



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

August 5, 2014

State Road 37 overhaul plan inches forward

Indianapolis Business Journal
8/5/14

The facts aren't in dispute: Congestion on State Road 37 in Hamilton County must be addressed before development along the commercial corridor turns it into a parking lot. But easing rush-hour backups along the highway won't be cheap or easy. As IBJ reported in May, county officials are vetting a plan to replace signalized intersections with roundabout interchanges on a six-mile stretch from Interstate 69 to State Road 32, aiming to reduce the drive time from 30 minutes to less than 10. But pulling off the \$243 million plan also would require buy-in from leaders in the town of Fishers, city of Noblesville and the Indiana Department of Transportation, which now controls the road. "Local control is just essential," said Christine Altman, president of the three-member county commission. So commissioners and a team of consultants on Monday briefed Fishers Town Council on the problem and proposed solution in hopes of building consensus before what promises to be lengthy negotiations. Council County members signed off on the plan in June, and a similar presentation to the Noblesville Common Council is scheduled for Aug. 24. [State Road 37 overhaul plan inches forward | 2014-08-05 | Indianapolis Business Journal | IBJ.com](#)

Brazil solving pot hole problems

WTHI-TV
Matt Gregory
8/4/14

More than a year ago we took you to the streets of Brazil, Indiana. Back then the potholes and poor conditions had drivers on edge. Now the city has plans to give their streets a facelift. It's said the road to success is always under construction. If that's the case, Brazil, Indiana's road construction means good things are on the way. "We want to continue this type of progress going on in our city, it'll perpetuate itself as time goes on," Brazil Mayor Bryan Wyndham said. You've heard all about the U.S. 40 road project down town. That's well underway, but the citizens of Brazil have dealt with a far larger road problem for years. Last year when we spoke with the mayor about the street problems, he had a plan. It looks like this year they'll begin tackling the street troubles. "Basically 26 different streets or parts of streets that we'll be repaving starting here in less than a month," Wyndham said. The project comes in to the tune of around \$1.7 million. Its financed through a bond sale. How much will it cost taxpayers? For homeowners it'll be a little over \$50 a year. "Citizens here in brazil are willing to make an investment in their community. You lead the way by doing that. You can't expect to come and do investments in your community if you're not willing to do them yourself. "
[Brazil solving pot hole problems | WTHITV.com](#)

SR 56 widening project to begin next year

Salem Leader
Marcia Walker
8/4/14

Work is expected to begin next year on a project that involves making improvements to State Road 56 from High Street to just east of Heritage Chapel Road. According to Will Wingfield, with the Indiana Department of Transportation, the state plans to solicit bids this winter for approximately two miles of the highway. The highway is to be totally reconstructed from High Street to about 1,100 feet east of Anson Street. This work includes new pavement, curb and gutter, storm sewer, sidewalks, steps, curb ramps and intersection improvements. East of Anson Street to the end of the project will include shoulder widening and resurfacing. All of the structures are to be replaced, along with new signs and pavement markings. The section of highway that was built near the Salem bypass is not included. Work is expected to begin in the late summer or fall of next year. Utilities are being asked to relocate their service lines where they conflict with the project.

[SR 56 widening project to begin next year - Salem Leader - Salem, IN](#)

Future of rail transportation in Lafayette 'bleak'

Purdue Exponent
Reed Sellers
8/1/14

Lafayette and West Lafayette's mayors aren't optimistic about the future of rail transportation serving Purdue students and the Greater Lafayette area. Earlier this year, Congress defunded all passenger train routes shorter than 750 miles, including the Hoosier State Line, which runs between Indianapolis and Chicago. West Lafayette mayor John Dennis said he is pessimistic about the route and has been disappointed with Amtrak's service. "When we entered into the agreement, there were several components that we established as metrics in order to try to encourage this thing to be a little bit more successful and a little bit more dependable. And unfortunately, none of those metrics have been met," West Lafayette mayor John Dennis said. "Amtrak as a rule has been historically late. The cars themselves have been somewhat under-served. In other words, there is no Wi-Fi, sometimes they're not very clean and there's definitely, in some cases, a lack of having a restaurant car or any kind of food service on the car." Several local governments along the route agreed to continue funding of the Amtrak route, but according to Will Wingfield, the head of the office of communications at the Indiana Department of Transportation, Indianapolis has informed INDOT the city does not intend to continue to fund the route after Oct. 1.

[Future of rail transportation in Lafayette 'bleak' - Purdue Exponent: City & State](#)

Clark County Commissioners secure \$888,000 for New Wash sidewalks

News and Tribune
Matt Koesters
7/31/14

The Indiana Department of Transportation gave the Clark County Commissioners a pleasant surprise this week. The commissioners revealed Thursday that INDOT had set aside \$888,000 for a sidewalk and culvert project in New Washington that will make travel on foot to the town's middle and high schools much safer for the community's children. "When we first met on this in New Washington some months back, we were told that statewide there might only be \$250,000, and if we got \$50,000 or \$100,000, we would be lucky," said Commissioner John Perkins. The community came together to let INDOT know how important it was to its residents, Perkins explained. New Washington parents, teachers, students and school administrators peppered

INDOT with letters explaining how unsafe conditions are today and how much better things could be with the state's help. "Evidently, the people that scored that application read all of those letters and were extremely impressed by the students, the parents and the teachers," Perkins said. The project is going to have to wait a few years before the funds, which INDOT administers on behalf of the federal government, become available. The project will likely begin construction in 2018, said County Engineer Brian Dixon. Commissioner Rick Stephenson commended Dixon and Highway Superintendent Jim Ross for being proactive in communicating with other agencies about projects where grant funds may be available. The commissioners also announced that INDOT was set to pay \$5.8 million for improvements on Bethany Road, with construction to begin in 2017. "We've got a lot of shovel-ready projects," Stephenson said. "All we need are funds released."

[Clark County Commissioners secure \\$888,000 for New Wash sidewalks » Clark County » News and Tribune](#)

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