



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

October 10, 2017

Town receives grant for project

The Tribune
Zach Spicer
10/8/17

Crothersville's first time applying for the Community Crossings matching grant program was a success. As a result, 14 projects are scheduled for 2018 to improve streets around the town. Town officials recently learned Crothersville has received \$423,406.10 to put toward the project, which will include milling and paving some streets and in several cases adding Americans with Disabilities Act-approved ramps, storm pipes and inlets. The town also is putting in \$70,567.70 this year and in 2018 to bring the total to \$564,541.50. Brad Bender with FPBH Inc. in North Vernon said the plan is to put together plans and specifications in December, accept bids in January and be under contract by April 15. The contractor could then start work in April or May, which is a few months earlier than Crothersville typically does paving. This year, a record \$150 million in state matching funds for local road projects was awarded to 396 Indiana cities, towns and counties as part of the Next Level Roads: Community Crossings Initiative. A record 467 communities applied for funds, and that was a 48 percent increase from 2016, according to a news release from the Indiana Department of Transportation. Community Crossings was created by the Indiana General Assembly in 2016. Funds for the program are awarded from the state's local road and bridge matching grant fund, according to INDOT. To qualify for funding, local governments must provide local matching funds — 50 percent for larger communities or 25 percent for smaller communities — from a funding source approved for road and bridge construction. They also must submit an INDOT-approved asset management plan for maintaining existing roads and bridges. Through two years of the program, nearly \$300 million has been awarded. State law requires annually that 50 percent of the available matching funds be awarded to communities with a population of 50,000 or fewer, according to INDOT.

http://www.tribtown.com/2017/10/09/town_receives_grant_for_project/

County looks to develop next major project

Washington Times Herald
Mike Grant
10/6/17

For the past three years Daviess County has been working on a major upgrade of one of its county roads. Backed with both federal and state funding, the county has rebuilt CR 900E. With the CR 900E project now winding down, the county faces the question of whether it might want to seek another federally-funded project. CR 900E costs totaling \$27,039,345, including \$5,407,869 in local dollars. The project is in its final phase, improving the road from CR 800N to Odon. "It appears they will get about three-fourths of that done before the construction ends this fall," said Daviess County Highway Engineer Jason Heile. "It looks like they will be on schedule to get it

done next year.” The 8.1-mile project, which was touted by state and local officials as a safety improvement, has made a major change along the roadway from its starting point at CR 450N. The road has been widened with turn lanes and buggy lanes added to separate slow moving buggy traffic from fast moving cars and trucks on the busy road that runs through the heart of the Daviess County Amish country. It also provides the main link to more than 100 businesses that range from one-man cabinet shops to large building operations that employ hundreds of people. “When we first started working on that road, we got a lot of criticism,” said Commissioner Michael Taylor. “Now that some of it is finished, we get a lot of compliments from the people traveling out there.” Now there’s a decision to be made if the county wants to consider another federal project. “INDOT has put out a call for federal projects,” said Heile. “It’s been a little while since the last one was done, so we asked the commissioners what they would like to do.” Commissioners asked the county highway department to consider two projects. One would be to upgrade the bridge over the railroad tracks in Montgomery and the other would be to continue the CR 900E project south toward Cannelburg. http://www.washtimesherald.com/news/local_news/county-looks-to-develop-next-major-project/article_9ce34a7b-2ee8-5634-a089-14d9e830823b.html

INDOT Calling For Rural Road Projects

Inside Indiana Business

Alex Brown

10/6/17

INDIANAPOLIS - The Indiana Department of Transportation is looking for projects in rural cities, towns and counties that would be eligible for a share of up to \$100 million in federal transportation funding. Communities can submit applications for funding beginning next week. INDOT says in this latest round of funding, communities would design, develop and purchase land for projects that would be bid during the next four to five years. The funding will include \$5 million for sidewalk improvements in rural communities. Last year, INDOT awarded nearly \$80 million in federal funding for rural projects. INDOT is responsible for distributing federal transportation funding to communities outside of the state's larger urbanized areas. <http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/story/36538590/indot-calling-for-rural-road-projects>

Holcomb visits City Hall for road funding presentation, including \$1.5 million to Kokomo, Howard County

Kokomo Tribune

George Myers

10/5/17

KOKOMO – Gov. Eric Holcomb stood in Kokomo City Hall Thursday morning, handing out oversized check after oversized check to eager public officials representing cities and towns throughout north-central Indiana. Holcomb, dressed casually in a pair of khaki pants and a black polo shirt, distributed the checks, the totals of which were announced in mid-September, as part of the state’s 2017 Next Level Roads: Community Crossings Initiative. Accepting the matching grant funds were officials from surrounding counties, including Howard, Tipton, Miami, Cass and others. The gathering was one of multiple scheduled regional events announcing Community Crossings funding; Holcomb appeared in South Bend Thursday afternoon. In its second year, the Community Crossings Initiative, which was created by the Indiana General Assembly in 2016, has in total awarded nearly \$300 million in state matching funds to local governments for road construction projects. This year, 467 communities applied for funds, a 48 percent increase from 2016, according to state officials. To kick off the event, Holcomb was joined behind a lectern by Indiana Department of Transportation Commissioner Joe McGuinness and Kokomo Mayor Greg Goodnight, each of whom spoke about the program itself and the importance of maintaining quality infrastructure. State Reps. Mike Karickhoff, Jim Buck and Bill Friend later accompanied Holcomb in front of the audience, which filled up roughly 75 percent of City Hall’s council chambers. “It just really goes to show you that local communities, small towns, large cities,

regions are placing an emphasis on community development, just like the state of Indiana,” said Holcomb. “That’s a real powerful one-two punch, when the state of Indiana and local communities come together and start to methodically plan how we’re developing our communities and our statewide economy.” http://www.kokomotribune.com/news/local_news/holcomb-visits-city-hall-for-road-funding-presentation-including-million/article_d575046c-aa0b-11e7-8a4f-ff10031e03c6.html

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