

Chair Kunze, Vice Chair Reineke, and ranking member Antonio and Members of the Transportation Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Sue Mazzola and I am a resident of the City of Brunswick and live on Boston Road. I am a proponent for Senate Bill 155 and am asking for your support as well. Many here will get into the facts as to why this interchange is not feasible and will not help the issue at State Route 82, I believe the transportation study speaks for itself. I would like to give my testimony on a personal note, as a resident who will lose my home.

We purchased our home 42 years ago with the idea it would be our starter home. As it turned out, we fell in love with this city and our neighbors and knew this was to be our forever home. We raised our three daughters in this home, celebrated holidays, birthdays, communions, graduations, weddings and baby showers. This is not just a house, it is a home that holds my most precious memories. We have invested a lot of money in our home with upgrades and improvements, with the anticipation of retirement soon. I would be distraught to have my home taken and destroyed. To have to find another home in today's market and interest rates high, would financially destroy us.

To say this has been a stressful 8 months would be an understatement. My Sunday family dinners with my children and grandchildren have been replaced with sitting for hours at the Rec Center, City Park, Farmers Market and Library passing out flyers and getting signatures. A few of us have walked to every home on Boston and through all the developments off Boston in both Strongsville and Brunswick handing out flyers to get the information out on the proposed interchange.

I attend every Strongsville City council meetings and have been met with metal detectors at the door, my purse is searched, and police who stand in the back of the room during the meeting. I have personally been screamed at by the Strongsville Mayor, all in an attempt to intimidate us. We watched as other Strongsville residents with different concerns be pulled aside and talked to by someone in council, none of us were ever given that courtesy. They sit and say nothing even to those who have pleaded and wept. The only response we can get from the Strongsville State Rep is, "It's for the better good " and "Take it up with the realtor who sold you your home."

In my opinion, the way this provision was put in was a deliberate move to override NOACA. This was a premeditated move on the part of the City of Strongsville.

I would like to believe that those who voted on that Bill were not fully aware of the impact this would have.

I ask that you please take my testimony into consideration and allow myself and the other residents to stop living in this nightmare 24/7 and support Senate Bill 155.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Sue Mazzola