



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

January 2, 2014

Interstate 69 Extension Work Readies Ground for Paving

Construction Equipment Guide

Thomas B. Langhorne – Evansville Courier & Press

1/2/14

EVANSVILLE, Ind. (AP) Work on the next phase of Interstate 69, a 27-mi. (43 km) stretch between Bloomington and Crane, Ind., is in full swing — but that doesn't mean any asphalt is being laid. Instead, workers are doing "dirt work" — the kind of dirty work necessary when you build what the Indiana Department of Transportation calls a new-terrain interstate. "You're moving the dirt that's in its place and getting it to a specific elevation, so you may have to cut down hills or fill in valley areas," said INDOT spokeswoman Cher Elliott. "So that way, when they pour the concrete for the roadway, it is at a certain elevation. It's the moving of the dirt to smooth it out. We don't just plane it off. We have a lot of compacting work that has to take place so that [the dirt] is established and solid before we put the road on top of it. "We won't see actual mainline pavement being poured until sometime next year," she told the Evansville Courier & Press. This section of I-69 will be completed late next year or early 2015, with weather conditions being the determining factor. In November, INDOT announced plans to rename the nearly 21 mi. (34 km) of the existing Interstate 164 in Vanderburgh and Warrick counties Interstate 69 in about a year. With final approval from the Federal Highway Administration, new signage will be installed in the fall of 2014. A 142-mi. (228 km) I-69 corridor that will run from Evansville to Indianapolis is divided into six independent sections, the first three of which opened in November 2012. [Interstate 69 Extension Work Readies Ground for Paving | Story ID: 21894 | Construction Equipment Guide](#)

Planning Commission Announces Review Results

Inside Indiana Business

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A joint review of how the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission's helps implement the federal transportation planning process is complete. The Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration's report include four commendations and one corrective action for the organization. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has issued its Certification Review Final Report of how the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC), the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), Gary Public Transportation Corporation (GPTC), and the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD) implement the federal transportation planning process. NIRPC received four commendations in the report:

- Receiving the American Planning Association's 2013 Daniel Burnham Award for its 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan (CRP). The FTA and FHWA further stated the CRP "serves as a model for other Metropolitan Planning Organizations in conducting scenario planning in addition to coordinating land use and transportation."

- Its collaborative planning efforts that have led to construction of recreation trails in addition to integration of bicycle and pedestrian elements into roadway projects.
- Its Environmental Justice analysis in the 2040 CRP, finding that "the methodology comparing accessibility and travel times to determine disproportionate benefits and burdens on protected populations is exemplary and a model for other Metropolitan Planning Organizations."
- Its efforts to work cooperatively with both INDOT and FHWA to better understand Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The report states NIRPC "has demonstrated a commitment to improving the current status of ADA compliance in the region."

[Planning Commission Announces Review Results - Newsroom - Inside INdiana Business with Gerry Dick](#)

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