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Ohio House  
Transportation Committee  
February 25, 2025  
Testimony of Chief Robert Safran

Chair Patton, Vice Chair Schaffer, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Transportation Committee, thank you for this opportunity to present this written testimony to express support for the passage of Sub House Bill 54, which contains the same repeal language as passed in the Ohio Senate 30-1 in the last General Assembly. This testimony is in regards to the proposed Interstate 71 and Boston Road interchange. I am opposed to this interchange for the following reasons. The first issue is the displacement of our residents and the loss of their respective homes. This will greatly impact the surrounding neighborhood and their quality of life due to a significantly increased traffic volume.

In 2016 the residents of Strongsville opposed the same project advertised as a "slip ramp" near the intersection of Howe Road and Shurmer Road. The residents at that time also recognized the negative impact it would have on the neighborhood and quality of life for the residents. Moving the interchange further south into a similar densely populated neighborhood simply shifts the anticipated issues from Strongsville into Brunswick.

Second- Boston Road is not meant to handle the traffic volume associated with an interchange. The road and surrounding infrastructure would need substantial upgrades, especially with the increase in heavy truck traffic and other larger vehicles. This would also adversely impact the neighborhoods with a substantial increase in traffic and noise.

Third- from a law enforcement perspective, the interchange will be an additional area of concern for patrol. Traditionally, interchanges mean accidents, hitchhikers, and abandoned motor vehicles. Many law enforcement agencies are being requested to do more with less resources. This interchange will be another area of concern and coverage for our officers.

In closing, the proposed interchange is a bad idea that was not completely thought out on how it would negatively impact the residents of Brunswick.

Respectfully,

*CHIEF Safran C-1*

Chief Robert Safran

