



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

**August 22, 2013**

### **Future construction may replace 52 bridge**

David DeLong  
WLF1  
8/21/13

LAFAYETTE, Ind. (WLF1) - A major project in the making could cause some major changes to a popular road. The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) revealed a future construction project Wednesday at the Technical Transportation Committee meeting. The project would add a multi-purpose trail to the eastbound U-S 52 bridge over the Wabash River. One potential plan would completely replace the eastbound bridge. However, INDOT still needs to meet with residents for feedback before approving the project. That meeting will take place sometime in October. The project would not take place for about another 3 years. [WLF1 - Future construction may replace 52 bridge | WLF1 - Lafayette, Indiana](#)

### **Cass prepares to swap roads with state**

Mitchell Kirk  
Pharos-Tribune  
8/21/13

Cass County Commissioners are hoping to add a stipulation to a road relinquishment contract between the county and the state that would allow for the funding of almost all of what will be about a \$10 million road project. The county and the Indiana Department of Transportation are negotiating the relinquishment of certain roads that are currently owned and maintained by the state to accommodate the new Ind. 25 Hoosier Heartland Highway between Logansport and Delphi, which is scheduled to open in October. Because the state will own this highway, it is planning to relinquish certain roads within the county and Logansport from what is currently Ind. 25 from 300 South on into Logansport, where it routes onto Cicott Street, then West Market Street. The new Ind. 25 will route onto Burlington Avenue, which will then come under the jurisdiction of the state. Cass County Commissioner Jim Sailors said instead of the county taking money from the state for the roads it and Logansport will pick up, INDOT has agreed the relinquishment funds will make up most of what would be the county's 20 percent match for a grant that will go toward a reconstruction project on 400 South. However, the 400 South project is not mentioned in the current contract. "Everything we asked for is in there except for the money going to the 400 South project," Sailors said at a commissioners meeting Monday. "I don't see any language that that money is going to come to us." Sailors went on to recommend the commissioners approve the relinquishment contract contingent to including wording guaranteeing the funds will go toward the project. John Hillis, attorney for the commissioners, said he will contact INDOT to work toward getting the language included.

[Cass prepares to swap roads with state » Local News » Pharos-Tribune](#)

## **Amtrak line receives a lot of support at summit**

Chris Morisse Vizza

Journal and Courier

8/21/13

Lafayette-area officials presented their case Wednesday for continuation of daily Amtrak service between Indianapolis and Chicago. But with the clock ticking toward an Oct. 1 deadline, state transportation officials are far from committing the \$3 million needed to keep the Hoosier State going four days a week. Amtrak and Indiana Department of Transportation representatives laid their cards on the table during a passenger rail summit hosted by Greater Lafayette Commerce at Faith Community Center. More than 250 people attended the meeting and listened to arguments for local and state government financial support of passenger rail in the corridor, as well as answers to those arguments. In six weeks, federal funding will cease for passenger rail lines shorter than 750 miles, including the 196-mile Hoosier State. The passenger rail line provides four-day-a-week service from Indianapolis to Chicago with stops in Lafayette, Crawfordsville, Rensselear and Dyer. Coupled with the three-day-a-week long-distance Cardinal, the routes deliver daily service through the corridor. Community leaders said the Hoosier State can play an essential role in realizing the recommendations of a study commissioned by Greater Lafayette Commerce. "When it comes to passenger rail, that is something they expect, not something they optimistically hope to find," said John Dennis, West Lafayette mayor. "It's not a convenience. It's a lifeline." Micah Matlock, Purdue University student senate president, agreed. "A very large number of students are international. ... A lot of students from other states don't have driver's licenses," he said. "That's money coming from out of the country and out of state into Indiana and retained in the state."

[Amtrak line receives a lot of support at summit | Journal and Courier | jconline.com](#)

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