

6.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE FEIS

The FEIS was published by FHWA and CDOT for agency and public review on September 13, 2013. The notice of availability of the FEIS was published in the Federal Register on September 13, 2013, indicating a 30-day review period ending on October 15, 2013. The public was notified of the release of the FEIS and the public hearing through local newspaper announcements, mailed notices, and the project website at: www.i25pueblo.com. An extension to this comment period was announced in the Federal Register on October 25, 2013 in response to an EPA request (see **Appendix D** of this document), which extended the comment period to October 31, 2013. The public was notified of the extension through mailed announcements and the project website.

6.1 SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE FEIS

Comments on the FEIS were provided in several ways; via the project website at: www.i25pueblo.com, by mail to FHWA and CDOT Region 2, and at the public hearing for the project (held on October 3, 2013 at the Pueblo Rawlings Library). A total of 98 persons attended the public hearing. Documentation related to the public hearing is presented in **Appendix C** of this document. A total of 33 comments were received on the FEIS during the public comment period. Of these, 28 were made by individual members of the public (written or verbal), four were made by federal agencies, and the remaining comment was made by a local organization. The CPW, USACE, DOI, and the EPA submitted comments to the lead agency. One petition was submitted from the Star Nursery and 455 individuals signed the petition, which expressed concerns about impacts to the Star Nursery animal display.

All comments received have been considered and responded to by FHWA and CDOT. Comments received and associated responses are included in **Appendix B** of this document. Comments received on the FEIS centered on multiple subject areas; the most common topics included:

- ❖ Support for noise walls to be built in Phase 1
- ❖ Concern over the future of the animal display at Star Nursery
- ❖ Requesting a clarification of impacts
- ❖ Requesting opportunities for ongoing public involvement

None of the comments received required a change to the Preferred Alternative, impact analysis, or mitigation measures presented in the FEIS. Revisions and clarifications to the FEIS that have been made as a result of comments received on the FEIS are addressed in **Section 5 – Clarifications to the FEIS and Updates in Regulations** of this document.