

Public Involvement Comments

Comments regarding *Connections 2030*, the long-range transportation plan:

Ann Klavora, Shaker Heights
4/13/09

Please add two projects to the *2030 Transportation Plan*. The City of Shaker Heights and GCRTA have worked in partnership on these two related projects for the past several years. Both projects have utilized NOACA TICI funds for preliminary planning studies:

1. **Warrensville/Van Aken/Chagrin Intersection Reconfiguration**—project reconfigures unsafe 6-way intersection to standard 4-way intersection; has been awarded funding and an ODOT PID# to correct safety issues.
2. **GCRTA Blue Line Extension/Intermodal Station**—project extends GCRTA Blue Line light rail transit tracks and builds new, end-of-the-line intermodal station.

Shaker's top priority project has the support of multiple Northeast Ohio private and public partners (GCRTA, Cuyahoga County Engineer, Highland Hills, Warrensville Heights). "Game changer" project is a showcase for intermodal transit station with significant economic benefits anticipated for city, region and state.

The planned intermodal facility will greatly improve in-commuting & out-commuting options for residents of Cleveland, Shaker Heights, Warrensville Heights, Highland Hills, Beachwood and other nearby communities. Improvements open up transit access to jobs in east side suburbs at Chagrin/I-271 and Chagrin Highlands.

Positive environmental impacts include: added capacity/efficiency of existing rapid transit; improved air quality by reducing automobile trips and increasing transit ridership; and reduced air pollution by decreasing traffic congestion & cutting idling time at the intersection by over 50%.