

August 10, 2007

NOACA
1299 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-3204

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Cleveland Clinic respectfully requests the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) to approve the construction of an interchange on Interstate 90 at Lear Nagle Road in Avon, Ohio.

Cleveland Clinic has reached an agreement to acquire 40 acres of land near the proposed interchange. In the coming months the Clinic intends to begin to design and build an approximately 170,000 square foot outpatient facility at this location. Potentially, this facility could be expanded to include additional physician offices and other medical facilities.

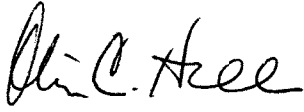
As the largest employer in Northeast Ohio and the second largest employer in Ohio, we understand our expansion plans impact the communities in which we reside and serve. We assure you that we are committed to the City of Westlake where we now have three separate medical facilities. Nearly 800 of our employees live in Westlake. More than 450 of our employees work within the city limits. Regardless of our expansion opportunity in Avon, we will maintain a significant presence in Westlake.

The Clinic has outgrown its current medical facilities on Clemens Road in Westlake. Space capacity concerns required us to consider alternative locations. Despite both the City of Westlake's and our best efforts, we were unable to find a suitable site that would meet our current and future needs. While some services may move from Westlake to Avon, the new facility is not a replacement. We anticipate some of the Clemens Road employees will move to our Columbia Road Medical Campus in Westlake while other groups may remain at the current location.

Our recent and continuing investments in our several regional hospitals and the Main Campus facility represent significant growth in Cuyahoga County. Ninety percent of our current \$1.25 billion construction and capital improvements projects is being spent in Cuyahoga County. Nearly 50 percent of Cleveland Clinic employees live within the City of Cleveland and the contiguous inner-ring suburbs. Our workforce growth in the outer ring suburbs and counties is not at the expense of the inner core, but rather it is in addition to the continued growth in the inner core.

We ask you to approve the construction of the Lear Nagel Road interchange at I-90. If you have questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Oliver C. Henkel, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Oliver C. Henkel, Jr.
Executive Director
Division of Government and Community Relations

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