



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

**October 3, 2017**

### **Cedar Lake awards contract for Parrish Avenue redo; town gets nearly \$700k in state road grant**

NWI Times  
Mary Wilds  
10/3/17

CEDAR LAKE — A contract on one of the more important road projects for 2018 was awarded last week at the Town Council meeting, and the town also has learned it will receive nearly \$700,000 in state funding to help with the cost of one of the projects. Road repair and reconstruction are big issues in town, and the council awarded a contract to redo a portion of one of its main thoroughfares, Parrish Avenue, to the low-bidder on the project — Walsh & Kelly. Walsh & Kelly's bid came in at \$1.1 million, which was under the engineer's estimate of \$1.4 million. The town is looking to improve Parrish from 141st to 151st streets. The town had hoped to obtain a Community Crossings grant to help with funding and got a big boost this week when the state announced that Cedar Lake will be getting a \$690,000 Community Crossing matching grant. Indiana Department of Transportation officials were to present the check to Cedar Lake on Monday. Those monies will be put toward the Parrish Avenue project, town officials said. The Community Crossings program is a partnership between the Indiana Department of Transportation and Indiana communities "meant to invest in infrastructure projects that catalyze economic development, create jobs, and strengthen local transportation networks," according to the INDOT website. [http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/lake/cedar-lake-awards-contract-for-parrish-avenue-redo-town-gets/article\\_b2ca06b2-5fd0-5322-afe8-63491b81f68a.html](http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/lake/cedar-lake-awards-contract-for-parrish-avenue-redo-town-gets/article_b2ca06b2-5fd0-5322-afe8-63491b81f68a.html)

### **State, locals talk Market Street Bridge replacement**

Pharos-Tribune  
Mitchell Kirk  
9/29/17

The Indiana Department of Transportation is progressing with its proposed replacement of the 60-year-old, deteriorating Market Street Bridge over the Eel River in Logansport. Jeff Matern, senior bridge project manager with Indianapolis-based Janssen & Spaans Engineering Inc., addressed the bridge during an INDOT public hearing at the Logansport-Cass County Public Library Thursday afternoon, Sept. 28, that about 25 people attended. Replacing the bridge has to happen because of its deteriorating condition, Matern said. "I think if anybody's had the opportunity to look at this structure from down below, you can see what I'm talking about," he said, going on to show photos of the damage, corrosion and cracking under the bridge. Its condition has spurred INDOT to inspect it every year rather than the typical two-year period, Matern said. While not critical, he described the bridge as being in serious condition and that replacing it would be more cost-effective than the frequent maintenance that would be required.

Matern said the proposed replacement would result in a low-maintenance bridge with a minimum lifespan of 75 years. Rather than the arches currently under the bridge, Matern said the new one would have pre-stressed concrete beams, solid concrete wall piers and a concrete deck over the top. Its light poles would be identical to the Third Street Bridge's, Matern said. He added it would also have similar railings as Third Street's, which are 54 inches high and have openings to view the river through. [http://www.pharostribune.com/news/local\\_news/article\\_b63e307b-da42-50f5-9eb9-5b6f1ef79d3a.html](http://www.pharostribune.com/news/local_news/article_b63e307b-da42-50f5-9eb9-5b6f1ef79d3a.html)

### **South Shore Rail Line 'Baton' Passes to Federal Leaders**

Inside Indiana Business

Dan McGowan

9/28/17

NORTHWEST INDIANA - "Time is of the essence" for federal action on the proposed \$900 million South Shore rail expansion projects says the chief executive officer of the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority. In an interview with Inside INdiana Business, Bill Hanna says Fiscal 2019 budget talks are beginning now and it's important for the South Shore project to be in the mix. He points to recent, high-level attention for the work -- a visit to South Bend from U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao, discussion by Governor Eric Holcomb with Vice President Mike Pence and a short conversation between Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.) and President Donald Trump during a Wednesday trip to Indianapolis -- as signs of "excellent progress." Plans call for extending the existing corridor south to Dyer and double-tracking the line between Gary and Michigan City, while making improvements to stops along the way. An additional proposal in northern Indiana would include relocating part of the line in South Bend to improve access at the South Bend International Airport and shave time off the trip to and from Chicago. Hanna likens the long process to get the proposal to the point it is now to a relay race. "These efforts started with the leasing of the toll road," he said, and has since received bi-partisan support at the local and state levels for their portion of the funding. "The baton is being handed off at this point. You know, we're talking to the administration... whether it's Vice President Mike Pence or President Trump and we'll be working over the next several weeks with members of Congress, as well," Hanna added. <http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/story/36476728/south-shore-rail-line-baton-passes-to-federal-leaders>

### **Terre Haute Granted More Than \$630,000 For Road Improvements**

Indiana Public Media

Taylor Haggerty

9/28/17

Terre Haute will receive about \$636,000 from the state to help fund local road construction projects. The money comes from state matching grant program Community Crossings, which offers about \$150 million to cities, towns and counties for road projects. The maximum grant a city or county can request is \$1 million. Terre Haute requested the maximum, but the state did not approve the full amount. The city will use the money for reconstruction and rehabilitation along 7th Street through the downtown area and further south. Part of the reconstruction has already been completed, and some of the grant money will reimburse the city for those costs. Assistant City Engineer Larry Robbins says the city has been trying for years to repair 7th Street, which is facing problems due to decomposing railroad ties. "It's a project that we've been trying to get done for several years, but due to the large cost estimate for the project, it was kind of hard for us to do with our regular budget," Robbins says. Robbins says the city will pay its portion of the grant from its Economic Development Income Tax, or EDIT fund. He says that fund already includes a line for paving and roadwork. Robbins says once the next phase of construction starts, it should take 60 days to complete. <http://indianapublicmedia.org/news/terre-haute-granted-630000-road-improvements-128361/>

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