

Allan V. Johnson

Community Service



Allan V. Johnson was born in 1934 just minutes after his twin brother. Allan attended East Clark Elementary School. He began Collinwood Junior High School in 1946 and graduated from Collinwood High School in 1952.

Allan went to the Ohio State University earned a Bachelor of civil engineering degree in June 1959. He began his professional career as a design engineer in the Cleveland Office of the Ohio Department of Highways. He was assigned to a special task force established by Governor James A. Rhodes to help expedite completion of the stalled interstate route 71 across the state. Eventually, the group was given responsibility for all the interstate highway system in coordinating the activities of 14 Urban transportation study groups in Ohio and for a critical bridge replacement project over the Ohio River in Cincinnati.

Allan was picked to head the task force in 1965. He received widespread acclaim for their success. Allan spent over five years in this position until he was selected to be its Executive Director effective November 1970.

He was the chief administrative and operating officer of the commission with direct responsibility for its more than 1100 employees including management of outside consultants, contractors, patrol services, service plaza concessions and more. In 1983 Allan developed the outline and strategy for comprehensive plans to renovate and improve the turnpike. This effort led to changes in Ohio law that allowed the commission to stay as an independent agency.

Allan is a licensed professional engineer, a fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers (The highest level in the society), and the Cleveland Chapter of the society chose him as civil engineer of the year in 1989.

He is a past president of the international bridge, tunnel and turnpike association (IBTTA), was chairman of its government affairs task force, chairman of its governmental relations committee, principal spokesman for toll agencies in the United States, and championed the provisions supporting toll facilities and the federal intermodal surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991. Johnson remains active in IBTTA as a member of its past presidents advisory council.

Allan was a member of the Board of Trustees of Wilberforce University for Twenty Years and he served on the Board of Consultants of the Eno Foundation, a Private Foundation devoted to improving all aspects of transportation. He also served on advisory committees for the College of Engineering and Department of Civil Engineering of the Ohio State University.

Allan Johnson still resides in the Collinwood School District.