



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

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INDOT: Next section of I-69 to open by end of year

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Chelsea Schneider
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The 30-mile detour of winding two-lane roads between where Interstate 69 currently ends and Indiana 37 picks up in Bloomington is almost over. That's right, Southwestern Indiana. The next time you find yourself on that leg of the trip with spotty cell phone connection and questioning your memory if the next turn is right or left, consider this: The Indiana Department of Transportation says the fourth section of the I-69 extension from Crane to Bloomington is still on track to open by the end of this year. Construction on the 27-mile stretch is about a year behind the original schedule. But as of this month, the state had paid construction crews for completing 75 percent of the total contract amounts for the section, INDOT spokesman Will Wingfield said. The project also is coming in about \$1 million under initial estimates at \$471 million, he said. "How exactly the new I-69 between Crane and Bloomington will open to traffic depends largely on construction progress," Wingfield said. The opening of the fourth section comes as the state readies plans to finish the road to Indianapolis. Work is underway on the fifth section, which is updating Indiana 37 to interstate standards from Bloomington to Martinsville. The state also is finalizing a required federal study to determine a route for the sixth and final section, which will run from Martinsville to Indianapolis.

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