



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

**October 29 , 2015**

### **Amtrak bringing new changes with a possible increase in service**

WLF1

Alexis Moberger

10/28/15

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (WLF1) — A new upgrade coming to Amtrak and the company hopes to increase service up to 14 times a day. The Chicago company, Iowa Pacific Holdings, now runs the Amtrak line between Indianapolis and Chicago. Iowa Pacific Holdings has made changes — like free Wi-Fi, improved dining options and possibly more trains. The train currently runs just once each day from Indianapolis to Chicago and back. Republican State Rep. Randy Truitt recently rode the new train. "It was a great experience. Our train actually arrived in Chicago about 45 minutes early." Truitt expressed. "[I] was able to partake in restaurant amenities." Because of these changes, it's almost doubled its passengers. The company hopes to add more trains, and even envisions trains going between Chicago and Indianapolis multiple times per day. But adding trains won't be simple, Truitt said. "Slowly, but surely, Iowa Pacific would love to. But we need our partners like CSX and our freight partners to join in with us because they have the track," said Truitt. The route was nearly out of business earlier this year because of a funding shortage. Truitt said the Indiana Department of Transportation and the state are working hard to keep it up and running. [Amtrak bringing new changes with a possible increase in service | wlf1.com](http://wlf1.com)

### **County looks to leverage transportation plan**

Washington Times Herald

Mike Grant

10/28/15

In a couple of weeks the Indiana General Assembly will organize for the short session that will begin after the first of the year. Even though lawmakers have not formally begun putting the pieces for the session together, the word out of Indianapolis already is that this time lawmakers are going to look seriously at improving the state's bridges and roads. "We're expecting this to be the infrastructure session," said State Rep. Mike Braun (R-Jasper), who sits on the House Transportation Committee. "The last session we took care of funding education and putting the surplus into place. We have a great credit rating and a financial cushion, now it is time to look at roads and bridges." Braun says the state needs to reverse a long standing trend. For years Indiana did not put enough money into the road accounts to keep them up. Now with hybrid vehicles and higher mileage vehicles on the road, the gas tax has stopped providing enough money to maintain the roads. "The gas tax is deficient," said Braun. "Now we need to be doing major repairs. We need an additional \$500 million to \$1 billion annually to keep up. The Legislature is going to have to find the fortitude to come up with the funds to pay for it. I believe we need to get gas and diesel indexed to pay for the work." Last week Governor Mike Pence announced he would authorize the spending of \$1 billion from the state's surplus over a four-year

period on the roads. Critics have called that a drop in the bucket compared to what needs to be done. "Most people who know infrastructure say that's not nearly enough," said Braun.

[http://www.washtimesherald.com/news/local\\_news/county-looks-to-leverage-transportation-plan/article\\_3d4c5942-68d3-5cbb-a46c-a2b1a605d004.html](http://www.washtimesherald.com/news/local_news/county-looks-to-leverage-transportation-plan/article_3d4c5942-68d3-5cbb-a46c-a2b1a605d004.html)

## **INDOT Partners With Road Construction Awareness Corporation To Launch "Save-A-Life" Campaign**

WBIW

10/26/15

INDIANAPOLIS) - The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and the Road Construction Awareness Corporation (RCAC) are partnering to install new signs on interstate highways to raise awareness among motorists about safe driving in work zones. The 8-foot by 15-foot orange panel signs remind motorists to "Slow Down, Save A Life" because "We Are All In This Together." Safety is the top priority of Indiana's highway workers, and they need all drivers' full cooperation to make work zones safe for everyone. The signs are being installed beginning this month at entry points to the state and approaching major interstate construction projects. By next year, RCAC anticipates having 16 signs installed throughout Indiana. The group is also announcing plans to grow the "Save-A-Life" campaign by displaying smaller replicas of the signs on industry vehicles. The vehicle magnet signs will be placed on the tailgates of INDOT, contractor and supplier company vehicles throughout the state. All expenses associated with the "Save-A-Life" campaign are funded by donations to RCAC. [INDOT Partners With Road Construction Awareness Corporation To Launch "Save-A-Life" Campaign - WBIW.com / State](#)

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