Re: Sub HB 54 TESTIMONY, HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

February 26, 2025

To

Charman Willis

Vice Chair Daniels

Ranking Member Grim

Members of the House Transportation Committee

FROM

Joseph P. Delsanter

Councilman at Large

Vice Mayor Pro Temp

City of Brunswick, Ohio

Chairman Willis, Vice-Chair Daniels, Ranking Member Grim and Members of the House Transportation Committee. I am writing in support of passing Sub HB 54 to rescind ORC 5501.60 which mandates highway projects without FEDERAL HIGHWAY, ODOT and Area Coordinating Agency initiative and standards.

I have not been a proponent of an interchange since the beginning of my tenure on Brunswick City Council because it had no data supporting traffic relief as was stated when passed. The fact that 5501.60 exists imposes inappropriate stress on Federal, State and Local highway funding. The impact of a statute that forces into the budget of area coordinating agencies is impractical when side stepping best practice procedures. Historically this region had already decerned the interchange to be unacceptable by the local governments and surrendered encumbered funding to NOACA for repurpose.

The border of the County/Municipality's is a two-lane country road peacefully joining our communities. There is no major commercial development that can fit into this tight residential corridor yet an interchange forces redevelopment of the road to accommodate commercial traffic taking out homes in a healthy economically stable area and reducing peaceful neighborhoods to noise laden, crime risk areas. This cost is without benefit and was badly contrived.

In the Senate's 2024 Session passed a companion bill ending ORC 5501.60.

The passing of ORC 5501.60 was unwarranted and creates catastrophic outcomes without any consent from the affected stake holders. This statute must be repealed and ask for passage of Sub H.B. 54.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph P. Delsanter

Counilman at Large / Vice Mayor Pro Temp / Chair Planning and Zoning

City of Brunswick, Ohio