



## **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

### **Infrastructure Media Summary**

**June 6, 2017**

#### **INDOT 'still on schedule' with I-65 bridge rebuild on city's south side**

FOX 59  
Bill Remeika  
6/6/2017

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. - "We are still on schedule." That's the word from INDOT Information Director Nate Riggs three months in with regard to the extensive nine month I-65 construction project at I-465 on the city's south side. Construction contractors started work March 5 on the nearly \$20 million dollar project to rebuild six bridges on Interstate 65 over I-465 and Lick Creek. The eastbound I-465 loop ramp to northbound I-65 is now closed for the duration of construction. The southbound I-65 ramp to eastbound I-465 closed for up to 150 days this past April. The next major milestone for the project will be shifting I-65 traffic into "Phase 2," which is scheduled for mid-July. Phase 2 will move the traffic lanes from the east half of I-65, where they are now, to the west half on the new bridges.

<http://fox59.com/2017/06/06/indot-still-on-schedule-with-i-65-bridge-rebuild-on-citys-south-side/>

#### **I-69 Extension Delayed Again, State Looks For Takeover**

Inside Indiana Business  
Alex Brown  
6/6/2017

BLOOMINGTON - The portion of Interstate 69 connecting Bloomington to Martinsville has been delayed yet again. Our partners at WTHR report the 21-mile stretch of road is now set to be complete in August 2018 as the state looks to take over the project. The Indiana Finance Authority says \$237 million is needed to complete construction and resolve contractor claims for the project. However, only \$72 million is available, according to the station. IFA Director Dan Huge released a statement saying the state has made an offer to the buy out the bonds from the developer's bond holders. "The good news is that work will continue during these negotiations and we have made it crystal clear that finishing I-69 Section 5 and finishing the complete 69 is a top priority with my administration," Governor Eric Holcomb said Monday. "So we're focused on getting the job done."

<http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/story/35600058/i-69-extension-delayed-again-state-looks-for-takeover>

#### **Major rebuilding project of State Road 38 Bridge in Hagerstown to begin next week**

FOX 59  
6/6/2017

WAYNE COUNTY, Ind. - Contractors plan to begin work next week on a \$1.5 million project that

will rebuild and widen the State Road 38 bridge over a tributary of the Whitewater River located one-half mile west of State Road 1 in Hagerstown in Wayne County. The 60-year-old structure was built in 1957. Work is scheduled to begin on or after Monday, June 12th. The new bridge is expected to be open to traffic before the end of this year. Once completed, the new bridge will consist of two 12-foot lanes, 4-foot shoulders, and a 6-foot sidewalk on the south side of the bridge. Contractors are also rebuilding the nearby State Road 1 bridge over Interstate 70. <http://fox59.com/2017/06/06/major-rebuilding-project-of-state-road-38-bridge-in-hagerstown-to-begin-next-week/>

### **Trump to push for \$1T for roads, bridges**

WSBT Channel 22 CBS

Ken Thomas & Josh Boak/Associated Press

6/5/2017

President Donald Trump is launching a major push for a \$1 trillion overhaul of the nation's roads and bridges, a key item on his agenda that's been stymied in Congress and overshadowed by White House controversies. Trump plans a series of events this coming week to highlight his effort to modernize American infrastructure - the highway, waterway, electrical and airway systems on which the nation operates. The Trump administration has struggled to gain traction on many of its economic policies. But modernizing the nation's infrastructure remains a challenge with broad public support. Trump's push to revamp deteriorating roads, bridges, airports and railways aims to unlock economic growth and succeed in an area where his predecessor, former President Barack Obama, was repeatedly thwarted by a Republican-led Congress. On infrastructure, the administration has pointed to plans for a package of tax breaks meant to help spur \$1 trillion in new spending on roads, bridges and other construction during the next decade. It also would drastically shorten project approval times. According to Trump's budget proposal, the funding would come from \$200 billion in tax breaks over nine years that would then - in theory - leverage \$1 trillion worth of construction. A senior White House official has said the infrastructure plan might also incentivize local governments to sell their existing infrastructure to private firms. But Democrats have warned that the Trump budget reduces infrastructure spending elsewhere, including cuts to Amtrak subsidies, the elimination of an infrastructure investment program started under Obama and a more than \$90 billion drop-off in congressional support for the Highway Trust Fund over 10 years. Democrats have also been critical of Trump's interest in forging public-private partnerships instead of more traditional spending on infrastructure projects. At the same time, many conservative Republicans have been wary of the idea of a massive government investment.

<http://wsbt.com/news/business/trump-to-push-for-1t-for-roads-bridges>

Also, [http://www.tribstar.com/news/business\\_news/trump-to-push-for-overhauling-roads-bridges-air-traffic/article\\_066fad22-0d80-5108-9b96-a5c948097192.html](http://www.tribstar.com/news/business_news/trump-to-push-for-overhauling-roads-bridges-air-traffic/article_066fad22-0d80-5108-9b96-a5c948097192.html)

### **INDOT seeking information that could expand interstate tolling**

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Niki Kelly

6/2/2017

The Indiana Department of Transportation on Friday wasted no time looking at future tolling by posting a request for information for studies related to interstate tolling and the national environmental policy act. The RFI covers a host of interstates but not I-69 or I-469 in northern Indiana. The move is the result of a massive road funding bill recently passed by legislators that required INDOT to study the possibility of tolling. Republican leaders, including Gov. Eric Holcomb, have conceded that additional tolling revenue will be needed to keep up with state road construction demands in about seven to 10 years. The purpose of the RFI is to generate information to assist INDOT with planning an expeditious and effective tolling program

deployment approach that can be expanded in a consistent manner, a news release said.  
<http://www.journalgazette.net/news/local/indiana/20170602/indot-seeking-information-that-could-expand-interstate-tolling>; also  
<http://www.journalgazette.net/opinion/editorials/20170605/taking-its-toll>

### **Tipton officials discuss possible \$1 million INDOT grant**

MyWabashValley.com

Cody Neuenschwander

6/1/2017

TIPTON - Tipton County department heads are planning to discuss ways to implement a \$1 million grant from the Indiana Department of Transportation, if they were to be awarded the money, as they prepare to write an application for the grant. The application deadline for the INDOT Community Crossing Grant is 5 p.m. July 14. According to documents on INDOT's webpage, the Community Crossings Grant was launched in 2016, and "provides funding to cities, towns and counties across Indiana to make improvements to local roads and bridges." Those "improvements" can entail things like sign and guardrail replacements, intersection improvements, and reconstruction and preservation projects. For a county with Tipton County's population, Tipton would need to front \$333,333, said Tipton County Auditor Gregg Townsend, to receive the full \$1 million. "It's a huge opportunity for small communities, for small counties," said Townsend. To submit the application, potential projects would need to have "financial commitment" letters from contractors. Counties and communities will be alerted by the end of August if they've been awarded money.

[http://www.kokomotribune.com/news/tipton-officials-discuss-possible-million-indot-grant/article\\_68112ac2-46fb-11e7-a766-9f46b417d2a0.html](http://www.kokomotribune.com/news/tipton-officials-discuss-possible-million-indot-grant/article_68112ac2-46fb-11e7-a766-9f46b417d2a0.html)

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