



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

May 26, 2016

Massive \$25M Construction Project Scheduled For U.S. 41

WBIW

5/25/16

Details of a massive \$25 million construction project along Highway 41 were officially released. The project will span just South of the U.S. 41 / I-69 interchange in Evansville to just North of Stratman Road in Henderson. It's a joint effort between INDOT and the Kentucky Transportation Department. The three phase project that will take two years to complete. The focus will be on seven bridges along that span of Highway 41. All of those bridges were built around the same time and transportation officials say they all need work. The Southbound Twin Bridge is on the list to get a new deck overlay. Officials say the Northbound bridge doesn't need that work. The other bridges involved are much smaller ones that run over creeks and the Ohio River overflow area. This will mean a major change in traffic patterns in that area for two years. Most of the work will be done at night. During the construction, heavy vehicles won't be allowed to travel over the bridges. During the project, officials say traffic cameras will be installed to monitor traffic. There will also be increased patrols and the speed limit will be reduced to 35 miles per hour. Construction is set to start in the Spring of next year and run through the Summer of 2019. Officials say once the project is complete, major construction in that area shouldn't be needed again for the next 20 to 25 years. <http://www.wbiw.com/state/archive/2016/05/massive-25m-construction-project-scheduled-for-us-41.php>

Groundbreaking to Kick Off Bridge Project

Inside INdiana Business

Alex Brown

5/25/16

East Chicago Mayor Anthony Copeland will join community and business leaders Thursday afternoon to break ground on an operations office and maintenance facility to kick off the Cline Avenue Bridge Project. The new bridge that will replace one that was demolished in 2013. The Indiana Department of Transportation closed the original bridge, which spans the Indiana Harbor and Ship Canal, in 2009. One month later, it was condemned after inspectors deemed it structurally unsafe. The state spent \$9 million to demolish the bridge. The city of East Chicago and INDOT signed an agreement with California-based United Bridge Partners for the project. UPB will build, own and operate the new bridge, which the Lake County IN Economic Alliance says is a key link to I-90 and I-80/94. The LCEA says the overall bridge project will cost approximately \$150 million and is expected to be complete by the summer of 2019. The ground breaking ceremony will be held at 3:00 p.m. local time.

<http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/story/32065916/ground-breaking-to-kick-off-bridge-project>

INDOT rolls out matching grant program

Journal & Courier
Emma Ea Ambrose
5/24/16

The Indiana Department of Transportation unveiled a matching grant program Tuesday afternoon that will provide a 50-50 funds match to city and county governments for road projects. All local entities within the state will be eligible to receive funds. Sallie Fahey, executive director of the Area Plan Commission, said the Community Crossings Matching Grant is a great chance for local governments to receive aid on some ongoing or new projects. It also provides an opportunity to potentially demonstrate to the Indiana General Assembly the extensive need for infrastructure work within Indiana. "If INDOT is overwhelmed with applications," Fahey said, "this will be a good indicator to the legislature that we need to find ways to continue to fund projects." Fahey said the commission will act as a resource to its six-member districts to ensure they meet grant requirements and are strategically positioned to receive funding. Will Wingfield, INDOT media relations spokesperson, said 50 percent of the funds must be handed out to communities with a population of 50,000 or less while the other half will go to communities with populations of 50,000 or more. Wingfield said the goal of the project is to help improve infrastructure statewide and spur economic development. "There is a priority on projects that are regionally significant economic development projects," Wingfield continued. Opal Kuhl, executive director of the Tippecanoe County Highway Department, said the county has one project in mind for the grant application. Kuhl said areas east of U.S. 52, near the GE Aviation plant, are ripe for development and infrastructure improvements. The roads, according to Kuhl, "are narrow and in bad shape, and we want to open them up to development." Infrastructure improvements, she said, may usher in jobs and new business. <http://www.jconline.com/story/news/local/2016/05/24/indot-rolls-out-matching-grant-program/84867420/>

www.buildindianacouncil.org