



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

### **April 20, 2017**

#### **Comprehensive Road And Bridge Bill Teed Up For Vote**

Inside Indiana Business  
Dan McGowan  
4/20/2017

On the eve of a final vote, Republican leaders from the Indiana House and Senate that are driving a long-term road and bridge funding bill discussed details of the legislation. HB 1002, which ultimately seeks to pump \$1.2 billion additional dollars per year into infrastructure work throughout the state, must clear both chambers on Friday before heading to Governor Eric Holcomb for final approval. The plan will be funded through a combination of a 10 percent tax increase per gallon on gasoline, additional special fees and surcharges, and shifting 4.5 cents of the existing state sales tax on gas from the Indiana General Fund to the State Highway Fund. Roads and Transportation Chair Ed Soliday (R-4) says the plan will cover increased funding for a full 20 years.

<http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/story/35203357/comprehensive-road-and-bridge-bill-teed-up-for-vote>

#### **Lawmakers poised to pass gas tax increase**

Indianapolis Star  
Kaitlin L. Lainge/Evansville Courier & Press  
4/20/2017

Indiana lawmakers are poised to pass a much-talked about roads funding plan that will increase gasoline taxes by 10 cents a gallon, pave the way for tolling and dedicate all money collected at the pump to roads by 2025. The proposal would raise \$1.2 billion annually by 2024 for state and local roads. Of that amount, \$340 million would go to local governments. GOP leaders in the Republican-dominated state legislature agreed to finance the plan by increasing the gasoline tax from 18 cents to 28 cents and hiking a diesel fee and a variety of vehicle registration fees. They also agreed that tolling needs to be a part of the road-funding picture in the near future and would give Gov. Eric Holcomb an opportunity to seek tolls with approval from the state budget committee.

<http://www.indystar.com/story/news/politics/2017/04/20/lawmakers-poised-pass-gas-tax-increase/100694920/>

Also <http://cbs4indy.com/2017/04/20/indiana-house-senate-leaders-to-announce-agreement-on-roads-funding-package/>

Also <http://www.journalgazette.net/news/local/indiana/20170419/shift-in-gas-tax-funds-will-boost-spending-for-roads>

## **INDOT Hosts Public Meeting April 27 for I-65 Northwest Indiana Expansion Project**

Newton County Enterprise  
4/20/2017

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is hosting a public meeting to present preliminary design, plans to maintain traffic and the project schedule for the approximately 13-mile stretch of I-65 from State Road 2 to U.S. 30 in Lake County. The meeting will be held at Crown Point High School, located at 150 S. Main Street, on Thursday, April 27, from 5 to 7 p.m. Central. INDOT and project team representatives will be on hand to speak one-on-one with community members. INDOT awarded the \$62 million Major Moves 2020 contract to Walsh Construction for the I-65 Northwest Indiana Expansion project between State Road 2 and U.S. 30, including resurfacing the overpasses at 93rd, 113th, 137th and 153rd Avenues. Additionally, the I-65 northbound and southbound bridges over the Kankakee River will be replaced. The project is slated for completion 18 months earlier than previously expected.

[http://www.newsbug.info/newton\\_county\\_enterprise/indot-hosts-public-meeting-april-for-i--northwest-indiana/article\\_225c3524-2605-11e7-811f-7fec03df633f.html](http://www.newsbug.info/newton_county_enterprise/indot-hosts-public-meeting-april-for-i--northwest-indiana/article_225c3524-2605-11e7-811f-7fec03df633f.html)

## **Tribune-Star Editorial: Overpass is worth the wait**

Terre Haute Tribune-Star  
Tribune-Star Editorial Board  
4/20/2017

The persistent activity of trains through and around Terre Haute has been a traffic scourge in the community for decades. The construction of the Third Street overpass in the 1980s eased the burden, especially for north-south traffic passing through town. Interstate 70 had relieved the east-west congestion in the late '60s. But east-west movement of vehicular traffic through the heart of the city remained a challenge. When train traffic was heavy, motorists simply had few options. It's been a long time coming, but change is in the wind. Ground was broken Tuesday for a crucial phase of Margaret Avenue's reconstruction, a project that will produce an overpass over a busy stretch of railroad owned by CSX. When finished, the overpass will be a safety valve for motorists needing to criss-cross the city and avoid the delays often caused by trains on the CSX tracks.

[http://www.tribstar.com/opinion/editorials/tribune-star-editorial-overpass-is-worth-the-wait/article\\_33ef8bbf-78bf-51ba-a503-aac79a4c61b2.html](http://www.tribstar.com/opinion/editorials/tribune-star-editorial-overpass-is-worth-the-wait/article_33ef8bbf-78bf-51ba-a503-aac79a4c61b2.html)

## **Stellar Streets project delayed until 2018**

Richmond Palladium-Item  
Rachel Sheeley  
4/19/2017

Work on Richmond's Stellar Streets project, which was scheduled to begin this summer, has been delayed until 2018. The Indiana Department of Transportation, which is handling the bidding for the project, rejected the bids it received last week. INDOT will let the project for bids again in October, with work now set to begin sometime next year. Mayor Dave Snow announced INDOT's decision at this week's Richmond Common Council meeting. City Controller Beth Fields, who has worked on the Richmond's Stellar Communities project since its inception, said INDOT has several criteria it reviews when letting bids and those weren't met for the Richmond project. The state received bids of \$5,978,650 by Milestone Contractors of Richmond, \$6,355,512.58 by Schutt-Lookabill Co. of Indianapolis and \$6,683,596.92 by Olco Inc. of Batesville. The budget for the project is \$6.25 million.

<http://www.pal-item.com/story/news/local/2017/04/19/stellar-streets-project-delayed-until-2018/100591382/>

## **Five possible locations for new I-69 bridge announced**

WFIE 14 NBC

Brandon Bartlett

4/18/2017

A new I-69 bridge linking Evansville and Henderson will happen. The question now is -- where to build it. Now, five alternatives were announced Tuesday night at a meeting in Henderson. Back in June of last year, former Indiana Governor Mike Pence and Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin came together saying a new bridge is needed. Now, we're getting a better idea of just where that bridge might go. And we learned that one of those routes could replace the Twin Bridges, bringing them down to make way for a new one. "There have been a lot of improvements along the I-69 corridor in Indiana and Kentucky and they all get to a stopping point and there's no linkage there, so it's very important to have that connection," said Mindy Peterson, the spokesperson for I-69 Ohio River Crossing. That connection could be built in one of five locations. There are two west corridors parallel to Highway 41, one of which could replace the Twin Bridges. Two central corridors behind Audubon State Park and one east corridor that would start in Newburgh. "We anticipate by this summer we should have a short list of alternatives," said Peterson. But don't expect construction to start any time soon. A federally required study must be done first. That could take two to three years to look at all options.

<http://www.14news.com/story/35182727/five-possible-locations-for-new-i-69-bridge-announced>

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[www.buildindianacouncil.org](http://www.buildindianacouncil.org)