



January 31, 2014

Mr. Jerry Wray, Director  
Ohio Department of Transportation  
1980 W. Broad Street  
Columbus OH 43223

RE: State Route 8 Redesignation as Interstate 380

Dear Director Wray,

Thanks to the hard work of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), and its planning partners, including the Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS), and local governments throughout Summit County, State Route 8 was recently completed as a limited-access, multi-lane freeway between Akron's Central Interchange (I-76/77) and I-271 in Macedonia.

As such, we, the undersigned, believe that State Route 8 is now deserving of an Interstate designation, due to its high volume of traffic, the connectivity that it provides, and its functional importance as one of the region's most significant freeway facilities.

Designating this important roadway as an Interstate highway will provide several significant advantages to the region:

- Improved way-finding to major attractions
- Benefits in terms of jobs and commerce for businesses located in the corridor
- Raising the roadway's profile with officials charged with administrative and transportation funding decisions, commensurate with its functional importance

Attached you will find a brief memorandum from AMATS, explaining why we, the undersigned, believe that State Route 8 should be designated as Interstate 380 between I-76/77 and I-271.

On October 31, 2013, AMATS submitted a proposal to this effect to the Ohio Department of Transportation District 4 for its consideration.

The proposal has also been covered by various print and broadcast media outlets in the region, including the *Akron Beacon Journal*. All indications are that the idea has been met with public support.

We understand that ODOT Central Office is currently in the process of evaluating this proposal. We hope that, after careful consideration, your administration will be in a position to concur, and will agree to submit a formal request to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to redesignate State Route 8 as Interstate 380.



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Both AMATS, and the local governments throughout the State Route 8 corridor, lend you our full support and would be willing to help co-sponsor a formal request to FHWA for Interstate highway designation.

We very much look forward to working with ODOT to further this proposal. AMATS would be happy to host a meeting between ODOT and the local governments in the corridor to discuss this proposal further, should you find it helpful.

Very Warmest Regards,

A blue ink signature in cursive script, reading "Donald Plusquellic".

Mayor Donald Plusquellic  
City of Akron

A blue ink signature in cursive script, reading "Don Kuchta".

Mayor Don Kuchta  
City of Macedonia

A blue ink signature in cursive script, reading "Don Walters".

Mayor Don Walters  
City of Cuyahoga Falls

A blue ink signature in cursive script, reading "Russell M. Pry".

Russell M. Pry, Executive  
County of Summit

A blue ink signature in cursive script, reading "Sara Drew".

Mayor Sara Drew  
City of Stow

A blue ink signature in cursive script, reading "Alan Brubaker".

Alan Brubaker, PE, PS  
Summit County Engineer

A blue ink signature in cursive script, reading "William Currin".

Mayor William Currin  
City of Hudson

A blue ink signature in cursive script, reading "Jason Segedy".

Jason Segedy  
Director, AMATS

A blue ink signature in cursive script, reading "William Goncy".

Mayor William Goncy  
Village of Boston Heights