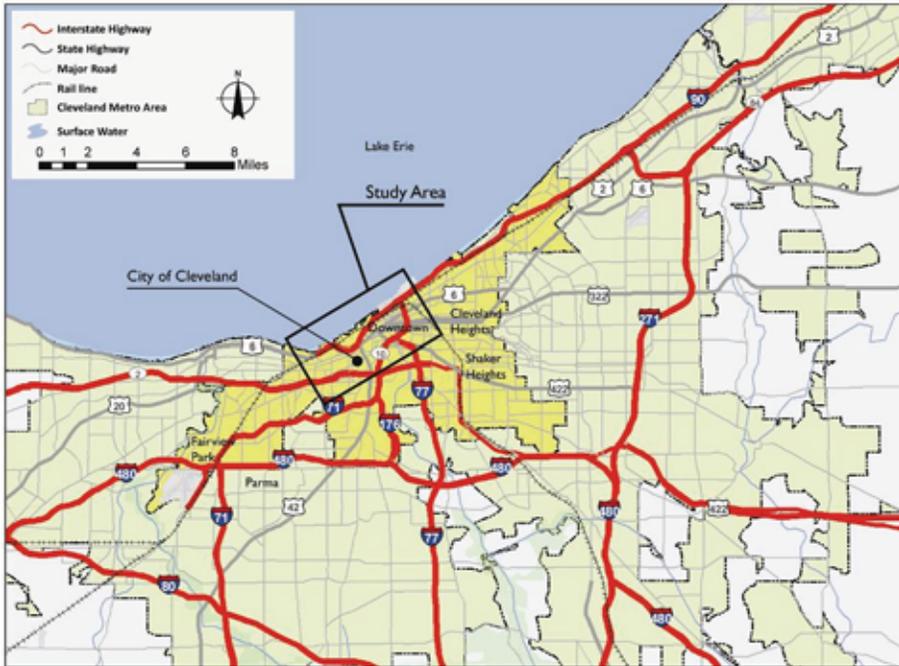


Cleveland Memorial Shoreway/Route 6 (West)

	Cleveland Memorial Shoreway	I-81
Type	at grade limited access highway	existing elevated highway - TBD
Interstate Highway?	no	yes
Through Traffic?	no-spur highway	yes
Vehicles /Day	45,000	100,000
Project Length	8 miles	1.4 mi.
Context	downtown waterfront	downtown
City	Cleveland, OH	Syracuse, NY
Population	596,974	140,658
Project Stage	planning	planning
Estimated Cost	\$77 million	unknown

Regional Context



Project Location



The Cleveland Memorial Shoreway serves as the primary highway access between downtown Cleveland and the near west side suburbs. While it provides convenient transportation, it also creates a barrier between downtown and Edgewater Park, a significant urban recreation resource. As part of a downtown freeway reconstruction project, an option to convert the limited access, high speed Shoreway into a tree-lined, 35 mph boulevard gained wide appeal among the local neighborhoods served by this corridor.

What was the decision-making process?

This project was the subject of protracted disagreements between the City of Cleveland and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). The reconfiguration was initially rejected by ODOT due to traffic and funding issues, but the city

remained resolute that this was the best option. Cleveland officials reduced the speed limit of the road from 50 to 35 mph, and argued that state law enabled this because the road passed through Edgewater Park. Initially, the ODOT did not agree, but eventually, the concept gained approval. The conversion to a boulevard is now planned as a “Phase II” of the highway reconstruction project, which includes some other downtown freeway improvements. Construction is planned to begin in 2013.



Source: Creative Commons, FreewayFan2007.

What can *The I-81 Challenge* learn from this effort?

The Shoreway was constructed with the intention of connecting commuters conveniently with the downtown, but has served to be a substantial barrier between the Detroit Avenue neighborhood and Edgewater Park, on the Lake Erie shore. The Cleveland Waterfront District Plan has recognized the desire to address these impacts with the proposed boulevard plan, at odds with the ODOT concepts.

Since the decision to convert this highway to a boulevard, private investment in the Detroit Avenue/Shoreway neighborhood has already been increasing based on optimism about the potential benefits of the boulevard and the enhanced accessibility to Edgewater Park that it would allow.

For More Information:

http://blog.cleveland.com/metro/2008/12/plan_to_turn_clevelands_west_s.html



Plan to Improve Connectivity to Shoreway and Edgewater Park