



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

### **February 15, 2018**

#### **Indy's streets are so bad, making them 'fair' would take 10 times the current budget**

Indianapolis Star  
John Tuohy  
2/15/18

Indianapolis' decaying, pothole-ridden roads are on the cusp of a catastrophic collapse unless hundreds of millions of dollars are spent to fix them quickly. An internal city analysis paints a bleak picture of future road conditions, calling the amount of work and money needed to repair 8,100 miles of streets lanes "staggering." Years of neglect and a lack of funding are the culprits, according to the review. "This deferred maintenance and lack of improvement have resulted in severe deterioration to the city's transportation facilities," the audit, conducted by the Department of Public Works, concluded. Officials estimate it will cost \$732 million for city streets to be upgraded to fair condition from the current rating of poor. To keep the streets in fair condition — a 4 on a 10-point scale — another \$178 million a year would be needed for upkeep, more than double the current annual funding that Indianapolis has available for all roads, bridge and sidewalk projects. Officials said a decades-spanning cycle of neglect accelerates the longer it's ignored. The roads are deteriorating faster than the city can rebuild or maintain them, and as the number of failed streets grows, the city needs more and more money to fix them. "The city is always behind, there is not enough revenue to cover our needs," said Zach Adamson, a member of City-County Council's Public Works Committee. "We are painfully aware of the roads we drive on and spend every nickel possible on them, but obviously that's not adequate." What it means for drivers is that the outbreak of gaping potholes that have been wrecking tires and causing widespread consternation this winter will likely get worse in coming years unless a mammoth infusion of cash is found. <https://www.indystar.com/story/news/2018/02/15/indys-streets-so-bad-making-them-fair-would-take-10-times-current-budget/324044002/>

#### **County Council approves \$1.3 million for Eisenhower Bridge project**

The Herald Bulletin  
Ken de la Bastide  
2/13/18

CHESTERFIELD – The Madison County Council approved \$1.3 million for the replacement of the Eisenhower Bridge in downtown Anderson. The County Council, which met Tuesday at the Millcreek Civic Center, approved a \$1 million transfer from the county's general fund to the non-reverting Eisenhower Bridge fund and then approved the expenditure of \$1.3 million for the bridge. The council also approved \$81,000 from the asbestos remediation and remodeling of the Madison County Government Center to pay additional security costs until the building reopens in July. Auditor Rick Gardner said the county started the year with a general fund balance of \$10.9 million. With the \$1 million for the bridge, the general fund balance was reduced to \$9.9 million. He said the county needs to have a general fund cash balance of not less than \$9 million at the

end of the year. "I wouldn't look at any new appropriations from the general fund," Gardner said. "Not until we see how the revenues are being received." Last year the County Council decided to pay the county's share of the Eisenhower Bridge replacement from available county funds. Madison County received a \$13.5 million federal Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER, grant to replace the bridge. The county's required local match is \$3.1 million. The county is still responsible for the \$1,770,800 in inspection fees, \$238,758 for the relocation of power lines by Anderson Municipal Light & Power and the estimated \$337,044 fee to the Indiana Department of Transportation.

[http://www.heraldbulletin.com/news/local\\_news/county-council-approves-million-for-eisenhower-bridge-project/article\\_f654b31c-37d1-5b3e-b958-8728fc0a5966.html](http://www.heraldbulletin.com/news/local_news/county-council-approves-million-for-eisenhower-bridge-project/article_f654b31c-37d1-5b3e-b958-8728fc0a5966.html)

### **Rieth-Riley wins Kercher Road project**

Goshen News

John Kline

2/13/18

GOSHEN — Goshen Redevelopment Commission members Tuesday awarded a \$4.72 million contract with Rieth-Riley Construction Co. for the upcoming Kercher Road reconstruction project from the Norfolk Southern Railroad Marion Branch to Dierdorff Road. According to Dustin Sailor, director of public works for the city, the Kercher Road reconstruction project was put out for bid Feb. 7 by the Indiana Department of Transportation. A total of five bids were received, all of which came in under the original engineer's estimate of \$6.4 million. Of the five companies to submit bids, Rieth-Riley Construction Co. of Goshen submitted the lowest bid at \$4.72 million. Also submitting bids were: HRP Construction of South Bend with a bid of \$4.73 million; Selge Construction of Niles, Michigan, with a bid of \$5.1 million; Phend & Brown of Milford with a bid of \$5.3 million; and Niblock Excavating of Bristol with a bid of \$5.5 million. Given the company's low-bid status, Sailor encouraged the commissioners to award the contract to Rieth-Riley, to which they agreed. In a related matter, Sailor informed the commissioners that the city's local public agency consulting contract with Lochmueller Group for construction engineering services for the Kercher project, signed Jan. 17, 2017, came to \$459,500. Coupled with the Rieth-Riley contract, total cost for the Kercher project comes to right around \$5.2 million. As the Kercher project is being funded with 80 percent state funds and 20 percent local funds, Sailor said the city's obligated 20 percent match for the project comes to just over \$1.04 million. As such, Sailor recommended that the commissioners authorize the immediate payment of \$1.04 million to INDOT in order to allow the project to proceed, to which they again agreed.

[http://www.goshennews.com/news/local\\_news/rieth-riley-wins-kercher-road-project/article\\_24f182ee-a4f0-5f95-94de-b1907b3bc8cc.html](http://www.goshennews.com/news/local_news/rieth-riley-wins-kercher-road-project/article_24f182ee-a4f0-5f95-94de-b1907b3bc8cc.html)

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