



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

**November 10, 2016**

### **Supporters declare victory for mass transit tax hike in Marion County**

Indianapolis Star

John Tuohy

11/9/16

Proponents of a public transit ballot referendum to increase bus service in Indianapolis declared victory Tuesday night, hailing the income tax hike approved by voters as a long-term solution for the city's transportation woes and a benefit to workers and employers, alike. "Today our city has taken a monumental step toward improving talent retention, enhancing economic development and growing our tax base," said Mark Fisher, vice president of government relations and policy development of the Indy Chamber. With 483 out of 600 precincts counted, voters favored the referendum 57.8 percent to 42.1 percent. The measure could increase income taxes up to 25 cents for every \$100 earned and would pay for a 70 percent increase in Indianapolis bus service. The \$56 million a year in new tax revenue also would help fund the Red Line, the first of three planned BRT routes. Backers of the referendum said public transit was a social justice issue for low-income residents who need buses to get to their jobs, doctor's appointments and other essential places that are difficult to reach without a car. The tax hike would allow buses to run more often, earlier in the day and later at night.

<http://www.indystar.com/story/news/politics/2016/11/08/marion-county-voters-consider-tax-hike-mass-transit/93284726/>

### **Rail Plan Open Houses to Begin**

Inside INdiana Business

Andy Ober

11/9/16

VINCENNES - The Indiana Department of Transportation will Thursday host the first in a series of open houses to collect input on the state's Rail Plan. The event is in Vincennes, followed by open houses next week in LaPorte and Indianapolis. INDOT says it chose host cities with high volumes of freight and passenger rail traffic. A plan is required for any state seeking federal rail funding. INDOT expects to have a draft in place for public review in the spring of 2017.

<http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/story/33672893/rail-plan-open-houses-to-begin>

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