

Re: “MidTown Succeeds - ODOT to Reevaluate Closure of Innerbelt Ramps”

January 13, 2012

MidTown Cleveland, Inc. Members, Stakeholders & Friends,

Since 2003, MidTown Cleveland, Inc. has been the lead advocate opposing the Ohio Department of Transportation’s planned elimination of the existing Prospect and Carnegie Avenue ramps as part of the Cleveland Innerbelt Project redesign. Based on our firm belief that ramp removals will negatively impact business growth and economic development, MidTown Cleveland, Inc. filed a Federal Complaint on behalf of our stakeholders on April 14, 2010. Joined by Acme Express, Inc. and Save Our Access, MidTown Cleveland, Inc. initiated legal action against the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration and ODOT seeking to prohibit the expenditure of federal funds for work in the Innerbelt Trench until a complete analysis is conducted to determine the true economic impact of the proposed Innerbelt Trench access changes.

Over the past 18 months, MidTown Cleveland, Inc. and ODOT have worked cooperatively to achieve a settlement. I am pleased to announce that we have agreed to jointly undertake a comprehensive economic impact study that will re-evaluate the closure of the existing Carnegie and Prospect Avenue ramps. Closure is a longstanding concern of MidTown stakeholders because we believe Carnegie and Prospect access is vitally important to MidTown, Cleveland and the region. We look forward to working with ODOT on the study to ensure the Cleveland Innerbelt Project continues to provide vital access to the growing MidTown area and rapidly developing Cleveland Health-Tech Corridor.

MidTown Cleveland, Inc. and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) have issued a [joint press release](#) announcing plans to undertake this comprehensive economic impact study. We will continue to update you on the timing of the study and your opportunity to participate.

Thank you for your support.

Jim

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