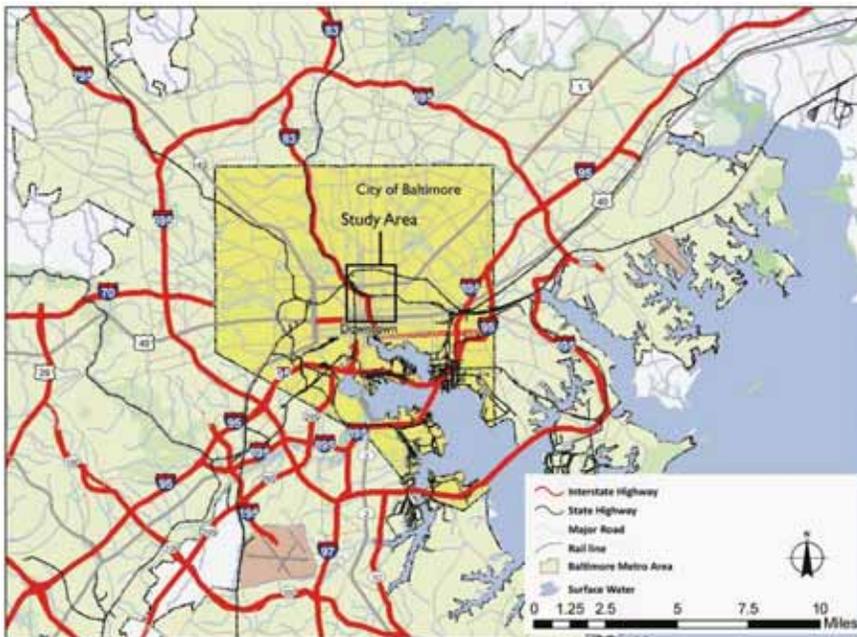


I-83 Jones Falls Expressway

	I-83	I-81
Type	elevated highway	existing elevated highway - TBD
Interstate Highway?	Yes - I-83	yes
Through Traffic?	spur	yes
Vehicles /Day	55,000	100,000
Project Length	1 mile	1.4 mi.
Context	downtown	downtown
City	Baltimore, MD	Syracuse, NY
Population	631,366	140,658
Project Stage	concept	planning
Estimated Cost	\$1,000 million (preliminary estimate)	unknown

Regional Context



Project Location



The partially elevated Jones Falls Expressway, which connects to I-95 and carries I-83 into downtown Baltimore, has long been considered a physical barrier and detriment to urban redevelopment by community members and city planners, who argue that the highway divides the Johns Hopkins Medical Campus from downtown and has a negative influence on adjacent neighborhoods. In May 2009, a study was initiated by the City of Baltimore to explore a broad range of options and issues related to the possible replacement of the Expressway with a boulevard. This effort is very early in the concept stage.

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

A few elements of this project are similar to those in Syracuse: the corridor is an interstate highway, serves high volumes of commuter traffic, and is seen as a barrier between a university hospital campus and downtown.

The area underneath the elevated expressway has found some utility in the form of a weekly farmers market that is sheltered from rain and sun by the highway. However, given the educational and employment resources in the vicinity of the highway, many in the community believe that there likely would be opportunities for an improved economic environment if the highway was removed or its impacts mitigated. At this time, the study of future options has not reached any conclusions.

**For More Information:**

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/business/bal-bz.jfx17may17,0,7643521.story>



Credit: James George