Section 3  Interagency and Public Involvement
SECTION 3. INTERAGENCY AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Interagency coordination and public involvement occurred through meetings with the Project Management Team (PMT) and Project Steering Committee (SC). In addition, a public open house was conducted to gain input on the preliminary recommendations.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM

The PMT’s role was to advise the consultant team on the technical elements of the project and make the final decisions regarding the overall project direction based on input from the consultant team, SC, and the public. Three PMT meetings were held between June and October 2012.

The SC provided a balanced representation of interests as well as a communication link with elected officials, citizens, and groups in the community. Members included agency staff representatives, representatives of local business groups, elected officials, and advocates of key interests, including transportation, social, and civic groups. Responsibilities of SC members included representing their constituents’ perspectives during group deliberations, communicating project progress to them, and working to develop recommendations in the development of projects that are consensus based.

DEVELOPER MEETINGS

Key land-owners and developers were contacted at the initiation of the NWFTS update in order to identify potential changes to the plans for their property. Meetings were held with key land-owners and developers including Avimor, M3 Companies, and Rick Thomas. The purpose of these meetings and contacts was to introduce the project and identify the likely development that may occur by 2035.

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

One public open house was held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on October 11, 2012, to offer citizens the opportunity to review and comment on the preliminary plan updates. Approximately 60 people attended the public open house and 41 comment sheets were received. Summary information of the open house is included in the Appendix A.

ACHD developed mailers, as shown in Figure 3, placed sandwich signs throughout the study area, and had

Figure 3: Open House Announcement
advancements in local papers. The mailers introduced the project, study area, and identified the date and location for the public open house.

ACHD also maintained a project website which provided background information about the project and information presented at the public open house.

Some of the general themes of the public comments included:

- Concerns about Beacon Light being planned for five lanes in the long term given the rural nature of the roadway and adjacent properties that exists today.
- Concerns about widening Linder Road.
- The need for more bicycle lanes throughout the area.
- Concerns about roundabouts as options to traffic signals.
- General changes to roadways in the area may be incompatible with rural atmosphere/quality of life in Eagle.
- The need to widen the State Highways.

INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS

Two informational presentations were held with the Eagle City Council and ACHD Commission during the project. These sessions were open to the public and provided the Eagle City Council and ACHD Commission with updates on the project, addressed any questions, and solicited input. The Eagle City Council, ACHD Commission, and Ada County Commission also held two joint meetings in March and June of 2013, to discuss the study.