



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

February 4, 2014

Session Approaches Midpoint

Inside INdiana Business

2/3/14

STATEHOUSE - Today, a priority bill to improve Indiana's transportation system passed out of the House with overwhelming bipartisan support and will now go to the Senate for further discussion. House Bill (HB) 1002, a joint effort between State Representatives Ed Soliday (R-Valparaiso) and Tim Brown (R-Crawfordsville), authorizes the Budget Agency to transfer funds, already approved in the biennial budget, to the State Highway Fund to address Indiana's current infrastructure needs. "Improving Indiana's transportation system is an ongoing endeavor and takes a coordinated effort to sustain it," said Rep. Soliday. "After working with the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and Chairman Brown, House Bill 1002 is a step towards addressing several of Indiana's immediate infrastructure needs as well as the needs that local governments have to improve their roads and bridges." If enacted, HB 1002 would allow the Budget Agency to transfer any balance in the Major Moves 2020 Trust Fund, which will be at \$400 million on July 1 of this year, to the State Highway Fund to address Indiana's current infrastructure needs. The Budget Agency has until July 1, 2015 to make the transfer. Currently, INDOT has 12 high-value projects in mind which these additional dollars would help support. While the costs to repair Indiana's roads vary, according to INDOT, preliminary cost estimates for the 12 projects average \$9 million per centerline mile. Several key factors contribute to the cost of these projects like rehabilitation of existing pavement, interchange modifications and bridge replacement.

[Session Approaches Midpoint - Newsroom - Inside INdiana Business with Gerry Dick](#)

Daviess County Awarded over \$11 Million for Road Project

MyWabashValley.com

2/4/14

There is an end in sight for a multi-million dollar road project in Daviess County. The Indiana Department of Transportation officials awarded a grant to complete the County Road 900 East project. The county received \$11.6 million on Tuesday to add a buggy lane to each side of the roadway. Those involved hope the project brings added safety to the Amish community, and keeps everyone protected on the roadways. "One death is too many, but when you start having multiple deaths and accidents, at some point you have to do something. The county has stepped up and so the state thought we better step up and match that," said INDOT Chief of Staff, Troy Woodruff. "To know that this project has been in development in the seed was planted so long ago, and that we are now on the fruition side... The harvest side of that seed it's really quite overwhelming to be honest," said Phil Cornelius, Daviess County Highway supervisor. Construction on the project is expected to kick off in 2016, and will take two years to complete.

[Daviess County Awarded over \\$11 Million for Road Project - MyWabashValley.com](#)

Tell legislators to support mass transit

Indianapolis Star
2/3/14

We believe that, in coming decades, the Indy metropolitan area will look very different. A number of cars now plodding through the city every morning and evening will be replaced by new mass transit options. Fresh clusters of commerce will pop up, the result of opportunities created by transit-oriented development. Neighborhoods will find new vitality, and seniors will age in their own homes, as better pedestrian access urges people to walk to places they now feel compelled to drive. Expanded bike lanes and pedestrian and bike paths will connect areas of the city now virtually inaccessible except by car. We believe this because we have faith that our lawmakers will do the right thing during this short legislative session and support mass transit legislation. After all, our lawmakers have gathered enough data and information to make a decision. Mass transit in Central Indiana has been studied thoroughly, by both the private and public sectors and in various settings and approaches. It was discussed and debated during last year's legislative session, with the result being a House-passed bill with bipartisan support. Then it was studied some more, as a bipartisan Central Indiana Transit Study Committee reviewed options and proposals and recommended the General Assembly enact legislation to let Hamilton and Marion counties establish or improve public transit systems. Now, once again, the House and the Senate have transit bills before them. On Jan. 28, the Senate's Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee moved Senate Bill 176 to the full Senate for consideration. Floor voting will happen by Feb. 5.

[Tell legislators to support mass transit](#)

Munster to fund mass transit expansion

NWI Times
Lu Ann Franklin
2/3/14

MUNSTER | The town's anticipated share of the Lake County option income tax for economic development will be earmarked for expansion of mass transit and the long-awaited Calumet Avenue/45th Street grade separation. Munster officials estimate the town will receive \$822,420.72 during 2014 to be used for economic development. The money will be placed in the county economic development income tax, or CEDIT, fund created by the Town Council. The Munster Town Council voted unanimously to allocate 34 percent of the total, or \$279,623, to mass transit funding for expansion of the South Shore rail lines. The remaining \$542,797.72 of estimated CEDIT funds will be obligated to pay for design engineering of the grade separation. The overpass/underpass project will relieve the major traffic congestion at the railroad tracks at 45th Street and Calumet Avenue. Munster will pay 100 percent of the expenses for the grade separation design engineering and be reimbursed 80 percent by federal grants, said Town Manager Tom DeGiulio. Allocating the 34 percent of CEDIT funding to mass transit expansion was proposed by DeGiulio and Town Council President Joseph Simonetto after the two participated in a working group discussion convened on Dec. 17 by U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky, D-Merrillville. The working group is composed of officials from area municipalities, Lake County government, state legislators and economic development organizations. The group decided to ask communities to allocate 34 percent of their CEDIT funds to build a fund in anticipation of actual start up, DeGiulio said. "Mass transit is high on Visclosky's radar," he said.

http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/lake/munster/munster-to-fund-mass-transit-expansion/article_8e7856c4-e1b2-5b01-9d17-95419265937c.html

Locals to get \$25M from highway bill, under House changes

Indianapolis Business Journal
Jacob Rund / The Statehouse File

1/31/14

Local governments would get a small share of \$400 million in highway funding under a bill that will be considered next week in the Indiana House. House Bill 1002 would transfer \$400 million to the state's highway fund from the Major Moves 2020 Trust Fund. The legislation is part of Republican Gov. Mike Pence's legislative agenda. Originally the bill, authored by Rep. Tim Brown, R- Crawfordsville, only allowed the money to be used for high-profile state highway projects. But on Thursday, the House amended the bill to distribute \$25 million from the total for fixing and expanding local roads. Under the change proposed by Rep. Ed Soliday, R-Valparaiso, communities would have to present projects to the Indiana Department of Transportation and provide a 10-percent match. "It moves some money to help locals in a time that they are going to have struggling, and helps them get projects done that they haven't been able to get done," said Soliday. The bill is now eligible for a vote by the full House.

[Locals would get \\$25M from highway bill, under House changes | 2014-01-31 | Indianapolis Business Journal | IBJ.com](#)

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