



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

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Pence claims road funding victory

NWI Times
Dan Carden
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For the next eight months, until Election Day, Hoosiers should expect Gov. Mike Pence to regularly declare the road funding package approved Thursday night by the General Assembly is "a win for Indiana." "It's going to make a tremendous investment in our infrastructure and in the infrastructure of our prosperity in this state," Pence said. In fact, the success of the roads plan largely will depend on where Hoosiers live, and the appetite of their local leaders to boost vehicle taxes. Prior to adjourning for the year, the Republican-controlled Legislature came around to Pence's \$1 billion roads spending target, without raising any state taxes. While the Republican governor originally wanted to spend that much to fix just state highways, lawmakers got him to agree that most of the money should be spent by counties and cities for local road and bridge improvements. The state only is getting \$228 million in new money, taken from Indiana's \$2 billion budget reserve, and advance permission to spend another \$100 million set aside in last year's budget in a contingency fund for highway expansion projects. Meanwhile, nearly two-thirds of the money being provided to local governments, or \$430 million, is county income tax revenue currently held in reserve by the state as a hedge against a drop in collections during an economic downturn. Most Region counties will get a decent tax refund — Lake, \$27.6 million; Porter, \$3.8 million; LaPorte, \$4.3 million; and Jasper, \$9.2 million — but a large share of the 88 remaining counties, including Newton at \$590,000, are getting about \$1 million or less.

http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/pence-claims-road-funding-victory/article_0368a2d6-d853-50e3-b942-1cacab94ba46.html

Pence: 'Pleased Beyond Words' With General Assembly

Inside INdiana Business
Dan McGowan
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Governor Mike Pence says, even though he didn't get everything he asked for in the legislative session, the results were "a win for Indiana." During a news conference in Indianapolis Friday morning, the governor detailed a myriad of initiatives he said came together in a collaborative and bipartisan way "to move the agenda that we had advanced." Pence said the bills heading to his desk that focus on jobs and economic development, education and "combating the scourge of drug abuse." Pence focused much of his attention on the state and local road funding measures that were significantly pared down as they moved through the House and Senate. In total, Pence says the funding will free up more than \$1 billion over the next two years for maintenance. The formula includes what Pence calls a balanced plan for local and state infrastructure work. It was dubbed by some on both side of the aisle as short-term, but Pence says the 1.5 percent shift of

gas use taxes toward future road repairs makes it an historic investment that will provide millions of dollars for years to come. The governor also singled out the full funding of a third region in the state's Regional Cities Initiative. The language to fund it was included in the transportation bill. It will be paid for by last year's tax amnesty program. Pence urged legislators to expand the initiative with a third, \$42 million investment. Pence also addressed road and bridge funding measures, which were reduced in scope throughout the legislative process. <http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/story/31447256/pence-pleased-beyond-words-with-general-assembly>

What happened on final day of the 2016 General Assembly

Indianapolis Star

Tony Cook, Chelsea Schneider, Jill Disis and Shari Rudavsky

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The Indiana General Assembly adjourned for the year after lawmakers gave final approval Thursday to a pair of measures that would provide slightly more than \$800 million in new road spending over the next two years. The funding package now heads to Gov. Mike Pence, who is expected to sign it into law. The plan represents a significant boost for local governments, which would get \$576 million over two years and about \$100 million a year after that. But it makes far less progress on repairs to the state's aging highways and bridges, adding only about \$228 million in new funding over two years. That's nowhere near the \$1 billion over four years that Pence initially sought. <http://www.indystar.com/story/news/politics/2016/03/10/whats-happening-final-day-2016-indiana-general-assembly/81577606/> Also, <http://www.fox19.com/story/31442750/the-latest-indiana-legislature-approves-roads-package>

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