



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

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With new U.S. 24 open, old highway will be repaved this spring

Fort Wayne News-Sentinel
Kevin Leininger
1/17/13

Allen County will repave an 11.2-mile of old U.S. 24 east of New Haven this spring at a cost of about \$1.4 million - a project that will reverse the procedure usually followed when a new highway replaces an old one. Normally, the state will upgrade roads to tip-top condition before turning old highways over to counties following the completion of a new road, as happened late last year with completion in November of Indiana's \$170 million section of the U.S. 24 "Fort to Port" section between New Haven and the Ohio state line. But Allen County Council Thursday is expected to approve funding for the repaving project out of county funds - a project county officials say will actually save taxpayers money. "We can do the job more efficiently (than the state highway department), said County Commissioner Nelson Peters, who said the work will be funded through the \$4.8 million the county received from the state when it accepted responsibility for its portion old U.S. 24. In addition to repaving the old two-lane highway from Doyle Road to the state line, the money will allow the county to make other improvements that might not have been done by the state, Peters said. "The idea was, we think we can do it cheaper, quicker and better," Peters said.

[With new U.S. 24 open, old highway will be repaved this spring - News-Sentinel.com](#)

Indianapolis metro not suited for transit plan

Muncie Star Press
Andrea Neal/Opinion
1/16/13

There is one inescapable reason that a regional mass-transit system will not succeed in the Indianapolis area. "Put simply, mass transit needs mass - i.e. density." And we don't have it. The quotation comes from two experts in urban transit: Erick Guerra and Robert Cervero of the University of California at Berkeley. They studied 59 rapid bus transit, light-rail and heavy-rail systems in 19 metropolitan areas. Their lesson is: For mass transit to be cost effective, job density and residential density must be high along the way. Central Indiana does not have high-density employment hubs or neighborhoods to justify mammoth investment in public transit. Yet once again, the movers and shakers are pushing the Legislature to pass a bill that would be the first step of a costly process setting up a regional mass transit system. Backers point out that their bill does not create anything itself but simply gives voters of affected counties the chance to decide if they want to join a Metropolitan Transit District and are willing to pay higher taxes for it.

[Indianapolis metro not suited for transit plan | The Star Press | thestarpress.com](#)

Flood-prone bridge up for replacement

Princeton Daily Clarion

Andrea Howe

1/15/13

PRINCETON-Chronic flooding problems prompted revisions in the county's replacement plans for the bridge over Coal Mine Road leading from Fort Branch to Gibson Southern High School. During a public hearing on the proposed \$1.7 million project Tuesday night, engineers for the project said the length of the bridge will triple from 50 to 150 feet, and approaches will be elevated and paved. Gibson County Commissioner Gerald Bledsoe and County Engineer John Umpleby both said the flooding problems on the approaches to the bridge have been a hazard for years. Bledsoe said last weekend's heavy rainfall even flooded the bridge deck for a time. The bridge and road drained enough to allow motorists to get to Saturday night's basketball game, but Bledsoe said he worries a car will go off in the flood water and the occupants won't be able to get out. Simply replacing the bridge wouldn't solve the problem, and even the revised plans won't guarantee a flood-free road, but new drainage structures and the elevation will help minimize flooding. The project is scheduled to start in the spring of 2014, and that portion of Coal Mine road (near the sewer plant on the west side of the railroad tracks) will be under construction for six to eight months.

[Flood-prone bridge up for replacement - Princeton Daily Clarion: News](#)

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