



COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

NOACA
Howard Maier, Executive Director
1299 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114-3204

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NOACA

September 17, 2007

Dear Mr. Maier,

The seventeen communities from Northeast Ohio who are the membership of the First Suburbs Consortium again publicly state our concern over the I-90 interchange being proposed for Nagel Road in Avon. As we have written to you in the past regarding this same project, this proposed interchange will only further spur urban sprawl from Cuyahoga County westward into Lorain County.

The D.B. Hart study performed for NOACA suggested that losses to existing neighborhoods will be made up by back-filling and other relocations. I am sure that you understand in your heart of hearts that this will not be the case. Our communities to the west will certainly be thrilled to fill those former Class A and B commercial business sites with check-cashing stores and other Class C businesses. We, the seventeen mayors of the FSC, ask you, will Avon's "local funds" be made available to replenish the tax bases that do not benefit from the predicted "back-filling?"

It is our hope that the NOACA board will foresee the losses of residents, businesses, jobs, property taxes and sales taxes that Cuyahoga County will experience if the proposal is approved. Please reject this regional shell game and vote down the proposed project. A new interchange on I-90 will only bring additional economic erosion to a county that certainly cannot afford it.

Sincerely,

Mayor Georgine Welo
Chair