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I am Richard H. Finan, Mayor of the Village of Evendale. In my other life, I was a state 1 legislator for 30 years, a senator for 24 years and President of The Ohio Senate from 1996-2003. The other night we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the renovation of this great building of which I had a big part. When I left the Senate curtesy of term limits, I returned to the Village of Evendale and was elected Mayor. Our community is 2800 people who live here and approximately 25,000 who work here. We are the home to GE Aircraft Engines who provided us with 50% of our revenue from an income tax of 1.2%.

When I became Mayor, I and Council decided we had to diversify our industries as we were very vulnerable to a GE downturn. And that's exactly what happened with the pandemic. GE is down 30%.

We began to develop acreage west of I-75 for a project called AeroHub. Its purpose was to provide lots for high tech companies to build upon. We have put in the infrastructure but are stuck with a problem. An ephemeral stream has been designated on this property that they want half a million dollars for it to go away. It is impeding our Development and the creation of a retention pond on the site. We think that the H. B. 175 would solve that problem. I brought our Village engineer to cover the technical aspects of our project.