

Round #1 Public Engagement Summary



Fall 2022 Outreach Efforts

The first round of public engagement for the North Coast Connector consisted of six public meetings, an online survey, and engagement conducted by a Community Outreach Team. The first meeting, Mayor Justin Bibb's Town Hall, acted as a kickoff to the North Coast Connector engagement effort. Following the town hall, Cleveland City Councilmembers co-hosted five smaller listening sessions geographically distributed throughout Cleveland. After the final listening session, the City of Cleveland posted and promoted an online survey to gather additional input on the proposed Connector. The survey was also available in print format.

Purpose

The purpose of this first round of engagement was to:

- Inform residents, businesses, and current and future users of Cleveland's lakefront about the proposed vision for the North Coast Connector and the feasibility study;
- Provide a history to help participants understand how we arrived at where we are today; and
- Gather public feedback on four connector concept "buckets."

This feedback will guide planners and engineers as they further develop feasible alternatives for the North Coast Connector and surrounding areas.

Public Meeting Details

The City of Cleveland hosted six public meetings at the locations and times listed below. A total of 275 participants signed in at the meetings, excluding members of the project team and other presenters. As several people did not sign in, actual attendance may have been higher.

Date	Location	Attendance
November 3	Cleveland City Hall Rotunda	103
November 10	Zelma George Recreation Center	30
November 15	Collinwood Recreation Center	27
November 16	Saint Joseph Academy	60
November 17	Estabrook Recreation Center	33
November 29	Church of Christ at the Boulevard	22

The project team asked attendees to pre-register for each meeting, but registration was not a requirement to attend and participate. Several volunteers served as meeting “greeters” and “table captains” who facilitated table discussions.

The meeting agenda included the following:

- Welcome
- Address from city leaders
- Vision for the lakefront
- Overview of past plans and action related to the downtown lakefront since the 1800s
- Samples of land bridges
- Review of the feasibility study and four Connector concept buckets
- Facilitated table discussions
- Report out by tables
- City leadership reflections on what they heard
- Next steps and adjourn

Concept Buckets

At each public meeting and in the Connector concepts online survey, presenters showed participants four general concept “buckets” that represent some options for a potential land bridge (including a “no-build” bucket). These high-level approaches represent starting points for discussion about a connection from downtown to Cleveland’s North Coast.



No Land Bridge, No Change

Traffic and land use stay the same.



Build Land Bridge Over Existing Shoreway

Traffic stays the same, more land available for more uses.



Build Land Bridge, Shoreway Becomes a Boulevard

Traffic is different, even more land available for more uses.



Build Land Bridge, Remove Shoreway Entirely

Traffic is very different, the most land available for more uses.

The project team distributed the following materials to each table to assist in discussions and solicit input from participants:

- **Participant worksheets** – One per attendee that asked 18 questions about the participant’s current experiences downtown and along the lakefront, preferences on proposed solutions, and demographic information.
- **FAQs** – One per attendee, with seven frequently asked questions and answers about the North Coast Connector.
- **Exhibits** – One set of exhibits per table that included four maps (concepts A, B, C and D), and photos of boulevards and key transportation corridors along and near the Shoreway.
- **Parking lot sheet** – One sheet per table, for documenting unanswered questions.
- **Other materials** – Post-it Notes, pens, and markers at each table for writing down ideas on the worksheets and exhibits.