

Cleveland · Akron

Sign up for E-News

Contact the Station

Feedback 5

Get RSS

Search

Site/Keyword

newsnet5.com



HOME	WEATHER	NEWS	VIDEO	AKRON-CANTON	INVESTIGATIVE	CONSUMER	ENTERTAINMENT	SPORTS	GMC	ABOUT US			
Education	Employment	Auto	Health	Health Experts	House And Home	WEDDINGS	HomeTown Experts	Legal	Cleveland247	Real Estate	Dating	Travel	Family



HOME | NEWS

Public Voices Comments, Concerns About \$2M Innerbelt Plan

POSTED: 10:52 pm EDT April 21, 2009
UPDATED: 11:27 pm EDT April 21, 2009



CLEVELAND -- Big plans are under way for the Innerbelt, part of the largest highway project in state history.

The plan includes two new bridges and roadway improvements that haven't been seen in over two generations.

On Tuesday night, the public was finally able to give their take on plans for Cleveland's decaying infrastructure.

"We've got about 1 million square feet of bridge decks, 4 million square feet of pavement that's 50 years of age. It's worn well but it's worn out," said Craig Hebebrand, of the Ohio Department of Transportation.

At a cost of nearly \$2 billion, the Cleveland Innerbelt project will replace the existing east-bound bridge and build a new westbound bridge.

It will also alter the Innerbelt trench by reducing the number of exit ramps.

"The primary issue with the Innerbelt is all the points of access and making sure traffic can get on and off efficiently," said Michael Armstrong, of the Federal Highway Administration.

With that goal in mind, state and federal officials want to eliminate the exit at Carnegie Avenue. The proposal has drawn opposition from the Cleveland Clinic and business owners in midtown.

"If this project goes forward as now planned, thousand of jobs are at stake, millions of dollars in local taxes and millions of dollars of economic benefit," said Stephen O'Bryan, attorney for Midtown Cleveland, Inc.

Under the plan, several familiar landmarks will also be removed, including the cold storage building, but the historic Tremont district will be left intact.

While differences remain over the economic impact to midtown, the largest highway project in state history will no doubt produce a spinoff effect that could revive northeast Ohio.

"The plan is going to put a lot of hardworking Clevelanders, Cuyahoga County people and Ohioans back to work. It's going to make the highway safer and improve transportation greatly in the Cleveland area," said project supporter Paul Standard.

Copyright 2009 by NewsNet5. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

E-Mail News Alerts
Get breaking news and daily headlines.

Enter E-Mail Address

[Browse all e-mail newsletters](#)

Related To Story

WELCOME TO THE NEW MONSTER
THE FASTER AND EASIER WAY TO FIND THE PERFECT PERSON FOR THE JOB

[POST A JOB](#)

monster.com
Your calling is calling

Credit Report
See Your Credit Score & Report Instantly!

560? 675? 720? The average US Credit Score is 692. What is your score? See it online for FREE! [More Details](#)

692

SPONSORED BY: **freecreditreport.com**

Side Dish ... Sponsor

[How To Get Curb Appeal](#)

[Lower Your APR Now](#)

2010 New Auto Showcase

Get In Gear And Find A New Car That's Right For You

650 740 820 **What's Your Credit Score?** experian

Most Popular Stories

- [Teen Catches Gator That Lunged At Him From Akron Lake](#)
- [8-Year-Old Girl Dies Suddenly From Diabetes](#)
- [Bratenahl Officer Injured In Crash](#)
- [Police: Man Shot In Head, Killed During Argument](#)
- [Police: Dad Hit Young Son After Losing Video](#)

Local News

- [Vigil Held On 6th Anniversary Of Amanda Berry's Disappearance](#)
- [Billions Spent On Projects To Aid In Cleveland's Rebirth](#)
- [City To Give Alcoa \\$500,000](#)
- [Free Clinics Look For Volunteers](#)

[See Your Credit Score](#)

[Improve Your Home](#)