



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

March 16, 2017

County borrows \$3.5 million to pay for Eisenhower Bridge

The Herald Bulletin
Ken de la Bastide
3/15/17

ANDERSON – After months of discussion, the Madison County Council voted to borrow \$3.5 million from local banks to finance the county's portion for replacement of the Eisenhower Bridge. The council on Tuesday voted to borrow a total of \$5 million, with \$3.5 million going to the bridge project and \$1.5 million to finance the new heating and air conditioning system, lights and additional work on the north side of the Madison County Government Center. In the interim, until the loan is finalized, the council voted to allocate the \$5 million from the general fund and reimburse the general fund when the loan is finalized. Approximately \$3.6 million will be needed in April for the matching funds to the Indiana Department of Transportation. The total cost of replacing the aging downtown bridge over White River has been estimated at \$18.7 million. The federal government will provide \$13.5 million in grant funds. In total, the county needs \$5.2 million for the bridge project by the end of 2019. An estimated \$600,000 will be needed in 2018, 2019 and 2020 to complete the project. Councilman Mike Gaskill, R-at large, said whatever the council approved for the bridge project and courthouse repairs, the county will have to borrow the money. "Borrowing the money will allow us to meet payroll and pay our bills at the end of the year," he said. The proposal was to borrow the \$5 million for 10 years.

http://www.heraldbulletin.com/news/local_news/county-borrows-million-to-pay-for-eisenhower-bridge/article_76a90858-091f-11e7-b1ee-636e1dcfb9f8.html

INDOT needs state funding for 3 major Tri-State road projects

WFIE
Lauren Artino
3/15/17

VANDERBURGH CO., IN (WFIE) - The Indiana Senate is discussing a road funding bill. Under House Bill 1002, money to fix Indiana Roads would come out of taxpayers' pockets. According to the bill, drivers would pay a 10-cent gas tax increase and a \$15 fee at the BMV. State reps tell us this bill could easily change. INDOT officials need this bill to pass in order to fund at least three major projects here in the Tri-State. They want to install an interchange at the Lloyd & Burkhardt. INDOT reps say traffic patterns show there's a need for an interchange there. We wouldn't see the project start until 2021. They also want to add lanes on U.S. 41 at Lynch Road. Reps say this is another heavily traveled area. They'd like to start work here within the next 3 years. The project could cost \$1.5-million. They say they want to add additional lanes to Highway 231 between Jasper and I-69. In this year's state of the state address, Governor Eric Holcomb talked about the importance of these projects. Holcomb said if Hoosiers are asked to invest a little more, the return is going to be well worth it. The City of Evansville is also in talks with INDOT about the

interchange project on the Lloyd. Shoppers wanted to know how that project would affect businesses around here, INDOT reps tell us the project is still in the early stages, so it's too soon to tell. <http://www.14news.com/story/34900042/indot-needs-state-funding-for-3-major-tri-state-road-projects>

House-approved road funding plan under construction in Senate

NWI Times

Dan Carden

3/14/17

INDIANAPOLIS — Hoosier senators appear likely to support the fuel tax and vehicle fee increases included in the House-approved road funding package, but its call for highway tolling across Indiana probably will be modified if it remains in House Bill 1002. Two Senate committees spent nearly four hours Tuesday evaluating the roads plan, sponsored by state Rep. Ed Soliday, R-Valparaiso. They spent most of that time taking public testimony on the need, or lack thereof, for Indiana to annually spend an average of \$1.2 billion for the next 20 years to improve the condition of aging state and local roads and bridges. Afterward, state Sen. Brandt Hershman, R-Buck Creek, chairman of the Senate Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee, said he's not anticipating his committee will make major changes next week to the core of what he described as a "thoughtful" House road funding proposal. But, similar to Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb, Hershman said he's not keen on requiring Hoosiers to pay tolls to use existing highways, though tolling added lanes "is a bit of a different story." "This is a group effort, and we'll have to see where we end up," Hershman said. "We have an identified need. How we fill it, over what time frame we fill it, is a matter for continuing discussion." http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/house-approved-road-funding-plan-under-construction-in-senate/article_f7ff650c-7d91-5ba9-b7f2-a2812f3fd1e4.html

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