. Setting aside the financial fact that preliminary plans are available, and land acquisition maybe advantageous at this time for the South Helena Interchange location.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment on the proposed projects.

Allen Chambers
229 Meadow Drive
Helena, MT

Response to #3;

Thank you for your comments. The Montana Department of Transportation's intent is to improve the operational efficiency within the entire corridor as quickly as possible (which includes safety). The order in which projects are initiated will depend upon many factors that the MDT and the Transportation Commission will consider as they go through the project development process. These elements include, but are not limited to; design complexities, right-of-way acquisitions, maintaining essential services such as utilities and access to businesses, the size and cost of individual projects and the adequacy of available funding for those projects.
Comment #4: Pat and Fred Radke
Pat & Fred Radke
805 Tenncen Road
Helena, MT 59602

December 4, 2003

Mark Studt
MDOT
2701 Prospect Ave.
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Mark,

We feel that the best place to build a new interchange is on Custer Avenue. Lots of development is occurring at that part of town.

We also feel that a new interchange by Saddie Drive should not be a priority. It seems from reading the newspaper that the owners of the land and their engineers are trying to “fast track” their property. Let's solve existing problems before building at this location. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pat & Fred Radke

Response to #4;

Thank you for your comments. For the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
Comment #5: Chuck Watters

Chuck Watters
3595 Rimini Road
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 459-3833

December 4, 2003

Dear Mark:

I am writing this letter to give my comments on the proposed Interchange locations.

I believe the highest priorities would be to first improve the existing Capital Interchange and to build a new Interchange at Custer Avenue. These are both existing problems. The business growth and expansion on the North end of town logically support a new Interchange on Custer Avenue. The infrastructure (water and sewer) is already there.

I strongly oppose building a new Interchange at Saddle Drive (Padbury property). There is no infrastructure there at present and it is not a pressing need. Pressure and influence of the developers and property owners at this site is not a "justifiable reason" to build this Interchange at this time.

Thank you for reviewing my comments.

Respectfully,

Chuck Watters

Response to #5;

Thank you for your comments. For the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
Comment #6: Russell Wrigg

Sent: Thursday, December 04, 2003 5:00 PM
To: mtteiscomments@state.mt.us
Cc: GambrielK@bcom
Subject: Comment on I-15 Corridor EIS

My concerns over the I-15 Corridor EIS remain much the same as when I commented on the draft EIS. I for the life of me cannot understand how, with all of the public participation, the engineers and writers got to determining two alternatives that were almost identical except for the dropping of the Custer Interchange in favor of the Forestvale Interchange. The fact that the proposed South Interchange remains in both Alternative 1 & 2 makes it fishy. MDT should be focused on providing improvements to the system first for safety and second for demand (use). The proposed south interchange does meet either of those tests. MDT should not select and build with taxpayers dollars infrastructure that's sole purpose is to promote growth. I have been around MDT during the days that Bill Deth tried every political maneuver he could, to get an interchange in that area. The Department resisted those attempts then, as they should now. If the developers of the area to be served want an interchange, they should do more than pay for the design, they should fund it 100%. The users are paying tax dollars to keep the highway infrastructure up to current day safety and use standards. They do not expect to pay for infrastructure improvement to spur development.

My first priority for an interchange would be the reconstruction of the Capital Interchange and the completion of a west side frontage road from the Montana City Interchange to Saddle Drive. This interchange has long been known for it's dangerous and unwieldy condition. Along with being heavily used it's safety concerns are high.

The second priority for should be the construction of the Custer Ave. interchange. Along with the interchange project, a full blown reconstruction of Custer Ave, from Henderson to Washington needs to be accomplished. This area is currently the fastest growing commercial area in the Helena area. It needs the interchange access to serve the existing businesses, the airport and the schools. Without improved access to the area, traffic will become more congested then it already is and prospective customers will begin to avoid the area.

Remember, in order to serve the taxpayer (user) to the utmost, you much set your priorities using present day safety concerns and existing use over the temptation to serve the political drive towards "economic development".

Thank-you,

Russell E. Wrigg
36 So. Davis
Helena, Mt. 59601
(406) 443-7861
(406) 431-1758 cell
wriggjenskibaugh@msn.com

Response to #6:

Thank you for your comments. City of Helena planning documents clearly indicate that development is likely to occur in the area south of US 12 and east of I-15. This near-term development creates a need along the I-15 Corridor for a new interchange south of Capitol. For this reason a new interchange at South Helena was included in both build alternatives analyzed in the Final EIS.

For the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
INTERSTATE 15 CORRIDOR
Montana City to Lincoln Road - FEIS Comments and Responses

Comment #7: Steve Lodahl

Sent: Thursday, December 04, 2003 8:50 PM
To: mdtiecomments@state.mt.us
Cc: GambriilkM@c-b.com
Subject: Comment on I-15 Corridor EIS

CUSTER INTERCHANGE

I support the need for this interchange. The only problem I have with it is the timing. Back in 1992 when Shopko was being built, I was working as a laborer for Helena Sand and Gravel. During that time we were told that Shopko had offered to ante up 1/2 of what it would have cost to build the interchange.

Question: Who is putting up the money? Did Shopko renew their offer.

If the State, County, and City gotten off their collective duffs in 1992, the interchange would probably already be built and in use.

Where exactly is the south interchange being built? I read that it was going to be built adjacent to Saddle Drive. Shouldn't that be "COLONIAL DRIVE" since Saddle Drive is further west and takes many turns up and over the south hill?

I'd like to see an underpass built at the bottom of Broadway. I realize those residents living on Broadway are concerned about an increase in traffic, but they aren't looking at the big picture - how much quicker will an ambulance get from the scene of an accident/incident from the area around WalMart towards E. Helena if there was an underpass on Broadway. Add to that, how would they feel if they or a member of family were the ones requiring transport to the hospital and the shortened trip meant life or death.

Steve Lodahl
2553 Southridge
Helena, MT

Response to #7:

Thank you for your comments. At this point in time no funds have been specifically identified for the Custer Avenue interchange.

As described in the Final EIS, Section 2.8.2.1 (page 2-44) the proposed South Helena interchange will be located approximately 2.7 kilometers (1.6 miles) south of the Capitol interchange. The connection west of I-15 will be to the Frontage Road (relocated alignment, see Figure 2-11 in the FEIS). The FEIS also describes in Chapter 2.0 the possible extension of Broadway under I-15 and a possible Broadway interchange with I-15. Both of these concepts were strongly opposed by residents of the Broadway neighborhood which contributed to these options being dropped from further consideration (see FEIS Sections 2.4 and 2.5 and Table 2-1).
INTERSTATE 15 CORRIDOR  
Montana City to Lincoln Road - FEIS Comments and Responses

Comment #8: Chuck and Kim Norman

December 6, 2003

To: Mark Studt  
MDOT  
2701 Prospect Ave.  
Helena, MT 59601

From: Chuck and Kim Norman  
1119 Toucan Road  
Helena, MT 59602

Re: I-15 & Custer Interchange

We feel an interchange in this location is a must for the Helena area especially with the increased developments in this area. The population in the Helena valley north of Lincoln road has exploded. The first exit available is the Cedar Street exit, which makes you either have to use Montana Avenue or get off at Cedar Street and go back via Montana Avenue. We have avoided shopping in this area as much as possible because of the traffic on Montana Avenue. Even with the new construction on Montana Avenue the traffic is still congested. This interchange would alleviate a lot of that traffic. This interchange has been something we have hoped for since we moved to the north valley 15 years ago.

Thank you for your consideration,

Chuck Norman

Kim Norman

Response to #8;

Thank you for your comments.

Comment #9: John A. Wall

Sent: Sunday, December 07, 2003 1:45 PM  
To: mstudt@state.mt.us  
Cc: mwall@powertownsend.com  
Subject: I-15-EIS STUDY

THERE CAN BE LITTLE DOUBT THAT EVERYONE FAVORED ONE ALTERNATIVE AND THAT IS CUSTER AVENUE INTERCHANGE. LET'S GET ON WITH THE NUMBER ONE SELECTION. IF YOU ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE AREA'S DOLLAR ParticIPATION, PLEASE REFER TO THE CITY OF HELENA AS IT IS APPARENT THAT ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS ARE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN SOME COSTS. AFTER 30 YEARS IT IS TIME TO GET THIS JOB DONE.

JOHN A. WALL  
6235 Green Meadow Drive.  
Helena, Montana 59601

Response to #9;

Thank you for your comments.
Comment #10: Nancy Pitblado

Sent: Monday, December 08, 2003 8:51 PM
To: mslufi@state.mt.us
Subject: Comment on Final EIS I-15

Dear Mr. Studt,

Please include these comments in making the decision about the best alternative for I-15 interchanges improvements near Helena. I have followed these proceedings since Carter and Burgess began them. I am a member of the Joint City/County Planning Board, for which this decision will have many repercussions. I consider the preferred alternative and the process by which it was achieved to be among the best I have ever seen. This began with an extremely contentious public. Commissioners were trying to protect their turf and capture where future development would occur as a result of highway improvements.

Through a painstaking and very thorough process -- including the preparation of supporting data -- the advisory group came to complete agreement. I would not have predicted this could occur. This consensus around the preferred alternative indicates a high level of commitment to both the process and the alternative. The preferred alternative combines improvements to existing interchanges with a new south interchange that will direct growth to an identified preferred development area. It achieves maximum bang-for-the-buck. Please endorse it and move forward with these excellent highway improvements. Thank you.

Nancy Pitblado
1122 Garfield St
Helena MT 59601
NPitblado@mt.net
406.449.0333

Response to #10:

Thank you for your comments.

Comment #11: Steve and Judy Bayless

Sent: Tuesday, December 09, 2003 7:35 AM
To: mslufi@state.mt.us
Subject: Interstate 15 Interchanges - Helena

We would like to state our support for the interchange at Custer Ave. This seems to be the best alternative of all the recommendations north of Helena.

We firmly oppose the alternative for an interchange at Forestvale Ave. Construction of this interchange, we believe, would lead to haphazard development in that area, even more so than already exists.

The widening of Montana Ave, which started last spring, is great and should be expanded all the way to Sierra Ave. We would also recommend that something be done to improve the Lincoln Interchange. The design of this interchange makes it nearly impossible to adequately see approaching vehicles from the off ramp, and accidents and near accidents are common.

Thanks, Mark, for this opportunity to comment.

Steve and Judy Bayless

Response to Comments #11:

Thank you for your comments. Continuing the improvements along North Montana Avenue was identified by a number of citizens during the early stages of the EIS as an important transportation need. However, as discussed in Chapter 2.0 of the Final EIS, these improvements lie outside the immediate I-15 Corridor study area.

Improvements to the Lincoln interchange are included as part of the Preferred Alternative (see Section 2.8.4.5 of the FEIS).
Comment #12: Redge Meierhenry
(12/09/03)

To: mstufi@dot.state.mt.us
Subject: Custer Interchange EIS

Mark:

I support the development and construction of an interchange at Custer and I-15 in Helena.

Currently, I-15 creates an artificial barrier that has served to divide the Helena valley. This division impedes the development of the valley and this unnatural barrier hinders transportation access from east-west across the valley.

A well-designed interchange serving the already growing nearby commercial development will facilitate commerce and measurably improve transportation access east-west across the Helena valley.

Sincerely,

Redge Meierhenry
4 Eagle Rock
Clancy, MT 59634

Response to # 12;

Thank you for your comments.
Response to #13:

Thank you for your comments. A great deal of effort was taken during the development of the I-15 Corridor EIS to address potential direct and indirect impacts to residential neighborhoods throughout the study area, with particularly close attention paid to Broadway due to the large number of comments received. The analysis shows a decrease in traffic along the western portion, no change in the center and an increase along the eastern portion of Broadway resulting from the I-15 Corridor improvements described in the Final EIS. These changes are described in Chapter 4.0 of the Final EIS and graphically represented in Figure 4-4.

For the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
Comment #14: Hope and Robert Stevens

Little Falcon Farm
10 December 2003

The Montana Department of Transportation

Dear Director Jack:

Please be kind enough to ensure that our opinion on the I-15 rejuvenation plan is properly recorded:

The undersigned are for the preferred alternative — and strongly against alternative 2.

We have followed the procedures since their inception; and for the most part the consultants have done good work.

Kind regards,

Peter B. Stevens

I agree with my husband!
Absolutely!

Hope Stevens

Little Falcon Farm is located off the valley grid in rugged, nearly unexplored foothills of the Rocky Mountains, front 20 miles NNW of Helena. If you plan to visit us, ask for driving instructions. If you plan to send an express mail, overnight hovers, or parcels, use the U.S. Postal Service, if possible. We shop by our P.O. box 2 or 3 times a week. If you want to use UPS, FedEX, or other private carriers, ask us for an alternative address.
Comment #15: Cheryl Boid
December 10, 2003

Cheryl Boid
1999 Euclid Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Mark Studt, MDOT
2701 Prospect Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Mark:

I am writing in SUPPORT of the I-15 & Custer Interchange.
I feel this interchange is long overdue for the safety and economic growth of Helena.
This interchange will relieve some of the congestion currently exhibited on Montana Avenue, Cedar Street & even Lincoln Road.
As our City & County Commissioners continue to allow subdivisions into the Helena Valley, there needs to be a more effective way to move traffic other that 2-lane Montana Avenue.
Having a Custer Avenue Interchange will also help the many residents who also live east toward York and Canyon Ferry. Again, large developments continue to be approved with little regard to traffic flow and safety. As more residents move further away from Helena city limits, transportation needs to meet up with them. The I-15 & Custer Interchange is just one step in the continued growth of Helena and Lewis & Clark County. It is a responsible step to take.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Boid

Response to Comment #15;
Thank you for your comments.

Comment #16: Kenneth and Rita McNees

From: Kenneth B McNees <kmcmneo1@juno.com>
To: avarconco2.Cow-Lewis-Clark.Mt.us, mmurray@co.lewis-clark.mt.us, etinsley@co.lewis-clark.mt.us
Subject: I-15 Interchanges
Date: Wed, 30 Dec 2003 20:15:17 -0700
Message-ID: <20031211.201517-0700@kmcmneo1@juno.com>

We just wanted to express our views on the two North interchanges that are contemplated North of Helena on I-15. We cannot see where the Forestvale Interchange should take president over the Custer Ave. Interchange. The Forestvale Interchange will not benefit the North East Valley at all as far as we can see. With the buildup on the North side of Helena in the past few years, it appears to us that the Custer Ave. Interchange would benefit the most. Sometime in the near future, a east/west truck route will have to be planned and built. The Custer Ave. Interchange could serve this purpose with the minimum outlay of expenditures to the city and the county. The Forestvale Interchange is only about four miles from the city limits. I find it difficult to visualize how much this would really benefit anyone coming into Helena from around the Forestvale area. It would not benefit anyone north of Forestvale very much. The Custer Ave. Interchange would be a much greater benefit. We prefer the Custer Ave. Interchange.

Kenneth and Rita McNees
5646 Glass Dr.
Helena, MT 59602
488-4725

Response to Comment #16;
Thank you for your comments.
Comment #17: John F. Wardell, EPA

Response to Comment #17:

Thank you for your comments on the I-15 Corridor Environmental Impact Statement. Your comments on the Draft EIS and the active participation of Steve Potts from your office contributed directly to improving the quality and overall responsiveness of the I-15 Corridor (Montana City to Lincoln Road) EIS. Thank you for your constructive and informative participation.
Comment #18: Dudley Williams

Mr. Studt:

My wife and I have lived on E. Broadway for 25 years. We bought our home when it was still a very nice neighborhood and place to raise our children. Over the years we have seen unlimited growth and traffic developed in this part of town. Please reconsider your decision to finish destroying a good neighborhood by tying this section to the interstate or secondary road just to aid commuters and people who want to develop this area. Why not concentrate on places that are already commercialized and needs to improve their flow of traffic.

Dudley Williams
2139 E. Broadway
Helena, Mt. 59601
email lwilliams@montana.com

Response to Comment #18;

Thank you for your comments. A great deal of effort was taken during the development of the I-15 Corridor EIS to address potential direct and indirect impacts to residential neighborhoods throughout the study area, with particularly close attention paid to Broadway due to the large number of comments received. The analysis shows a decrease in traffic along the western portion, no change in the center and an increase along the eastern portion of Broadway resulting from the I-15 Corridor improvements described in the Final EIS. These changes are described in Chapter 4.0 of the Final EIS and graphically represented in Figures 4-4 and 4-5.
Comment #19: Dick Thweatt

December 13, 2003

Mark Studt, P.E., Project Manager
Montana Department of Transportation
2701 Prospect Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Re: I-15 Corridor FEIS

Dear Mark:

Plan Helena strongly supports the selection of Alternative 1 as preferred and believes Final EIS clearly supports this choice.

We still doubt that improvements to I-15 are most efficient use of public funds for transportation in our area. Other aspects of the local transportation system have much greater needs.

We also believe that an effective program of Transportation Demand Management in the Helena area could greatly reduce the need for such costly infrastructure improvements over the next 25 years. It is regrettable that MDT is unwilling to expend even a small fraction of available funding to study the potential effectiveness of TDM and to inform the local public, their employers and local government. It is the function of the state and national environmental policy acts to inform the decisions of the government and the public, even if that means challenging current biases. To dismiss TDM from detailed study because of lack of public interest is a cop out.

Sincerely,
Dick Thweatt
Dick Thweatt, Secretary
for Plan Helena, Inc.

Response to Comment #19:

Thank you for your comments. Sections 2.7.1 and 4.11.2 of the Final EIS address transportation demand management (TDM). Potential activities that were considered and the reasons for not implementing the various elements of TDM are explained in the cited sections.

Some TDM activities that were considered include development of local Transportation Management Associations (TMAs); flex-time work schedules; carpools, and vanpools. Currently there is minimal use of existing TDM programs and very little public support was expressed for these measures during the public involvement process. (See page 4-45 of the FEIS)
Response to Comment #20:

Thank you for your comments. A great deal of effort was taken during the development of the I-15 Corridor EIS to address potential direct and indirect impacts to residential neighborhoods throughout the study area, with particularly close attention paid to Broadway due to the large number of comments received. The analysis shows a decrease in traffic along the western portion, no change in the center and an increase along the eastern portion of Broadway resulting from the I-15 Corridor improvements described in the Final EIS. These changes are described in Chapter 4.0 of the Final EIS and graphically represented in Figures 4-4 and 4-5.

In addition, we looked very carefully at two improvement options at the east end of Broadway that received considerable public support. Both the Broadway/I-15 Interchange option and the Broadway Underpass option were dropped from consideration largely because of what we heard from residents of the Broadway community.
Comment #21: Rick Gray

Sent: Saturday, December 13, 2003 8:15 AM
To: mstud@state.mt.us
Subject: comments to I-15 EIS

I prefer the Alternative 1. It has the most direct impact to economic development for Helena.

Rick Gray
10 Elkhorn Dr.
Clancy, MT 59634
449-8318

Response to Comment #21:

Thank you for your comments.

Comment #22: Tim Grossman

From: unt118@mt.gov
Sent: Saturday, December 13, 2003 4:03 PM
To: mstud@state.mt.us
Subject: FEIS I-15 Corridor

Dear Mark,

As a taxpayer in Jefferson county, I would like you to support The Preferred Alternative (Alternative #1) of the FEIS in the I-15 corridor.

In particular, I hope you might consider the Supporting Alternative as described in Section 2.8.4.3 as a priority in the timeline of the project.

There is considerable traffic on the dirt frontage road already, and in the summer months it was certainly a fire hazard as people drove their cars over heavy dry grasses.

The developments between Colonial drive and Montana City have no direct access into town, and with no material or grading, the wet runoff and tires also are causing heavy erosion.

Thank you for taking the time for public input.

Tim Grossman
15 Crossfire
Clancy

Response to Comment #22:

Thank you for your comments. For the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
Comment #23: Mark Gerl

From: mark gerl (mark.gerl@magic.com)
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2003 9:33 PM
To: mstudd@state.mt.us
Subject: Comments on the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the I-15 Corridor

Dear Mr. Studt;

Attached are our comments on the EIS for the I-15 Corridor. We are disappointed that the comment period occurred during the holiday season.

Sincerely,
Mark S. and Kathleen D. Gerl

Response to Comment #23;

Mr. Gerl's e-mail to Mark Studt indicates that specific comments on the FEIS were attached. The attachment was never received. Mr. Studt requested the attachment via e-mail and voice message but no further comments were received.
Comment #24: Charlie McKenna

Mark Studt
December 17, 2003

These are my comments on the Final EIS for the I-15 Corridor Study done for MDT.

I have reviewed the EIS and I support the selection of the Preferred Alternative, Alternative 1. This alternative is the best one for addressing the current shortcomings with the I-15 corridor and it also best deals with the anticipated traffic growth in the Helena area. All of my other comments concern the order in which the improvements contained in Alternative 1 are constructed. I realize that due to funding constraints the work must be done over a period of years, and that it may be many (ten or more) years before all of the work is done. Given this reality it is very important that the first project selected be the one that addresses the greatest needs as identified in the FEIS.

The two most important issues that need to be addressed by work in the corridor are to improve safety and to make the corridor more efficient in moving people and goods. After reviewing the FEIS it is obvious that the greatest safety concern in the corridor is the Capitol Interchange. Table 3-7, Crash Data Summary, shows that this is the site with the most accidents and that this interchange had twice as many injury accidents in the study period as the second worst site. Figure 4-6, 2025 Average Weekday Interchange Utilization, shows that for Alternative 1 and 2 the Capitol interchange will have 77,000 vehicles, almost twice the traffic volume of the next busiest interchange. This shows that improvements made to this interchange will have the greatest good for the most people. These two tables/figures show that to maximize efficiency and safety in the corridor the first project to be constructed must be the Capitol interchange.

I have read in the Helena Independent Record that one of the proponents of the South Helena interchange is already designing that project. The newspaper indicated that effort would give that project a head start on the other proposed projects, and would make it likely that the South Helena interchange would be the first project constructed in the corridor. This would be a misuse of highway funds, because as the FEIS points out, there are few safety concerns that would be addressed by the South Helena project and due to the low projected traffic volumes gains in efficiency would be minimal. To address the two critical issues of safety and efficiency the Capitol interchange must be the first project to be constructed in the corridor. I would ask the MDT look at innovative construction methods, such as design-build to get this project underway in the next few years.

Thanks for giving me the opportunity to comment on this document.

Charlie McKenna
608 Breckemridge St.
Helena, MT 59601

Response to Comment #24:

Thank you for your comments. For the order in which improvements will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
Comment #25: Joseph and Randi Triem

Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2003 9:22 PM
To: mstudt@state.mt.us
Subject: Comment on I-15 Corridor FEIS.

Hello Mark,

Attached is our official comment on the Interstate 15 Corridor/Montana City to Lincoln Road FEIS. It essentially supports the Preferred Alternative.

Thanks for your work on this,
Joe & Randi Triem

Response to Comment #25

Thank you for your comments. For the order in which improvements will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.

December 18, 2003

Mark Studt, Project Manager
Montana Department of Transportation
2701 Prospect Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Re: I-15 Corridor FEIS
Public Comment

Dear Mark:

We would like to state our support for the “Preferred Alternative”, as stated in the Final Environmental Impact Statement – Interstate 15 Corridor/Montana City to Lincoln Road, prepared by Carter-Bargess.

Furthermore, we recommend that the first phase to be constructed be the new South Interchange, with a Montana City to Colonial Drive frontage road. If constructed prior to the Capitol Interchange improvements, the southern improvements will not only divert northbound traffic bound for the hospital zone, but also will provide for a detour route to the Capitol Complex and downtown Helena. As an available detour route, the southern improvements will significantly reduce traffic volumes at the Capitol Interchange during the re-construction of that interchange.

The right-of-ways for the southern improvements have already been acquired and the preliminary design of this project is underway. This phase does not seem to have as many barriers as the other phases of either alternative.

The Custer Interchange improvements, although important to eventually be constructed, will need a huge amount of coordination: acquisition of right-of-way, impacts to wetlands, addressing increased traffic flows on Custer Avenue in the area of Four Georgians School, potential for this route to be used as a bypass for Hwy 12 westbound truck traffic. It would seem that these Custer improvements could not possibly be ready to construct as soon as the Southern Improvement, which is another good reason to construct the Southern improvements first.

Regards,

Joseph B. Triem & Randi J. Triem
9 Crossfire Drive
Clancy, MT 59634
Response to Comment #26

Thank you for your comments. For the order in which improvements will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
Comment #27: Loretta Kelly

December 11, 2003

Montana Department of Transportation
ATTN: MARK STUDT, P.E.
2701 Prospect Avenue
Helena, Montana 59603

RE: FEIS – INTERSTATE 15 CORRIDOR

Dear Mr. Studt,

I want to let you know how important I feel the Custer interchange is to our city. With the opening of Home Depot and the construction this coming spring or summer of the shopping center (Skyway Regional Shopping Center) to the east of Home Depot makes it glaringly obvious which interchange is desperately needed. Also, the word is that Costco has finally committed to putting their new store on the land just south of Home Depot. What are you going to do with all the traffic for these new developments? What about the Queen City development that is proposed for the property just east of the wastewater treatment plant? And the continued expansions at the airport? What about the already large amount of traffic on Canyon Ferry and York roads of private home owners, as well as truck traffic to and from the east valley, East Helena and out on Canyon Ferry and Lakeside Lakes? Are they going to dump all that traffic onto Washington Street and the Cedar Street interchange??? Scary thought!

I don’t believe it takes a rocket scientist to realize that the most desperately needed interchange is one at Custer Avenue. The traffic flow in that area is already far too heavy for the streets in the area and the one lane bridge that is currently spanning I-15. I can’t imagine anyone even considering building one south of the Capitol interchange instead of this one first. Yes, there’s some development there and yes, there’s private money involved, but how do you justify that to the much larger amount of general public who would be much better served by an interchange at Custer Avenue? What’s more, have you driven the area around Custer on a daily basis? Have you seen the accidents? Have you seen the backed up traffic?

I would strongly urge that you check with those in the local planning offices who know about the many different businesses who are in various stages of building businesses in the Custer Avenue area. Much has changed in the past couple of years and you need to take a careful look at what is in the plans for the next year or two.

It’s hard to imagine anyone would even consider even constructing a south interchange or one at Forrest Ave when it is glaringly obvious that the growth area for our city is around the Custer Avenue area.

The Helena community would be much better served by an interchange at Custer Avenue first and then secondly improvements to the Capitol interchange. In closing I wish to thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important issue for our community.

Sincerely:

Loretta Kelly
1420 Sorenson Road
Helena, Montana 59602

Response to Comment #27;

Thank you for your comments. For the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
Comment #28: Shannon Kelly

December 18, 2003

Montana Department of Transportation
ATTN: MARK STUDT, P.E.
2761 Prospect Avenue
Helena, Montana 59620

RE: FEIS – INTERSTATE 15 CORRIDOR

Dear Mr. Studt:

The Custer interchange is very important to Helena. All the development around the intersection of Montana Avenue and Custer, along with Home Depot and the other incoming businesses who'll begin building in 2004 make an interchange at Custer extremely important. It would be a huge mistake to not put an interchange in at Custer.

The traffic problems in that whole area are very bad and getting worse. Once these other businesses open it'll get even worse. It's just a matter of time before we have more than just numerous traffic accidents in that area. Sooner or later someone will be killed.

Yes, an interchange on the south side of town would be ok, but wouldn't be anywhere near as critical as the Custer Avenue one is. All the construction that is currently going on in the Custer Avenue area already promises to generate much larger quantities of traffic and it'll get much worse with the other large proposed developments coming in just east of I-15 along Custer.

Please don't let this opportunity slip away to make a much needed improvement to our city.

Sincerely,

Shannon Kelly
1420 Scenemont Road
Helena, Montana 59602

Response to Comment #28:

Thank you for your comments. For the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
Comment #29: Shawna Kelly

December 18, 2003

Montana Department of Transportation
ATTN: MARK STUDT, P.E.
2701 Prospect Avenue
Helena, Montana 59620

RE: FEIS – INTERSTATE 15 CORRIDOR

Dear Mr. Studt:

I would like to encourage the urgent construction of the Custer Avenue interchange. Our city desperately needs an interchange at this location. I’m very surprised that one has not yet been constructed on Custer as it’s been needed a long time.

The traffic in this area is very bad and getting worse, and it’s only a matter of time before someone is killed.

I know there are a lot of businesses already under construction in the area, not to mention a bunch of others who are on their way in the next year. We’ve fought hard to get businesses here in Helena, now it’s here and more on the way so the logical solution is to put in an interchange at Custer to handle the huge increase in traffic.

I ask you .... how in the world will an interchange south of the Capitol interchange help the rapidly expanding businesses and traffic on Custer and North Montana??? Not at all!

Helena needs an interchange at Custer Avenue and we need one NOW.

Thanks for letting me comment on this.

Sincerely,

Shawna Kelly
1420 Sorenson Road
Helena, Montana 59602

Response to Comment #29;

Thank you for your comments. For the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
Comment #30: Marc and Rosanne Kneedler (12/18/03)

Response to Comment #30:

Thank you for your comments. For the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
Response to Comment #31:

Thank you for your comments. The analysis shows a decrease in traffic along the western portion, no change in the center and an increase along the eastern portion of Broadway resulting from the I-15 Corridor improvements described in the Final EIS. These changes are described in Chapter 4.0 of the Final EIS and graphically represented in Figures 4-4 and 4-5.

Also, for the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
Comment #32: Robert Dunlop (12/19/03)

Mack Smith
MT DOT Project Manager
Montana Dept. Transportation
2901 Prospect Ave.
P.O. Box 20101
Helena, MT 59620-20101

I have reviewed the Interstate 15 FEIS and found it to be lacking in a few areas and alarming.

The I-15 EIS significantly alters the original purpose of any interchange located in the Helena area. That purpose was to allow for easier access of the Helena Valley residents to the I-15. None of the preferred alternatives comes close to providing that goal. Helena Valley residents will not have easier interstate access should the so-called preferred alternatives be adopted.

The Sierra Road Interchange was not explored at all. The EIS merely said problems were found making it unadvisable. It is a shame that a firm paid nearly $2,237,000 could not have come up with a little creative thinking. The current bridges on I-15 over Sierra Road could be incorporated into a working interchange giving the Valley access to the I-15. The savings of not having to build new bridges could have been forwarded to the school districts to relocate and build a new Rossetter School.

There is enough space in that area that the historic Silver Creek Schoolhouse would not be disturbed and its grounds would be minimally impacted. Irrigation ditches can be rerouted.

The Forestvale Interchange was also slighted. This interchange would give Helena Valley residents a mid valley access point to the Interstate. Building a Forestvale would have a minimal effect on the current residential area namely because there are not any dwellings or structures that would have to be relocated. That land area is nearly vacant. The Forestvale Interchange has been in the planning and planning a long time. The EIS mentions the cost of building the interchange at Forestvale. What the EIS fails to mention is the cost of not building the Forestvale Interchange.

Several persons and business people have invested in the Forestvale Interchange area. These investments were made and held under the State, Lewis & Clark County and City of Helena all announced their support of Forestvale interchange. Not building Forestvale Interchange after committing to it because of a change in plans by the City of Helena and Lewis & Clark County and the State of Montana causes these persons and business people financial losses. Those people incurring financial loss by lack of Forestvale’s construction will look to and receive from the State financial compensation amounting in the millions. The Federal Government may not have to join in on this reimbursement and the financial burden could well fall directly on the State of Montana and the local governments of Lewis & Clark County and the City of Helena. Building Forestvale interchange would be less expensive and more feasible than the financial satisfaction paid out to investors of the Forestvale Interchange area.

The EIS also overlooks the adverse publicity the State of Montana will receive from the National business community via national publications that commitments made by the State of Montana and its local governments to prospective business people are not carried out and are in fact changed. A few well-placed letters to the proper financial journals will undermine any effort the State of Montana has made to recruit new business. I can’t put a dollar cost on this kind of publicity.

The Custer and Montana Ave intersection currently is a disaster. To build and interchange on Custer Ave would only add to the aggravation and make this intersection unusable. An interchange located at Custer Ave that provides south bound access will invite vehicle conflict with exiting traffic on the Cedar Street exchange. Entering traffic from the northbound Cedar Street interchange will encounter vehicle conflict with exiting traffic to Custer Ave interchange. Furthermore the proposed Custer Ave interchange is not mid-valley and would not serve the current valley population well or as expeditiously as an interchange on mid-valley in the north such as Forestvale or Sierra.

The proposed south interchange is a proposal that comes from sources other than those that live in the area. It is a proposal by a group of individuals predated by a developer who wants to develop a piece of vacant land. Not only does this developer want an interchange he is kind enough to let the State of Montana know how he should be designed. It is somewhat confusing to propose an interchange here considering that a vast majority of people have spoken out against it. It makes one wonder why build an interchange for a non-existing population when you can build one mid valley to the north for an existing population. It also makes one wonder why the City of Helena passed an open space bond issue that the local government would be in a hurry to develop land already open. Why in good sense would you not want to build an interchange where the population already exists? Why is the EIS trying to serve a developer? It sure doesn’t seem it is trying to serve the current population in the valley.

There has been no court decision to date that says a mid valley interchange could not be constructed. What a recent court held was that an EIS had to be conducted.

I think this Interstate 15 EIS needed to be redirected and a mid valley interchange to the north of Helena be constructed.

Submitted by
Robert Dunlop
5620 W. Montana Ave.
Helena, Montana 59602

Robert Dunlop
19 December 2003

Response to Comment #32

Thank you for your comments on the I-15 Corridor Environmental Impact Statement.

After very carefully considering the advantages and disadvantages of the two build alternatives and the No-Action Alternative, Alternative 1 was identified as the one which best meets the overall needs for the entire corridor. This decision was based on both the Purpose and Need statement, which is fully described in Chapter 1.0 of the Final EIS, and on extensive public input received throughout the development of the EIS.

Both the Sierra Road and Forestvale Road locations were studied in the Draft EIS and the Forestvale option received full consideration in the Final EIS.

Traffic analysis conducted for the FEIS does not support your contention that the Custer Avenue/N. Montana Avenue intersection will be unusable if a new interchange is built at Custer Avenue.
Comment #33: Shaun O'Connor

December 19, 2003

Mark Stadt
Montana Department of Transportation
2701 Prospect Avenue
Helena, MT 59620

RE: I-15 Corridor Study

Dear Mark,

Following are the comments regarding the I-15 Corridor study:

1. A pedestrian/bike path needs to be incorporated into the new frontage road between Montana City interchange and the Capitol interchange.
2. What is the purpose of the South Helena interchange? If the interchange is only connecting to Saddle Drive, then why not move the interchange back to the South Hills Road. Maintain the frontage road on the west side and develop a new frontage road on the east that connects to US12 or onto Tricia St. It seems like the South Helena interchange is being developed by others for their future development. Should the taxpayers pay for this development?
3. The Capital interchange needs to be widened to three lanes going in and out of Helena. In Figure 2-5, the underpass and the off ramp from the north is very close. Is this configuration going to work? The connection at 11th needs to drop in elevation. Will this grade meet standards?
4. Cedar Street interchange should be a four lane with a center turn lane that connects to Montana Avenue.
5. Custer Avenue interchange area is developing very rapidly. Custer Avenue should be a four lane with a center turn lane that connects to Montana Avenue. In conjunction with this interchange, I believe that Montana Avenue should be a four lane road with a center turn lane from 11th to Lincoln Road.
6. Forestvale Road interchange should be included into this study. The North Montana area seems to be developing faster than the South Helena area. There is more commercial area in the North Montana area where the South Helena area is mostly residential.

In summary, I believe the order that these projects should be built is:
1. Custer Avenue Interchange with improvements to Montana Avenue.
2. Capital Interchange Improvements with frontage roads from Montana City.
3. Cedar Street Interchange improvements with new structure over the railroad.
4. South Hills Road Interchange/Forestvale Interchange.
5. Lincoln Road Interchange/ Montana City Interchange.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Shaun O'Connor
P.O. Box 594
East Helena, MT 59635

Response to Comment #33

Thank you for your comments. The initial plan for the west side Frontage Road is to provide shoulders that will also serve bicycles on each side of the road. There should be little need for sidewalks until there is development alongside the Frontage Road. Local jurisdictions may require developers to build additional pedestrian facilities along their developments.

As part of planning for future growth, the City of Helena has designated the area east and north of the proposed South Helena interchange as a preferred development area. Infrastructure such as water and sewer has been constructed or planned to serve this area. The new interchange will connect with the west side Frontage Road. A frontage road or other roadway connections on the east side of I-15 may be constructed by developers of this area.

The conceptual layout for the Capitol interchange was planned for three through lanes in each direction through the interchange. The geometry of the conceptual layout was designed based on MDT and other applicable roadway standards, and all standards were met based on a preliminary level of design. Both MDT and the City are working to widen Cedar Street and re-strip the interchange to have the four-lane plus turn lane (or five-lane) section between I-15 and Montana Avenue. The plan for Custer Avenue, once an interchange is constructed, is to have four lanes plus the center turn median between Montana Avenue and Washington Street. Any work on Montana Avenue is outside (Continued on next page)
Response to Comment #33 – cont.

the I-15 Corridor study area and would need to be pursued by
the City and County.

The Forestvale interchange location was fully analyzed in this
study. There was no evidence to show a need for two new
interchanges north of Cedar Street. As described in the Final
EIS, the Custer Avenue interchange location provided the
greatest overall benefit for the I-15 Corridor.

Finally, to address the “order that the projects should be
built”, see response to Comment #3.
Response to Comment #34;

Thank you for your comments on the I-15 Corridor Environmental Impact Statement. Chapter 4.0 of the Final EIS provides a thorough analysis of potential impacts to residential neighborhoods. Both direct and indirect impacts are discussed and each of the two build alternatives was compared to the No-Action Alternative. This analysis included a careful consideration of traffic impacts.

Your comment letter includes a suggestion that there might be a conflict of interest issue concerning the development of this EIS. The Consultant, Carter & Burgess, prepared the FEIS under the direction of FHWA and MDT. Neither agency nor the Consultant own property for development (for other than transportation purposes), in the areas identified under the Preferred Alternative.

Also, for the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment # 3.

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Comment #34: Glenda Bradshaw

I spent a couple of hours reviewing the FEIS for the I-15 corridor from Montana City to Lincoln Road at the Lewis and Clark Library early this week. Though I favor several of the features of the preferred alternative described, I have a major objection to a new South Helena interchange.

There is no discussion that I could find in the FEIS about the increase in traffic that a South Helena interchange would generate through the residential neighborhood streets that are already busy. I did find a map that indicated increased traffic to the hospital/medical complex area near I-15, but it also indicated that there would be almost no increase from there eastward into Helena. The EIS seemed to ignore the obvious--people will use the South Helena interchange to get to and from the Capitol complex, downtown Helena, points in between, and probably even to cross to the westside and beyond. In other words the South Helena exit will turn Broadway and Wimble into a south bypass by default.

I also think it is a conflict of interest for the producers of the EIS to acquire or own property for development in the area they are recommending as a preferred alternative.

In addition, I feel that the proximity to Christmas of the comment deadline will ensure that few people will be able to respond due to the demands of the holidays.

The FEIS features that I favor include improvements to the Capitol interchange, the bike/pedestrian underpass at Broadway, a new interchange at Custer, and improvements to the Lincoln interchange. Of these I would rank the Capitol interchange as top priority.

Sincerely,

Glenda Bradshaw
430 S. Lamborn St.
Helena, MT 59601
INTERSTATE 15 CORRIDOR
Montana City to Lincoln Road - FEIS Comments and Responses

Comment #35: Barbara and James Benish

Sent: Sunday, December 21, 2003 6:44 PM
To: mstudt@state.mt.us
Subject: 1-15 Corridor Plan

12/21/03
Dear Mr. Studt,
My husband and I have lived at 1302 Highland Ave. for eighteen years and have seen increasing traffic on Broadway and our adjacent street, Highland, each year. We ask that the 1-15 Corridor Plan not be adopted in consideration of all the neighborhoods that would be negatively impacted by the greatly increased traffic that very probably would occur on Broadway. During the past two years when sections of Broadway have been closed and traffic rerouted on our street, the noise, dust, and parking difficulties have been onerous to say the least. To say that Broadway and the adjacent streets and neighborhoods should have to bear the brunt of traffic and the problems such traffic will bring seems very unjust. Please do not adopt this plan.
Sincerely,

Barbara A. & James K. Benish
1302 Highland St.
Helena, MT 59601-5241
(406) 442-3452

The older I get, the better I was...
Walter Mathau

Response to Comment #35:

Thank you for your comments on the I-15 Corridor Environmental Impact Statement. A great deal of effort was taken during the development of the I-15 Corridor EIS to address potential direct and indirect impacts to residential neighborhoods throughout the study area, with particularly close attention paid to Broadway due to the large number of comments received. The analysis shows a decrease in traffic along the western portion, no change in the center and an increase along the eastern portion of Broadway resulting from the I-15 Corridor improvements described in the Final EIS. These changes are described in Chapter 4.0 of the Final EIS and graphically represented in Figures 4-4 and 4-5.

Comment #36: Cary Shelton

Sent: Monday, December 22, 2003 7:32 AM
To: mstudt@state.mt.us
Subject: Custer

I saw the ad about losing the interchange at Custer. I thought this was decided a long time ago. Why the possibility of losing it? Let's go forward and get it started as soon as possible. We are in support of it.

Cary Shelton
3023 Ed Rose Dr.
Helena, MT

Response to Comment #36:

Thank you for your comments. The Custer Interchange has not been removed from the Preferred Alternative.
Comment #37: Loren Gustafson

From: Loren Gustafson [loren@ourredeemerlives.org]
Sent: Monday, December 22, 2003 3:39 PM
To: mstudl@state.mt.us
Subject: EIS study

Mark Studt,

Are you still taking comments on the Custer Avenue Interchange project? I thought that the decision was made to make this a priority but have heard comments lately that it is still up for consideration against other sites.

Our congregation, Our Redeemer’s Lutheran Church, purchased 20 acres for development of a new church ministry campus just north of Custer Ave. on Green Meadow. We expect to expand our active ministry and weekly church school in a significant way when we relocate. We already have a large number of families from East Helena, Montana City and even Boulder and beyond who would make excellent use of an interchange at I15 and Custer.

I strongly support the location of Custer Ave for the new interchange for the convenience and safety of our 1,200 plus members.

Thank you,
Loren Gustafson

Response to Comment #37;

Thank you for your comments. The Custer Interchange is still part of the Preferred Alternative. For the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
Comment #38: Dick Anderson

Response to Comment #38;

Thank you for your comments. For the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.

December 22, 2003

Mark Studt, P.E.
Project Manager
Montana Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 201001

Dear Mr. Studt,

This letter is in support of all the interchange projects for the Helena area. The Custer Avenue Project should come first because the development and need already exist. Both the Capitol and South Helena Interchange are also very important and need to also be funded. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Dick Anderson
INTERSTATE 15 CORRIDOR
Montana City to Lincoln Road - FEIS Comments and Responses

Comment #39: Kim Smith

Dear Mr. Smith,

As an owner of ten properties involved in the area of the Interstate 15 Corridor, I feel the projects should go:

1. Coster Avenue
2. Forestvale
3. Improve Lincoln Road
4. South Interchange

Thanks for your time.

Kim Smith,
3784 Mtr Mod.
406-498-4945

Response to Comment #39;

Thank you for your comments.

After very careful consideration of both build alternatives and the No-Action Alternative, Alternative 1 was identified as the Preferred Alternative for the I-15 Corridor. This alternative does not include a new interchange at Forestvale Road.

Also, for the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.
Comment #40: Ann Macdonald

Response to Comment #40:

Thank you for your comments. In addition to your letter, we have received 683 unverified signatures on a petition supporting the construction of the Custer interchange. No comments were received specifically from the Montana National Guard.

Also, for the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.

In 12 hours we were able to obtain 1000 signatures for the Custer interchange. I know there are hundreds of other signatures out there that want this interchange.

Subdivisions all over the Helena valley that want this interchange to take place, including the York area, East Helena, Cannoy Ferry. Many subdivisions are using the Custer Highway, and it would be beneficial to them.

... National guard would like an interchange here. I talked to a colonel and he said it would be advantageous to them for moving their heavy equipment, so they wouldn't be using a heavy traffic area.

The County Fairgrounds would greatly benefit.

We could do this with all of the safety funds, bridge funds and all else available, like donated property. If this isn't started now, we could lose the donated property. We must get this started.

The rest would then fall into place.

Enclosed find a page of commissioner signatures from March of this year.

Considering it was a holiday yesterday, I am sending this to you today.

Sincerely,

Ann Macdonald
Comment #41: Form Letter (27 copies received)

I SUPPORT THE CUSTER AVENUE INTERCHANGE

The retail center of Helena is now on the north-end of the City in the Montana Avenue and Custer Avenue area. We need an interchange for I-15 there NOW. There is nearly $6 million available for work on that interchange RIGHT NOW. There are landowners adjacent to the interstate and Custer Avenue ready to donate land for the interchange. There are businesses ready to pay a portion of the interchange costs. The City and County Commissioners have all sent a letter to the Montana Department of Highways saying “We strongly encourage this project begin as soon as possible.”

Spending of the federal money for interstate interchanges in the Helena area should first be at Custer to help the many tax-paying businesses that already exist in the area (some of which really need the help). The federal funds should not be spent for an undeveloped area south of the City until there are signs that development is occurring there.

Response to Comment #41;

Twenty-seven signed copies of the form letter shown on the left, supporting the immediate construction of a new interchange at Custer Avenue, were received during the public review comment period. Contact the Montana Department of Transportation for a copy of all twenty-seven form letters.

For the order in which projects will be initiated, see response to Comment #3.

The Federal Highway Administration and the Montana Department of Transportation thank each of these individuals for their comments and participation in the I-15 Corridor EIS project.
Comment #42: Petition

**SUPPORT CUSTER AVENUE INTERCHANGE**

**IMMEDIATE NEED**

We Support the construction of an Interchange at Custer Avenue.

Response to Comment #42;

A petition in support of the construction of an interchange at Custer Avenue was received with 683 signatures on 40 separate pages similar to that shown on the left. No attempt was made to verify signatures or scan the list for duplicate signatures. Contact the Montana Department of Transportation for a copy of all signatures.

The Federal Highway Administration and the Montana Department of Transportation thank the petitioners for their input and participation in the I-15 Corridor EIS project.