



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

November 15, 2016

Council OKs Hogsett plan to borrow \$75M for roads, public safety

Indianapolis Business Journal
Hayleigh Colombo
11/14/16

The Indianapolis City-County Council on Monday overwhelmingly approved issuing bonds to pay for about \$75 million worth of projects to support city infrastructure, road funding and public safety. The move is a win for Democratic Mayor Joe Hogsett's administration, which originally faced skepticism from council Republicans over the decision to borrow to pay for a number of the city's big-ticket capital expenses. Hogsett's team says it is a strategy to reduce stress on the city's budget and help with its budget deficit reduction goal. Some of the projects and expenses include \$24.6 million for road funding, \$5.2 million for parks funding, upgrading the city's computer-aided dispatch and E-911 system, building two Indianapolis Fire Department stations, new solid waste trucks and equipment, new police cars, new voting machines and fire equipment. The council's top Republican, Minority Leader Mike McQuillen, said he decided to vote for the bonding requests out of a desire to "move forward and put partisan concerns behind us." McQuillen's caucus had been clamoring to spend some of the \$39 million recently returned to the city from state income tax reserves on infrastructure, but Hogsett's administration said the city would be better served with the money sitting in a savings account for an emergency. "It's basically a vote to try to offer an olive branch or sign of good faith," McQuillen said. "We all agree that we wanted to get on with these projects. Citizens have been waiting so long to get some of these crumbling streets, sidewalks and bridges repaired. I'd rather we weren't bonding this ... but at the end of the day it needs to be done and this is the way the administration wants to do it."

<http://www.ibj.com/articles/61266-council-oks-hogsett-plan-to-borrow-75m-for-roads-public-safety>

Briggs: Donald Trump's one weird trick that could create jobs in Indiana

Indianapolis Star
James Briggs
11/11/16

It's unclear, to say the least, what the U.S. economy will be like under President Donald Trump. His statements on economic policy have been vague and sometimes contradictory. The economy page on Trump's website consists of 522 words — fewer than this column. But there are a couple areas where Trump has been consistent, including one that might surprise you: Trump is planning to spend like a Democrat on infrastructure. In fact, that might be unfair to Democrats. Whereas Hillary Clinton pledged to spend \$275 billion on infrastructure projects, including rebuilding roads, bridges and other transportation hubs, Trump has said he'll propose a plan that could cost up to \$1 trillion. This hasn't been a passing interest for Trump. While the Republican president-elect has occasionally floated policy ideas that he has walked back — for instance, renegotiating the national debt — Trump has repeatedly said he plans to spend big on infrastructure. He included

the topic in his victory speech, signaling it is among his top priorities. "We are going to fix our inner cities and rebuild our highways, bridges, tunnels, airports, schools, hospitals," Trump said early Wednesday morning. "We're going to rebuild our infrastructure, which will become, by the way, second to none. And we will put millions of our people to work as we rebuild it." To do that, Trump has expressed openness to deficit spending. "It's called priming the pump," Trump told The New York Times in July. "Sometimes you have to do that a little bit to get things going. We have no choice — otherwise, we are going to die on the vine."

<http://www.indystar.com/story/money/2016/11/11/briggs-donald-trumps-one-weird-trick-could-create-jobs-indiana/93549352/>

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