



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

**June 1, 2017**

### **Communities encouraged to apply for road funding**

Post-Tribune  
Amy Lavalley  
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The state of Indiana awarded \$146 million in road funding through its Community Crossings matching grants to local communities last year. How much it will award this year won't be determined until August, Kathy Eaton-McKalip told more than 80 representatives from the region's cities, towns and counties at a Wednesday meeting about the second round of grants from the program, held at the LaPorte District headquarters of the Indiana Department of Transportation. "We are actually after shovel-ready projects, projects that are ready to go," she said, telling community leaders that if their projects aren't ready, to wait until next year's funding cycle. "This is a sustainable program," she added, noting the state's new \$15 vehicle registration fee, which will be implemented Jan. 1, one of several measures passed by the legislature to raise funds for road repair, which also included increasing the gas tax. Last year's grant program "had amazing success" and served as a billboard for this year's program, said Rick Powers, deputy commissioner of INDOT's LaPorte District "It took political courage in the General Assembly to get where we are and take INDOT to where it needs to be for infrastructure. We have a lot of work to do," he said. There have been some changes to this year's grant program, Eaton-McKalip said, including a reduction in the match required for funds from the state's smaller counties and municipalities, though the cap on any one project remains at \$1 million.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/post-tribune/news/ct-ptb-indot-meeting-st-0601-20170531-story.html>

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