



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

February 19, 2015

Bill to allow I-69 through Perry Township moves forward

Indy Star
John Tuohy
02/18/2015

An Indiana House committee approved a bill Wednesday that would clear the way for construction of I-69 through Perry Township. The Roads and Transportation Committee voted 8-1 to override a law passed in 2004 that prohibited the route from cutting through the Southside Township in Marion County. The measure moves to the Senate for consideration. Committee Chairman Ed Soliday, R-Valparaiso, said the 2004 law violated the state constitution's prohibition on lawmakers deciding where roads should be built. That decision should be left to the Indiana Department of Transportation, he said. "If we were to pass bills that said where roads could and could not be built, this would be endless and we would never get anything done," he said. The 142-mile highway is in the last of six construction phases, from Martinsville to Indianapolis, and a logical route would be to continue along the I-37 corridor through Perry Township. But the 2004 law would force INDOT to find an alternate way for I-69 to connect with I-465. INDOT will invite comments during two public hearings next week. The first hearing is Monday at Center Grove High School, 2717 S. Morgantown Road, Greenwood. The second meeting is Feb. 25 at Martinsville High School, 1360 E. Gray St. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., a presentation will start at 6:30 p.m. and public comment will follow.

<http://www.indystar.com/story/news/local/marion-county/2015/02/18/bill-allow-perry-township-moves-forward/23612767/>

Massive 'Dig Indy' tunnel project getting bigger

FOX 59
Zach Myers
02/18/2015

The cavernous "Dig Indy" tunnel project currently underway beneath the streets of Indianapolis is on the verge of growing even larger. Since 2013, Citizens Energy and contractors have been working to dig five huge tunnels starting near the intersection of Southport Road and South Tibbs Avenue, extending along the White River, Fall Creek, Pogues Run and Pleasant Run. The 25 miles of tunnel will eventually hold massive tanks that will hold 250 million gallons of raw sewage. "We know that about 5 to 6 billion gallons of raw sewage goes into our rivers and streams each year," said Citizens Energy Group spokesperson Sarah Holsapple. "And we've been tasked by the Environmental Protection Agency to fix that problem." The Dig Indy project, which is in response to the Clean Water Act of the 1970s, is still about a decade from full completion. But in the next couple years, contractors are planning to add a sixth tunnel beneath Eagle Creek, which was not in the original design. The Eagle Creek tunnel is expected to be finished by the end of 2017. As each section of the overall tunnel is finished, the huge tanks will be installed and

sewage will be stored. The overall Dig Indy project is due for completion by 2025.
<http://fox59.com/2015/02/18/massive-dig-indy-tunnel-project-getting-bigger/>

Construction drawings accepted for Jacobsville streetscape project

14 News
Jordan Rowe
02/18/2015

Wednesday, the Evansville Redevelopment Commission saw a diagram for the Jacobsville project, a new development on the North Main streetscape. They voted to get construction drawings, which will be used to get bids from contractors, for the original vision for the project. That includes North Main as well as Virginia Street to connect all the way to Deaconess. All voted in favor -- despite estimates showing the full project would likely come in \$2 million over budget. They can still cut the Virginia Street portion out of the plan before construction. Complete drawings should be sent out for bids in three to four months.

<http://www.14news.com/story/28142014/construction-drawings-accepted-for-jacobsville-streetscape-project>

Gary Airport expansion has June arrival date

NWI.com
Keith Benman
02/17/2015

Gary/Chicago International Airport officials are increasingly confident they can complete the \$174.1 million runway expansion project by its federally imposed deadline. "We don't anticipate any problems with meeting the June 25 deadline," project manager Daniel Vicari told the Airport Authority board at Tuesday's meeting. The final details are being worked out with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on remediation and other steps for polluted areas within the expansion footprint, Vicari said. Work on constructing the last 500 feet of runway should start in May, Vicari said. That will take the runway to 8,900 feet from its current 7,000 feet. The Airport Authority took several actions Tuesday to move the expansion project forward at their meeting at the airport administration building. Those actions include approving almost \$1.7 million to hire environmental firms to restore sensitive dune and swale habitats at areas around Gary. That action was taken to comply with federal mandates that the airport replace environmentally sensitive habitats eliminated by the runway expansion. The board also approved a \$94,500 contract with engineering firm NGC aviation consultants to design the expansion of the airport's fuel farm. That expansion is being done under the terms of a legal settlement the airport authority reached with the Gary Jet Center last year.

http://www.nwitimes.com/business/gary-airport-expansion-has-june-arrival-date/article_9fb810ea-a9dc-5d3b-ad67-79c7450ad825.html