



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

May 6, 2014

INDOT Announces Hoosier State Line Proposals

Inside INdiana Business

5/5/14

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. - The Indiana Department of Transportation and its local community partners announce receipt of four proposals to improve the Hoosier State passenger rail service between Indianapolis and Chicago. Proposals were submitted by (1) Corridor Capital LLC, (2) Herzog Transit Services Inc. and Passenger Transportation Specialists Inc., (3) Iowa Pacific Holdings Inc. and (4) Railmark Holdings Inc. The Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act ended federal support for certain Amtrak routes of less than 750 miles. In October, Governor Mike Pence announced an agreement to keep the Hoosier State operating four days each week in partnership with Indianapolis, Crawfordsville, Rensselaer, Lafayette, West Lafayette, Tippecanoe County and Beech Grove. The Act allows states to contract with independent providers or Amtrak to operate the trains that they now help subsidize. "It is exciting and interesting to receive four proposals that look at the Hoosier State passenger rail service in different ways," said INDOT chief of staff Troy Woodruff. "This private sector interest opens the door for other states and regions that are supporting passenger rail service." INDOT and the communities seek to improve the Hoosier State passenger experience, increase the number of passengers on the train and decrease train operating costs by opening the operation of the train to competition from private operators in addition to Amtrak. It is anticipated that the selected proposal will be announced this summer. No disruption in service is anticipated as a result of the competing proposals.

[INDOT Announces Hoosier State Line Proposals - Newsroom - Inside INdiana Business with Gerry Dick](#)

County could receive \$477,000 in FEMA funds

The Herald Bulletin

Ken de la Bastide

5/1/14

ANDERSON, Ind. — Government units in Madison County could be reimbursed more than \$477,000 in expenses incurred during the severe winter storms that impacted the state in January. Madison County is among 19 Indiana counties that were approved for financial reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Local governmental entities in the county submitted expenditures of \$636,200 in storm-related costs and could receive reimbursement from FEMA for 75 percent of the costs. The only other county in the region to be approved for federal funding was Tipton, which turned in expenses of \$114,000 and could be eligible for \$85,500 in federal funding. "The money will be returned to the respective departmental budgets," he said. "In the case of the street department the winter storms wiped out the money budgeted for salt and most of the overtime budget." Fenwick said it could take up to two years for

the city to be reimbursed. John Richwine, president of the Madison County Board of County Commissioners, said the county is expecting to receive \$100,000 for the highway department. "We had to transfer some money around," he said. "When we get the funds it will go back to the highway department for repairs to the road surface."

[County could receive \\$477,000 in FEMA funds » Local News » The Herald Bulletin](#)

Soil contamination pushes back U.S. 40 project until at least June

The Brazil Times

5/1/14

The U.S. 40 Pavement Replacement project will be delayed until at least June, as officials work to prepare workers for the removal of contaminated soil discovered before the original start of the project in April. "The contractor is currently trying to schedule the proper contamination control equipment and reschedule work crews for June 2," said Debbie Calder, Indiana Department of Transportation's Communications Director of the Crawfordsville District. According to an INDOT news release, Cardno ATC, an Indianapolis-based company, has been hired by Gradex, Inc. to assist with the proper removal of the contaminated soil before construction begins. Coley Mendenhall, project engineer, said the environmental firm would provide information on how to safely dispose of the contaminated material. "They have developed a contamination management plan," said Calder. "Part of the plan includes project personnel receiving training to ensure worker safety during construction ... This training will be taking place during the month of May." In an April news release from INDOT, it stated contaminated soil was discovered at a dry cleaner's former location on U.S. 40 near Chicago Avenue. As a result, INDOT has been working with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and a consultant to resolve the issue and the project delayed. Mendenhall said it is unknown at this time how it would impact the project's timeline. The first phase, which will go from U.S. 40/Ind. 340 to Ind. 59, was scheduled to be completed this year. Phase two of the project is scheduled to begin in 2015.

[Brazil Times: Local News: Soil contamination pushes back U.S. 40 project until at least June \(05/01/14\)](#)

Big Four ramp could open later this month in Jeff

The Courier-Journal

Charlie White

5/1/14

The electrical contractor installing the final lighted handrails on the \$8.5 million Big Four ramp in Jeffersonville has picked up the handrails from the Wisconsin manufacturer, which could move up the completion date to later this month following final inspection. Handrails for the curved sections of the pedestrian and cycling ramp — and its accompanying stair tower for climbers — were expected to be on the site Thursday, according to the Indiana Department of Transportation. "By picking up the railing directly from the manufacturer, the project team is now able to work during the time we would have been waiting on the materials to be shipped," INDOT chief of staff Troy Woodruff said in a statement. Jeffersonville is paying 20 percent of the project cost through tax-increment financing approved through its redevelopment commission. Federal transportation dollars are being used to cover the remaining 80 percent.

<http://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/traffic/bridges/2014/05/01/big-four-ramp-open-later-month-jeff/8566701/>