

Good morning Chair Kunze, Vice Chair Rieneke  
Ranking Member Antonio and the Members of the Transportation Committee.

My name is Michael Kellums, I reside at 3450 Boston Rd, Brunswick, Ohio. My home is 5 houses down from the proposed Boston Rd/I-71 interchange. My wife Shrea and I would surely be impacted if this moves forward. I am firmly in favor of Senate Bill 155 to repeal Ohio Revised Code 5501.60.

When I heard about the I-71 interchange at Boston Rd was being brought up again it was very concerning. We have lived here for 30 years and several other attempts were made and studies have shown it would not have any impact on traffic or safety issues at St Rt.82 and I-71 in Strongsville.

Then I found out that an ordinance was going to be placed in the transportation budget to insure the interchange would take place. I reached out to the State Representative who represents Strongsville and was involved in putting the ordinance in the bill. I asked him if any studies have been completed to justify his actions. He stated that 43 percent of the traffic exiting at St Rt.82 and I-71 was Brunswick residents. He also stated that it takes 45 minutes for people to get out of their driveway due to the amount of traffic. The State Representative went on to say that all surrounding communities including the Medina County Commissioners are in support on the interchange.

At the point of our conversation it was late and we bid each other a goodnight.

I was able to contact one of our Medina County Commissioners. I was told the the State Representative must be mistaken because he knows that the Medina County Commissioners have signed a letter of opposition. I was also able to find a news article that stated the Brunswick Hills Trustees also signed a letter of opposition.

I recontacted the State Representative and presented him with my findings. His response was "Your sarcasm is not appreciated " "I'm concluding this conversation based on your tone". At some point during our conversation the State Representative stated the interchange should be "DEMANDED"

Apparently the Representative doesn't like to be challenged or fact checked. It should be noted that he has not contacted any of his residents affected by this or attending any Strongsville Council meetings. Odd to me that he would not try to justify or defend his decision about the interchange and O.R.C. 5501.60

After months of stress an anxiety. A study that the City of Strongsville controlled was finally made public. It was proven once again that an interchange at Boston Rd. and I-71 would have little to no affect on traffic congestion and or safety issue at St.Rt 82 and I-71 in Strongsville. But by that time the transportation budget was passed to include o.r.c. 5501.60 mandating ODOT construct an interchange with specific language pertaining to the Strongsville/Brunswick Boston Rd area.

From profession I have been involved in proposing ordinances at a local level. If my research isn't 100% solid, t's aren't crossed and I's dotted it doesn't move forward. I must also prove it's for the betterment of the community and not just myself or specific

individuals.

I truly believe that the Representative who somehow was able to get 5501.60 into the transportation budget got it wrong. No research or studies were done. And it was definitely not in the best interest of the community

The area of the proposed interchange on Boston Rd. is 100% residential. As little as 10 to 15 years beautiful new residential neighborhood have been established. The South side of Strongsville and North side of Brunswick has always been residential.

We have lived here for 30 years, raised our family here. We don't know what the future hold but loosing our family home for no reason was not in our plan.

Boston Rd is a 2 lane rolling, residential road. There is also several hill that are very exciting if you get to them before the salt trucks do in the winter months.

Other point of interest there is a high pressure jet fuel line that runs along Boston Rd.

I once again thank all of you for your time and consideration.

If you have any questions, I will be more than happy to answer them.

Respectfully,  
Michael Kellums