

DWA JPC/RET

RESOLUTION NO. 53 -2008

**EXPRESSING** City Council's support for Hopple Street/I-75 Interchange alternatives 3 and 3A; and **EXPRESSING** City Council's opposition to alternatives 1, 1A, 2 and 2A and **URGING** the Ohio Department of Transportation to eliminate such alternatives from further consideration.

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Transportation ("ODOT") has conducted an investigation to determine the best design for the Hopple Street Interchange at I-75; and

WHEREAS, the I-75 improvements will be the most significant investment of public dollars that is scheduled to occur in the City of Cincinnati over the next several decades; and

WHEREAS, City Council recognizes the opportunity this investment provides to re-knit the City's urban fabric and character by restoring neighborhood patterns and street grids; and

WHEREAS, City Council chooses to utilize boulevards and other traditional urban street systems that strengthen neighborhood vitality, promote increased property values, and facilitate economic development as gateways; and

WHEREAS, the intersection of Hopple Street and Central Parkway is a major gateway into Camp Washington and Uptown, Cincinnati's second largest employment area; and

WHEREAS, the intersection of Hopple Street and Central Parkway needs to be a gateway that is visually commensurate with the importance of the neighborhood it announces; and

WHEREAS, construction of the new Hopple Street/I-75 Interchange will impact the businesses located in Uptown and Camp Washington; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cincinnati has reviewed all of the proposed alternatives investigated by ODOT and has informed ODOT, as more fully described in the letter attached hereto and incorporated herein, that the City will support alternative 3 or 3A based on safety concerns, accessibility to local neighborhoods, preserving the aesthetics and character of Central Parkway, the gateway to Uptown and Camp Washington, and ensuring the economic viability of the area; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That Council hereby expresses its support for Hopple Street/I-75 Interchange alternatives 3 and 3A and believes that the final optimum plan will be some variation or combination of alternatives 3 and 3A based upon the next phase of study, refinement, and design.

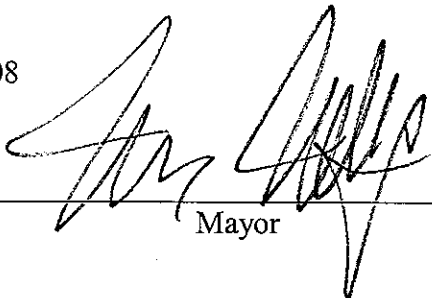
Section 2. That Council hereby expresses its opposition for alternatives 1, 1A, 2 and 2A, and urges ODOT to eliminate such alternatives from further consideration.

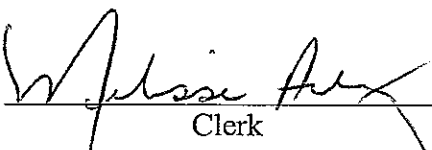
Section 3. That, while the City approves of the ongoing analysis of alternatives 3 and 3A, the final design of the preferred alternative must preserve alignment for light rail, must enhance bicycle and pedestrian access, and must maximize usable property for use by Public Services and for future redevelopment.

Section 4. That the actual physical design and appearance of the Hopple Street Interchange and surrounding area must also enhance the parkway corridors as described in the City's Parks Master Plan, create interchange structure(s) to serve as significant gateways, and design physical elements that maintain and reflect the urban parkway character of the area.

Section 5. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that copies be sent to Ted Strickland, Governor of the State of Ohio; all members of the Cincinnati delegation of the Ohio General Assembly; Jim Beasley, Director of the Ohio Department of Transportation; and Stefan Spinosa, Ohio Department of Transportation Project Manager.

Passed: October 8, 2008

  
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Mayor

Attest:   
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Clerk

Submitted by Councilmember Roxanne Qualls.