



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

January 16, 2018

Prepping starts for major Ind. 37 construction project in Hamilton County

Indianapolis Star

John Tuohy

1/15/18

A flurry of roadwork in Fishers and Noblesville is scheduled to be finished this year ahead of a \$150 million restructuring of Ind. 37. The improvements on alternative streets are meant to handle detours when the Ind. 37 construction begins, said Brad Davis, Hamilton County Highway director. The Ind. 37 project will allow motorists to travel from I-69 to 146th Street without stopping. It calls for the rebuilding of intersections, most into roundabouts, to alleviate growing traffic congestion on Ind. 37 and cross streets. The construction is expected to last from fall of this year until the end of 2021. Much of the alternative work will be done on Allisonville Road, where a traffic lane will be added in both directions at the intersection of 126th Street and at the intersection of 131st Street. Turn lanes will be built on 126th Street. The 126th and 131st street intersections will remain traditional intersections with traffic signals. The intersections of 126th Street and Parkside Drive and 131st Street and Cumberland Road will be made into roundabouts. Fishers has already completed other projects to improve traffic flow, including intersection improvements at 116th Street and Cumberland Road and reconstruction at 116th Street and Allisonville Road. In Noblesville, Herriman Boulevard, which closely parallels Ind. 37, will be extended from 141st Street to 146th. The plan for Ind. 37 has been altered a bit at 146th Street, which was originally slated to be a roundabout. Hamilton County Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt said studies showed that traffic on 146th Street was expected to increase so much that a roundabout would slow it down. So instead, Ind. 37 at 146th will have a standard expressway-style interchange. Roundabouts will still be built at 126th, 131st and 141st streets, so motorists will be able to travel from I-69 to 146th Street without stopping. Like the rebuilt Keystone Parkway, Ind. 37 will go under the roundabouts at cross streets. The cross streets will stay on ground level and Ind. 37 will be lowered to go underneath. "That was done so businesses on the east-west streets could retain maximum exposure from the road," Heirbrandt said. "If the roundabouts were elevated, it would be hard for motorists to see them."

<https://www.indystar.com/story/news/local/hamilton-county/2018/01/15/prepping-starts-major-ind-37-construction-project-hamilton-county/1024443001/>

Trafalgar to spend TIF funds on street repairs, upgrades

Daily Journal

Jacob Tellers

1/14/18

New crosswalks near schools and street repairs could be funded with tax dollars the town of Trafalgar has been collecting from new businesses. The town set up its first tax-increment financing, or TIF, districts in 2007, and now has two, with one near the northeast corner of state

roads 135 and 252 and the other at the northwest corner of State Road 135 and West County Road 400S. The town began collecting property tax dollars from new businesses that located there and now has \$219,000 in property taxes available to spend in 2018. In past years, the money has been spent on road paving projects. This year, town officials are considering adding crosswalks to the intersection of State Road 135 and State Road 252, a busy area for students at nearby Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson schools, and paying for road paving projects that are needed in the next year, town council member Jason Ramey said. Work on the new crosswalk could begin as soon as this spring and officials hope to have the project done by the fall, before school starts again, Ramey said. Students at Indian Creek High School often cross the state highway after school to get to shops and restaurants on the north side, but without crosswalks, pedestrians don't have any safe ways to get across, Ramey said. "It has scared me more than once to watch some kid cross that intersection on their own," he said. The town also is working with Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson Schools to get a crosswalk and signage put up on South County Road 300W, to allow students to safely cross over to the Crest Ridge Estates neighborhood on the east side of the road, a project the school may also assist in funding, Ramey said.

<http://www.dailyjournal.net/2018/01/15/trafalgar-to-spend-tif-funds-on-street-repairs-upgrades/>

This will be another busy year for road construction

Palladium-Item

Jason Truitt

1/12/18

RICHMOND, Ind. — Mention the phrase "road construction" around many Wayne County residents these days and you're likely to spark a rant containing colorful language that shouldn't be repeated around children. Last year was filled with projects throughout the county on most of the major routes, forcing folks to get creative in finding new ways to get around. The list of projects for 2018 isn't as long, but there still are several you'll need to watch out for once temperatures climb high enough for work to begin. Wayne County officials have at least three bridges slated for repairs. First up will be Peacock Road in Richmond near McBride Stadium and the Richmond Evening Optimist's baseball diamonds. That will go out to bid Tuesday. "It'll take a couple of months to get everything going, so I would estimate the road will be closed this spring and then into summer, but it's not a huge project," County Engineer Bob Warner said. "There's a lot of utility work that actually we're trying to get done now before the project actually starts, but the road shouldn't close for that work." Also scheduled for 2018 are bridges on Bear Creek Road southwest of Hagerstown and Dale Avenue in Cambridge City. And if funding becomes available from the state's Community Crossings program, the county is eyeing two other bridges.

"Depending on funding, we're also looking at potentially a project on Willow Grove Road and a project on Teetor Road in Hagerstown if we get Community Crossings funds for those," Warner said. "That's a question mark, and those will be late this year if we get those." The county has been awarded \$500,000 this year from the Indiana Department of Transportation's Community Crossings program, money that will be used by the highway department to pave several roads. Meanwhile, INDOT has a handful of projects of its own listed for this year, including a pair of holdovers from 2017. Work still needs to be completed on the U.S. 27/U.S. 40 project through downtown Richmond. That will continue throughout the year. <http://www.palladium-item.com/story/news/local/2018/01/12/another-busy-year-road-construction/995212001/>

www.buildindianacouncil.org