



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

April 29, 2014

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD: INDOT is committed to preserving our infrastructure

NWI Times
Bob Alderman
4/27/14

Our commitment to the people of Northwest Indiana has never changed. INDOT has invested nearly a half a billion dollars in transportation improvement projects in Lake County alone over the past seven years. That's the second highest amount of spending for the second most populous county in the state. With the number of state highways that traverse the area, we are constantly evaluating the condition of our roads and programming projects based on priority. Ind. 912 (Cline Avenue) is being resurfaced in the coming weeks. And like Cline, as highways near the end of their life cycle, they will begin to deteriorate. Our maintenance crews patch and seal roads on an annual basis to get as much life out of the pavement as possible. For the past several years, INDOT has expanded its pavement preservation program. Research estimates that every dollar invested in pavement preservation saves taxpayers \$6 to \$14 in future maintenance and construction costs. INDOT is focusing its resources on improving pavement so that 92.5 percent is rated fair or better condition and 100 percent of our bridges operate without load restrictions.

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Pedestrian paths set for Bass Road

The Journal Gazette
Vivian Sade
4/26/14

Pedestrian paths will be added to an existing Bass Road bridge deck over Interstate 69 after the Allen County commissioners approved an agreement Friday. The bridge pact between the county, the Indiana Department of Transportation and Northern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council will allow the widening of a bridge deck to accompany pedestrian paths along Bass Road. INDOT is paying for the bridge work, and it "only made sense to add the pedestrian paths," said Mike Thomson, an engineer with the Allen County Highway Department. INDOT will pay the projected \$600,000 cost for bridge deck maintenance and updates and has agreed to reimburse the county for the cost of the pedestrian path portion of the project. Bids for the project are expected to go out next year, and construction could start soon after and continue into 2016, Thomson said. In a related project, the commissioners approved a \$14,000 traffic study of the Hadley Road railroad crossing to determine the fastest path measurements for two planned roundabouts. The pedestrian bridge agreement and the traffic study are part of a larger five-phase Bass Road project that will take place in the next few years. The plans include intersection upgrades, widening, trails and road shoulder, drainage and bridge improvements. The estimated cost of the entire project is \$38.5 million, with federal funding covering about 80 percent of the project's cost. [Pedestrian paths set for Bass Road | The Journal Gazette](#)

State Funding Boosts Projects

Inside INdiana Business

4/25/14

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana Department of Transportation joined Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard and Vincennes Mayor Joe Yochum to announce local transportation projects that will be advanced using state funds under recent legislation. Carmel will use \$4.2 million in state funds to expand Main Street near U.S. 31 and Vincennes will use \$2.3 million to rebuild sections of 2nd Street. “INDOT sets aside a portion of its federal highway funding each year for local transportation projects,” said INDOT Chief of Staff Troy Woodruff. “But over the years, federal laws and regulations have increased the time and tax dollars needed to improve Indiana’s economy and transportation safety.” Passed by the Indiana General Assembly in 2013, House Enrolled Act 1067 allows INDOT to swap \$1 in federal funds with 75 cents in state funds. “When local units receive federal funding for transportation, there are often many strings attached,” said State Rep. Bob Cherry (R-Greenfield), who authored HEA 1067. “Under the federal exchange program, local units will be able to fund more road and bridge projects. This puts another tool in the toolbox for local government. It’s a win-win for both state and local units.” The local government will bid projects approved for the program and project costs will be reimbursed by INDOT. The local government is responsible for paying at least 10 percent of the overall project cost, down from the 20 percent match required for federal-aid contracts. [State Funding Boosts Projects - Newsroom - Inside INdiana Business with Gerry Dick](#)

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