



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

August 22, 2017

Tillotson bridge halfway done, county says

The Star Press
Keith Roysdon
8/18/17

MUNCIE, Ind. — Construction of a new bridge to carry Tillotson Avenue over White River is about halfway complete. The bridge, which closed in March and was quickly demolished, is being replaced. But flooding of the worksite due to heavy rains in June and July might delay the projected late October opening by a handful of weeks, Angie Moyer, Delaware County's highway department administrator, told The Star Press. "The current interim completion date is Oct. 27," Moyer said this week. "However, this date may be extended due to delays experienced with excessive flooding as a result of higher than average rainfall that was experienced in June and July." "The excessive flooding washed out our construction crossing several times and work could not progress while the river flowed above its ordinary high-water mark. The heavy rain and flooding hit while work was required in the river itself." Moyer said project contractor Beaty Construction has "worked tirelessly" to compress the schedule as much as possible. The \$2.2 million project replaces the bridge, which carries a substantial amount of traffic, and has been a traffic consideration for people trying to go from the city's west side to the south or southwest side since the bridge closed in late March. The project is about 50 percent complete, Moyer said. Beaty has completed the bridge supports and is about ready to set bridge beams, which are scheduled to be delivered in late August.

<http://www.thestarpress.com/story/news/local/2017/08/18/tillotson-bridge-halfway-done-county-says/567889001/>

State Closes On I-69 Section 5 Settlement Agreement, INDOT Ready To Complete Project

WBIW
8/15/17

(BLOOMINGTON) - The Indiana Finance Authority Monday completed the settlement transaction to terminate the contractual relationship between I-69 Development Partners and the State, reimburse the developer's bond holders for \$246 million, and return direct control of the I-69 Section 5 project to the Indiana Department of Transportation. "The State is officially in charge of this important project," Gov. Eric J. Holcomb said. "Our focus is to complete this crucial stretch of roadway that provides a promising path to economic growth for Hoosiers and businesses in southern Indiana." The IFA announced the pending settlement agreement June 16, 2017. Since that time, the financing plan to complete the transaction was approved by the IFA Board and reviewed by the State Budget Committee. IFA Public Finance Director Dan Huge said his agency will use highway-revenue bonds to retire the developer's private-activity bonds. Those highway-revenue bonds are rated at AA+ according to statements previously issued by S&P Global, Fitch Ratings and Moody's Investor Services. This rating is considerably higher and more

advantageous to the State than the BBB and BBB- rating assigned to the developer's private-activity bonds and will result in interest savings over time. The 21-mile project between Bloomington and Martinsville is expected to be complete on or before August 2018. To ensure the project is completed within that timeframe, INDOT has worked closely over the past month with I-69 Development Partners and advisor Walsh Construction to conduct a thorough assessment of work that has been completed and to identify milestones to keep the project on track. "The INDOT project team alongside Walsh Construction accomplished in a few weeks what normally would take many months, and they did it while accelerating the current pace of work along the corridor," INDOT Commissioner Joe McGuinness said. "We have INDOT staff on the ground today working with a team of partners ready to complete this section of the interstate." <http://www.wbiw.com/local/archive/2017/08/state-closes-on-i-69-section-5-settlement-agreement-indot-ready-to-complete-project.php>

South Bend expects more street paving money in 2018

WNDU

Mark Peterson

8/15/17

There are high hopes that some of the proceeds from Indiana's higher state gas tax will trickle down to cities. In fact, the City of South Bend expects to see an increase of about 50 percent in its budget for street paving and maintenance. "We want to make sure people know that while we're paying attention to Smart Streets, we haven't forgotten about the importance of smooth streets," said Mayor Pete Buttigieg, while helping a street department crew pave Portage Avenue today. There has been a significant development in the drive for smoother streets. The 10 cent a gallon increase in the state gasoline tax that took effect in July is expected to pump an additional \$500,000 into the city's budget for street paving and maintenance. "In terms of miles we'll go from about 16 miles to somewhere between 25 and 30 miles a year, lane miles, and so it's a huge increase for us and something that we needed badly," said South Bend Director of Public Works Eric Horvath. "If you remember back, South Bend dying city, and our road conditions were some of the worst in the nation if you look back at some of the news articles." Some state officials have also been dying to free up more road funding. Indiana Senator David Neitzgodski, (D) South Bend also grabbed a shovel and spread some asphalt. "The association of civil engineers, they rated, just recently for the year 2017, Indiana was a D rating on its roads and bridges, that compares to a D minus rating for our nation." The State of Indiana will get most of the mileage out of the gas tax hike. In St. Joseph County alone the state plans to spend some \$48 million over the next five years fixing state roads and bridges here. <http://www.wndu.com/content/news/South-Bend-expects-more-street-paving-money-in-2018-440607233.html>

Hogsett introduces 2018 budget to Indy City-County Council

WRTV

Victoria T. Davis and Katie Heinz

8/14/17

INDIANAPOLIS – Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett introduced his proposed budget for 2018 to the City-County Monday, which his administration calls "the first sustainably structurally balanced budget in 10 years." Hogsett's proposed budget includes funding increases for the several departments such as the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department and the Department of Public Works among others. The DPW's proposed \$120 million funding would go toward repairing bridges and resurfacing streets. The city estimates they will receive about \$12 million in new revenue in 2018 from the increase in Indiana's gas tax, which the state distributes the city's share of the revenue on a monthly basis. Officials with DPW said one of the major projects scheduled for next year will take place on 38th Street between Keystone and Sherman avenues. Sidewalks and several other projects will make way for the Red Line rapid transit route. "I try and stay in the

center of the road. Because, anything on the right side, you're going to tear your vehicle up. You've got holes all up and down 38th and Keystone," said Prince Ostine. The department will also set aside \$3 million for streetlights. <http://www.theindychannel.com/news/local-news/indianapolis/hogsett-to-introduce-2018-budget-to-indy-city-county-council>

www.buildindianacouncil.org