



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

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State Senate president faces North Side HS teacher

Fort Wayne News Sentinel
Bob Caylor
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The president pro tempore of the Indiana Senate faces a passionate newcomer to politics in the race for the 16th Senate District. Republican David Long was first elected to the state Senate in 1996; before that, he had been a Fort Wayne City Council member for two terms. His challenger, Democrat Juli Dominguez, has been a teacher for more than 20 years. If he wins re-election this year, Long said, he expects the Legislature to dwell on budget issues rather than taking another run at revising the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. On the budget issues, road funding is bound to predominate. Like most other area Republicans in contested races this fall, he said that the gas tax, last increased more than a decade ago, isn't close to keeping pace with inflation. Another bind: Average fuel economy of vehicles is increasing, and alternatives such as hybrids and electric cars are a small but growing share of the vehicle fleet in Indiana. In short, the receipts from a gas tax aren't paying for as much road work as they used to. A General Assembly task force is studying options for road funding, but it isn't expected to propose a funding plan until after the Nov. 8 election.

<http://www.news-sentinel.com/news/local/State-Senate-president-faces-North-Side-HS-teacher>

Interchange construction on track for November completion

Goshen News
Corey Neuenschwander
10/25/2016

TIPTON – Construction on the recreated U.S. 31 and Indiana 28 intersection is on track for opening by Thanksgiving, according to the Indiana Department of Transportation. The \$10.8 million project by contractor Rieth-Riley Construction was meant to raise Indiana 28 above U.S. 31 and construct interchange ramps to access the new bridge. A late November opening was the initial plan, said Nathan Riggs, INDOT media relations director for central Indiana, and that plan is still on track, assuming cooperative weather. Some of the final items for construction are temperature and weather sensitive, he explained, like paving road surfaces and painting lines. Warm days in the weeks to come would benefit the project's completion. Paving on the access ramps is being done now, and Riggs said the paving process includes various layers of pavement leading up to the layer designed to hold vehicles. Beyond that, there's concrete work needed on curbs and gutters, as well as some signs to put up and lights to install. The project closed Indiana 28 to traffic both entering and exiting the U.S. 31 intersection at the end of July, and was meant to take out the stoplight at the intersection, which had been noted by residents as a potentially dangerous intersection. As another leg in the state's Major Moves project, the construction went toward reducing travel time between South Bend and Indianapolis.

http://www.goshennews.com/indiana/news/interchange-construction-on-track-for-november-completion/article_015a0324-3225-5598-9219-a59615826b3c.html

New traffic patterns at I-70/Indiana 46 interchange

Terre Haute Tribune Star

10/26/2016

Motorists can once again access Interstate 70 from an exit ramp at Indiana 46. A new westbound exit ramp from Interstate 70, part of the 641 bypass project, was slated to open Wednesday evening, according to the Indiana Department of Transportation. Initially, the ramp was to re-open on Oct. 4. However, INDOT extended its closing for two additional weeks. Traffic starting Oct. 18 had to access the interstate by using the future 641 entrance ramp to I-70 eastbound. The detour used roundabouts at Riley Road/SR 46 over the bypass. INDOT announced Wednesday it will shift I-70 traffic back into original westbound lanes Wednesday evening and motorists could begin using a new westbound exit ramp, located just west of the Indiana 46 bridge. Also, traffic today will be shifted back into the original eastbound lanes, INDOT reports. Boggstown-based Beaty Construction Inc. is working under a \$46.8 million contract to build the last section of the bypass, from just south of Moyer Road to the I-70 interchange. The bypass project includes the construction of a new four-lane, full access control roadway connecting U.S. 41 southeast of Terre Haute to I-70, east of the city. The entire bypass should be open to traffic by the end of this year, INDOT reports.

http://www.tribstar.com/news/local_news/new-traffic-patterns-at-i--indiana-interchange/article_d5161a3d-295d-5db9-904f-6a7bbe390254.html

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