

This proposal to site chip manufacturing on lands designated rural reserve makes a farce of land use planning.

The area has already suffered in multiple ways from the deals made by the state to attract attract the semiconductor business. Those ways include but are not limited to educational standards (thanks to the diversion of property taxes) and air quality (thanks to emissions of inadequately scrubbed emissions and traffic jams due to failure of road improvement commensurate with use) and homelessness (as property values have escalated beyond the average workers ability to buy).

But my major objection? We have a 20-year and a 50-year unexpired Land Use Plan which took months, years to form. And now? Why the effort when it can be dishonored by our attempts to buy industry? When the buy-in price, considering Intel's commitment to Ohio, is bound to be astronomical - may doubling, tripling what we've already paid in deferred taxes and shabby oversight?

If we cannot sufficiently service the chip industry within current land use restrictions, it might be we cannot afford to compete. Some victories are Pyrrhic, and by many of our standards "winning" the earlier Intel businesses is a foretaste of any future win.

Do let the people speak -
Heather Rode

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