

Chair Kunze, Vice Chair Reineke, Ranking Member Antonio and members of the transportation committee,

As a resident of Strongsville I am writing in opposition to the proposed I-71 interchange at Boston Road. My opposition stems from the following;

- The interchange would destroy homes and established residential communities, subdivisions that attracted families to both Brunswick and Strongsville.
- The intended traffic pattern change will definitely increase traffic on Boston Road bringing in Commercial truck traffic not currently seen which would increase the danger and risk on an already risky road. Currently due to the number of hills and subdivisions the posted speed limit varies due to these factors. There are 12 subdivisions between I-71 and the proposed extension of Foltz Parkway in Strongsville. That's a lot of residential traffic navigating a commercial road. In addition, to avoid a busy road drivers will increase the use of roads running through these developments and we all know that type of traffic generally drives faster than what is appropriate for neighborhoods with children playing.
- The subdivisions affected are communities that make both Brunswick and Strongsville the desirable communities they are. They are filled with families that support tax bases for strong schools. This would be a road we would be sending our young drivers out on every time they leave home.
- Strongsville's Rt 82 may have congestion but this is a problem that should be dealt with at 82.
- Strongsville's desire to increase tax revenue by expanding commercial development should be secondary to shoring up its current commercial commitments such as empty strip malls and the South Park Mall itself. This is not a solution to current economic concerns.

Thank you for your support of Senate Bill 155 and your time.

Sincerely,

Melanie Knapp