

## **Ravalli County Commissioners Office**

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**From:** Nessel, Jan <jnesset@mt.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 29, 2015 7:31 AM  
**To:** Ryan, Lori  
**Cc:** Marosok, Lauren  
**Subject:** NEWS RELEASE (UPN 6138): MDT Schedules Open House to Discuss Proposed Reconstruction of Secondary Highway 203 (Eastside Highway) Between Stevensville and Florence

September 29, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lori Ryan, Public Information Officer, (406) 444-6821, email: lryan@mt.gov

**MDT Schedules Open House to Discuss Proposed Reconstruction of Secondary Highway 203 (Eastside Highway) Between Stevensville and Florence**

Florence - The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) is conducting an open house to present a proposal to rebuild about 5.8 miles of Secondary Highway 203 (Eastside Highway) between Stevensville and Florence. The project begins at reference post 4.0, about 3.7 miles north of Stevensville. It extends northerly 5.8 miles to reference post 10.1, about 0.2 miles south of Hidden Valley Road.

The open house in Florence will start at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 8, in the old gymnasium at the Florence-Carlton School (5602 Old Highway 93). While there will be no formal presentation, drawings of the project will be displayed and MDT staff will be on hand to discuss the project and answer questions.

Community participation is a very important part of the process, and the public is encouraged to attend. Opinion, comments and concerns may also be submitted in writing at the meeting; by mail to Shane Stack, Preconstruction Engineer, MDT Missoula district office, PO Box 7039, Missoula, MT 59807-7039; or online at:

<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/northstevi/>

Please indicate comments are for project UPN 6138 and submit comments by October 22, 2015.

The project proposes to reconstruct the road to a 44-ft. top width that provides two 12-foot travel lanes, a 12-foot center/left turn lane, and two 4-foot shoulders. Roadside slopes and ditches will be revised to improve safety. The vertical alignment and drainage features will be upgraded throughout the project. The 90-degree horizontal curves at Rathbun Lane and Ambrose Creek Road will also be flattened for safety. A graded platform for a future shared-use path may also be included.

Construction is tentatively planned for 2017, depending on completion of design and availability of funds.

New right-of way and relocation of utilities will be required. MDT staff has completed survey work and will remain in contact with affected landowners prior to construction regarding property acquisition and temporary construction permits.

The Department of Transportation will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this public meeting or need an alternative accessible format of this notice. If you require an accommodation, contact Jan Nessel at (406) 556-4707 no later than 12 p.m./noon on Oct. 6 to advise us of the nature of the accommodation that you need. Persons who need an alternative format of this notice should contact the Office of Civil Rights, P.O. Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620; (406) 444-9229; fax (406) 444-7243, or e-mail to [aflesch@mt.gov](mailto:aflesch@mt.gov). Those using a TTY may call (800) 335-7592 or through the Montana Relay Service at 711.

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Project name: North of Stevensville-North Project ID: STPS 203-1(15)4 Control Number:  
6138000 Ravalli County