



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

April 5, 2018

Bridges in line for repairs get funding source in Porter County

Post-Tribune
Amy Lavalley
4/5/18

Porter County stands to receive almost \$1.6 million in federal matching funds in the coming years to reconstruct three bridges. The money, channeled through the Indiana Department of Transportation, is part of \$161.2 million being awarded to 66 rural cities, towns and counties statewide, according to a release from INDOT. The Porter County funding, said Robert Thompson, the county's director of development and stormwater management, will be available in 2022. The county is required to provide a 20 percent match, he added. The county will pay for the design work for the bridges because officials want the work to be ready to go when the funds are available, Thompson said. He expects to let bids for the bridges over the Little Calumet River in early 2022, and for bids on the Jones Ditch bridge to go out in the summer of that year. "All of these are going to be total reconstructions," he said, adding INDOT will send the county an invoice for its portion of the funding. Combined with local funds, approximately \$212 million is being invested in infrastructure in communities receiving funds across the state, according to INDOT. Types of projects receiving funds statewide include 27 bridge rehabilitation/replacement projects; 31 resurfacing/reconstruction projects; 17 Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) projects that include work such as sidewalks, ramps in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and trails; and six traffic safety projects.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/post-tribune/news/ct-ptb-porter-county-road-funds-st-0410-story.html>

\$125 Million Available to Local Communities For Rail Overpass Projects

WBIW
4/3/18

The Indiana Department of Transportation announced the agency will make available at least \$125 million for high-priority railroad safety projects on local roads statewide through the agency's new "Local Trax" matching grant program. Local Trax provides state matching funds for Indiana cities, towns, and counties interested in pursuing high-priority railroad grade separations, crossing closures, and other safety enhancements at railroad intersections with local roads. "Much like Community Crossings, Local Trax is an innovative approach to infrastructure funding that creates a partnership between the state and communities willing to put skin in the game toward improving their local roads," Governor Eric J. Holcomb said. "Eliminating at-grade rail crossings on local roads makes our transportation network safer, reduces congestion, and better connects our communities." INDOT will begin accepting project proposals from local agencies in May. The application window will stay open until August 31 with the awarding funds expected to be announced in late summer. Local Trax requires local governments to provide only 20 percent of

funding for land acquisition and construction with the state providing the other 80 percent. "Thanks to Governor Holcomb's Next Level Roads plan and the support of state lawmakers, Indiana is able to invest in infrastructure, both highways and local roads, at levels not seen before in our state's history," INDOT Commissioner Joe McGuinness said. "Local Trax will direct needed funds to high priority local rail projects, enhancing mobility and livability in our communities." The goal of Local Trax is to encourage partnership between the state, local governments, private businesses, and railroads to increase safety, improve mobility, and enhance the quality of life for Hoosiers. "The railroad industry is pleased to collaborate with state and local governments on this very important issue," commented Kristin Bevil, President of the Indiana Railway Coalition. "This unique program furthers efforts to improve safety at railroad crossings, a matter the railroads take very seriously." Funding authorization for Local Trax was granted in HEA1002-2017, the long-term, sustainable road funding plan passed by the Indiana General Assembly and signed by Governor Holcomb in April 2017. <http://www.wbiw.com/local/archive/2018/04/125-million-available-to-local-communities-for-rail-overpass-projects.php>

Gordon Road intersection project awarded \$2 million in federal funds

Herald Journal

Gregory Myers

4/3/18

White County has been awarded more than \$2 million in federal funds for a local road project. According to the Indiana Department of Transportation, which announced this week that \$161.2 million in federal transportation funding is being awarded to 66 cities, towns, and counties in rural portions of Indiana. White County was awarded \$2,222,016 for the road project at the intersection of Gordon Road and US 421/S.R. 39 in Monticello. The intersection project, which may call for a roundabout, is a collaborative effort between the county, state and the City of Monticello. For this latest round of funding, rural communities will design, develop and purchase land for projects that would be bid during the fiscal year beginning July 2021. While the funds awarded now are dedicated to construction, INDOT will be financially participating in design, engineering, and right of way acquisition components of these projects.

http://www.newsbug.info/monticello_herald_journal/news/gordon-road-intersection-project-awarded-million-in-federal-funds/article_fecfd210-d99d-5499-924d-316529117259.html

www.buildindianacouncil.org