



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

June 24, 2014

Financing for Area Road Projects

My Wabash Valley
6/23/14

The Indiana Department of Transportation today awarded \$102 million in federal transportation funding to cities, towns and counties, including \$70 million for road construction, \$17 million for bridge construction and \$12 million for bicycle and pedestrian and nearly \$3 million for safety projects. Area projects include: Lebanon: Road reconstruction on Indianapolis Ave. for \$4,554,020; Rockville: Road reconstruction on Howard Ave. for \$4,899,360; Crawfordsville: Road reconstruction on Concord Road for \$2,541,440; Frankfort: Safe Routes to School for \$200,000; Clinton: Safe Routes to School for \$268,160; Veedersburg: Sign inventory project for \$23,490; Warren County: Rehabilitation/repair on Bridge #36 on County Road 100 East for \$1,404,004; Vermillion County: Bridge #80 replacement on County Road 325 West for \$1,012,000. INDOT sets aside 25 percent of the federal highway funds appropriated by Congress each year to fund larger local transportation projects. Metropolitan Planning Organizations distribute federal road, bridge and safety funds to local communities within the state's larger urbanized areas. INDOT distributes these funds outside MPO areas. In addition, INDOT distributes Transportation Alternatives funding for non-motorized projects such as trails and Safe Routes to School projects. To receive federal funding, communities must pay at least 20 percent in local matching funds and meet other federal requirements. Awarded projects would be designed, developed and have purchased land according to federal standards prior to bid during the state fiscal year beginning July 2017. In February, INDOT awarded \$86 million in federal transportation funding for local projects that would be bid beginning July 2016.

[Financing for Area Road Projects - MyWabashValley.com](http://MyWabashValley.com)

Ryan-Bruick project gets additional \$3.2 million

The Journal Gazette
Chris Meyers
6/22/14

The Ryan-Bruick Road construction project in Allen County will receive a double dose of federal highway funding. Indiana Department of Transportation representatives announced Friday that another \$3.2 million was awarded to the project to improve the northeast Allen County corridor. The \$9.5 million project has two phases, the first of which proposes reconstruction of one mile of Ryan Road between Dawkins and Harper roads. The second phase would include the portion of Ryan Road, which becomes Bruick Road, between Harper Road and U.S. 24 to the north. INDOT this year announced the initial award of \$3.2 million in federal funds for the project. Preliminary engineering and right-of-way acquisition has already been undertaken for the full length of the project, which is expected to begin in 2017. INDOT views the Ryan Road-Bruick Road corridor as a valuable transportation route, especially in light of the recent relocation of U.S. 24. Old U.S. 24

bisected many county roads and greatly reduced access to the new highway. The Ryan-Bruick corridor provides access to U.S. 24 to the north and U.S. 30 to the south, and crossings for U.S. 24 and the Maumee River.

[Ryan-Bruick project gets additional \\$3.2 million | The Journal Gazette](#)

US 33 realignment solidified at Goshen meeting

FOX 28

Molly Jirasek

6/22/14

GOSHEN - Things are moving forward with the US 33 realignment project in Goshen. Goshen's East Neighborhood Association held their usual public meeting Sunday evening to talk about the plans ahead. Mary Cripe, Goshen City Engineer, answered questions about the project. She says the 20 year debate about how to make the community a little better for everyone will probably break ground in 2016. Indiana Department of Transportation's plan as of now is to direct US 33 to be parallel with the train tracks starting at E. Monroe Street and connecting at SR 15. The plan includes adding overpasses on Cottage Ave, E. Lincoln Ave., and 9th St. At the meeting, several community members voiced their concerns about the project, and one attendee says they should have spoken up back in March, while INDOT was taking advice from the public. Now, plans are solidified, and Cripe says there's more than one purpose for the realignment. She says directing traffic away from downtown will make the city a more pedestrian friendly space, especially for Chandler elementary school kids. The project also reduces traffic congestion for everyone. She added that there will only be three traffic signals on the new US 33.

So far, there's \$25 million dollars allocated to fund the construction. [US 33 realignment solidified at Goshen meeting - Fox 28: South Bend, Elkhart IN News, Weather, Sports](#)

Illiana timetable pushed back, but planning work continuing

Post-Tribune

Carole Carlson

6/20/14

PORTAGE — A state transportation official said Thursday that work on the 47-mile Illiana Expressway is moving forward as officials await completion and approval of an environmental impact study. James Earl, Indiana Department of Transportation project manager, told Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission executive board members that concerns raised by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service over the \$1.5 billion tollway's impact on the endangered long-eared bat and sheepsnose mussel should be addressed by the end of September. The federal agency also raised concerns on the impact to the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie in Illinois. "We were hoping we could get through the process quicker," said Earl who added that preparations were still ongoing to identify a developer. He said talks were also held recently with Crown Point and Lowell over traffic concerns along the 12-mile stretch of the expressway in south Lake County. Patricia Mussman, an Illiana opponent from West Creek Township, accused Earl of minimizing the draft opinion of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the two lawsuits filed by environmentalist groups. "It appears you're assuming the suit will go in favor of Illiana," Mussman said. Earl said the highway planning must move forward "until we get a reason to stop ... Or a judge tells us to. We assess risk all the time." State officials hoped to have the environmental impact process completed by the end of May. Earl said the law allows federal agencies 135 days to offer an opinion and that period will elapse in September. Once the final environmental impact statement is completed by September, the Federal Highway Administration must issue a record of decision before work can move ahead. Earl expects a federal decision within four to eight weeks. [Illiana timetable pushed back, but planning work continuing - Post-Tribune#.U6li24dOXIU](#)

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