



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

### **July 6, 2017**

#### **Highway engineer outlines cooperative road projects**

The Lebanon Reporter  
Rod Rose  
7/5/17

Coordinating road planning with local communities could mean more money for them and for the county, County Highway Engineer Craig Parks said Monday. An application for the state highway department's next Community Crossings grant is due July 14, Parks told the county commissioners. The 50-percent matching grant is capped at \$1 million. The commissioners unanimously approved sending a letter of commitment to the state, guaranteed to provide funding for projects that are selected. "It may not be as easy as it was last year to get the \$1 million," Parks cautioned. "We have 17 different projects we are applying for," Parks said, with a total cost of \$2.8 million. Some of those are collaborative efforts. He is working with Zionsville officials to get their thoughts on priorities for roads in the town's rural district. Zionsville maintains streets in the urban district. Zionsville merged with Eagle and Union townships in 2008, with the former townships comprising the rural district, the then-current town limits and the urban district. One such involves work on the CR 950 E corridor, between West Oak Street and Whitestown Road, Parks said. An estimate of the cost has been prepared, and the county and Zionsville will combine forces for the bidding, he said. Planning project applications being sought by the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization, which distributes federal grants for streets, transit, sidewalks, bike paths and similar projects in a large area of central Indiana, could also benefit the county and Zionsville, Parks said. He'd like help for a joint study of the 146th Street/CR 300 S corridor between the future intersection of the under-construction Whitestown Bypass, and the Hamilton County line. That study, to identify how to approach updating the street in several sections, will cost "a couple of hundred thousand dollars," Parks said. The MPO's deadline is in the next few weeks, he said. [http://www.reporter.net/news/local\\_news/highway-engineer-outlines-cooperative-road-projects/article\\_e72decf5-e7e7-5104-9310-adf4b3450de0.html](http://www.reporter.net/news/local_news/highway-engineer-outlines-cooperative-road-projects/article_e72decf5-e7e7-5104-9310-adf4b3450de0.html)

#### **State money could help pave dozens of Richmond streets**

Palladium-Item  
Jason Truitt  
7/3/17

City of Richmond officials are hoping to get about \$835,000 in state funding that would help pay for nearly a dozen road projects and buy enough asphalt to pave another 33 streets. Richmond Common Council this week approved an ordinance granting the city permission to apply for a Community Crossings grant from the Indiana Department of Transportation. Last year, the city was awarded \$948,073 through the INDOT program, which required a one-to-one match. Some of that money is earmarked for the city's share of improvements to Gaar-Jackson and Round

Barn roads as part of the changes promised to bring the new Blue Buffalo facility to Richmond. The rest was to be used on eight other city streets, including South A Street, Backmeyer Road, Hunters Pointe Drive, Breckenridge Drive, Woodgate Way, South 19th Street, Barrington Ridge and Industrial Parkway. Should the city be granted this new round of funding, officials plan 11 milling-and-paving projects. The rest of the money would be used to buy enough asphalt to pave 33 city streets. Like in 2016, the city would be required to match the state funds. Officials say that money would come from the motor vehicle fund (\$257,034), local road and street fund (\$286,590) and Tax Increment Financing fund (\$291,425). It's that last funding source that drew a pair of "no" votes from Richmond Common Council members. Clay Miller and Jamie Lopeman cast the dissenting votes in a 6-2 tally in favor of the ordinance (Council member Misty Hollis missed the meeting).

<http://www.pal-item.com/story/news/local/2017/07/04/state-money-could-help-pave-dozens-richmond-streets/434990001/>

### **Indiana Toll Road Work Finishes Early**

Inside Indiana Business

Alex Brown

6/29/17

GRANGER - A major part of the \$200 million project to improve the Indiana Toll Road has been completed months ahead of schedule. Granger-based ITR Concession Co. says the construction and rehabilitation of the mainline travel lanes will open to traffic Friday morning ahead of the Fourth of July holiday weekend. The work is part of the 80/90 PUSH Project announced in early 2016. The project aims to overhaul a more than 70-mile stretch of the ITR between Portage and Elkhart. "We are thrilled to reopen all mainline Toll Road lanes ahead of scheduled and in time for the heart of summer travel season" said Nic Barr, chief executive officer of ITRCC. "As AAA estimates a record 44.2 million Americans will hit the road for the holiday, we are proud to help our customers arrive safe and enjoy a quicker, smoother ride on the Indiana Toll Road." Other portions of the project include improvements to shoulders, interchange ramps, and bridges. Crews will also install a fiber optic line throughout the project, which ITRCC says will allow it to utilize intelligent transportation systems to better identify and respond to roadway conditions and provide real-time information to motorists.

<http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/story/35780245/indiana-toll-road-work-finishes-early>

### **These West Lafayette roads are getting a makeover**

Journal & Courier

Meghan Holden

6/29/17

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — More than four miles of rugged road is being revitalized in West Lafayette, thanks to a new state program. The city on Thursday kicked off a construction project that will resurface 4.3 miles of roads, including Grant and Salisbury streets and Sunset Lane, as well as parts of the Wabash Shores neighborhood. The city will front half of the cost for the \$1.6 million project, while the state will pay the other half as part of the Community Crossings Matching Grant Program. The program, which operates under the Indiana Department of Transportation, launched in 2016 to provide funding to cities, towns and counties for improvements to local roads and bridges. "When we get a cash infusion like this, it really does help us solve a lot of real local, parochial problems really quickly," West Lafayette Mayor John Dennis said. "A lot of folks that drive up and down these roads, this is their home. This is their major thoroughfare. This is the road that they care about. This is the road their kids play on. And when it gets roughed up, it really is important to them that we solve it." The grant program, which is doling out \$150 million to local communities this year, is being funded in part by a new 10-cent per-gallon gas tax that will take effect July 1, according to Brian Gould, government affairs director for Accelerate Indiana Municipalities, a nonprofit group that worked with state legislators

to create Community Crossings. Funding for the program next year will come from the gas tax, as well as a \$15 registration fee for vehicles that's being implemented in January.

<http://www.jconline.com/story/news/local/2017/06/29/these-west-lafayette-roads-getting-makeover/431577001/>

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