I am submitting this written testimony to express my strong support for the passage of Sub HB 54, which will repeal the interchange mandate. My name is Tim Smith, I am a resident of, and serve as a Councilman-at-Large for, the City of Brunswick, the largest city in Medina County.

Sub HB 54 addresses a single, critical issue: repealing a section of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC 5501.60, inserted into the transportation budget via HB 23) that mandates the construction of a highway interchange within a specific residential corridor in Brunswick, bordering Cuyahoga and Medina Counties.

Since the enactment of this mandate, the City of Brunswick has experienced the immediate and significant repercussions of a law forcing the destruction of a substantial portion of a residential community. This mandate has caused considerable anxiety among our residents, who are understandably concerned about the short- and long-term implications of the government taking their property and transforming their quiet streets into nothing more than transient rest stops.

I strongly urge you to pass Sub HB 54. It will not only alleviate the distress of residents facing radical and unwanted changes to their quality of life and potential threats to their community and homes, but also repeal an outdated law with broad and detrimental impacts that will undoubtedly become more concerning over time.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tim Smith
City of Brunswick Councilman-at-Large