



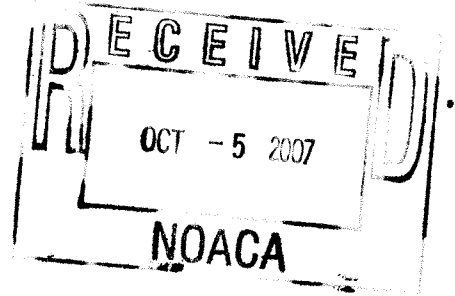
City of Westlake

27700 HILLIARD BOULEVARD • WESTLAKE, OHIO 44145 • (440) 871-3300

Dennis M. Clough, Mayor

October 5, 2007

Mr. Howard R. Maier, Executive Director
NOACA
1299 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-3204



Dear Mr. Maier:

I write this letter to formally request that NOACA reject the request to permit an interchange at Lear Road and I-90 in the city of Avon. While the shifting of jobs and economic growth from Cuyahoga and surrounding counties is a major long-term concern, a more immediate and troublesome problem is the lack of clear planning and commitment on the many encouraged recommendations that were identified by NOACA staff if the interchange is approved. Putting an interchange in the middle of a substandard infrastructure that is not eligible for any funding for upgrade is irresponsible public policy. The response to “just deal with it” is not acceptable.

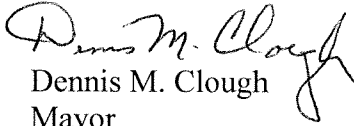
These recommendations include many improvements and the expansion of existing ancillary streets, intersections and roadways. None of these have been properly prioritized by NOACA, the respective counties or individual cities as construction projects that will be funded and built in connection with this interchange project. The commitment and funding necessary to address all the proposed recommendations must be an immediate and integral part of any approval of the I-90 Avon interchange in order to properly prepare and plan for all the ramifications that will occur if the interchange is built.

The Cleveland Clinic has emphatically stated that they are going forth with their development that also includes a hotel and restaurants with or without the proposed interchange. Consequently, I see no reason to expedite the shifting of jobs and economic development from the surrounding area to the proposed location, especially since the funding is not in place to handle all the necessary improvements and recommendations as identified by the NOACA staff.

Mr. Howard R. Maier
NOACA
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Thank you for your consideration of this request. I have also enclosed a resolution that was passed by our City Council expressing their opposition to the Avon interchange request.

Sincerely,


Dennis M. Clough
Mayor

DMC/pmg
enc.

cc: Mr. Robert Parry - Director of Planning & Economic Development
Westlake City Council
NOACA Board

**CITY OF WESTLAKE, OHIO
RESOLUTION NO. 2007-162**

**A RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND THE
REJECTION OF THE APPROVAL OF THE
PROPOSED I-90 AVON INTERCHANGE.**

WHEREAS, NOACA is considering a request to permit an interchange at Lear and I-90 within the City of Avon; and

WHEREAS, Westlake believes that proper planning and funding has not been properly identified to assure that all ancillary and connecting roadways are improved and expanded to accommodate the proposed interchange; and

WHEREAS, Westlake believes that this interchange should not be a priority within the NOACA region since it is located within a mile of two existing interchanges and there is currently only vacant undeveloped land adjoining the proposed location; and

WHEREAS, Westlake believes that if this interchange is permitted 80% to 90% of all growth and development that would occur at this site will come from existing establishments currently located within Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties; and

WHEREAS, Westlake will not receive any substantial benefit or reduction of traffic at the Crocker Road interchange according to the existing and future traffic counts; and

WHEREAS, Westlake will experience a dramatic increase in traffic volumes on its ancillary roadways that are already used to reach destinations in Lorain County; and

WHEREAS, Westlake believes that the main beneficiaries of the interchange proposed are the existing and surrounding landowners especially since the landowners have offered to privately fund the interchange. Therefore we do not feel the general public interest is paramount to this decision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA AND STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1: That the Mayor and Westlake City Council recommend to NOACA that the proposed I-90 Interchange at Lear Road in the City of Avon be rejected.

Section 2: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to this legislation were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 10, Article XI of the Charter of the City of Westlake.


Section 3: That this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

First Reading: 10.4.07
Second Reading: N/A

I, Susan J. Prehoda, the duly appointed, qualified and acting Clerk of Council of the City of Westlake, Ohio do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of Ordinance Resolution No. 2007-162 duly adopted on the 4 day of October, 2007.

**CITY OF WESTLAKE, OHIO
RESOLUTION NO. 2007-162
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Passed: 10.4.07

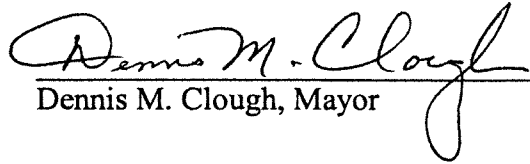

Michael F. Killeen, President of Council

Presented to Mayor: 10.4.07

Approved: 10.4.07

ATTEST:


Susan Prehoda, Clerk of Council


Dennis M. Clough, Mayor