



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

### **February 23, 2012**

#### **Greater Lafayette Commerce Heading to D.C.**

Inside Indiana Business

2/21/12

Lafayette, Ind. — A group of 36 representing Tippecanoe County will take requests relating to local business and industry, health care, higher education, transportation and the Wabash River Corridor to Indiana's congressional delegation during Greater Lafayette Commerce's annual Washington D.C. trip, February 29 to March 2. Among the requests are lower corporate tax rates, increased funding for clean coal and other research, more student financial aid, improved Medicare payments to physicians, funding for CityBus fleet replacements and a more integrated highway, transit, air and rail system. The Greater Lafayette group will meet with Senator Dan Coats, Senator Richard Lugar, Congressman Todd Rokita and Congressman Mike Pence. They'll also visit the U.S. Chamber of Commerce for a briefing on tax, labor, transportation and trade policies, and they'll visit C-SPAN. [Greater Lafayette Commerce Heading to D.C. - Newsroom - Inside INdiana Business with Gerry Dick](#)

#### **OUR VIEW: Complete streets would aid Muncie transportation**

The Star Press

2/21/12

As mentioned in an editorial last Sunday, getting around on foot in downtown Muncie can be a challenge. The same can be said for many other streets -- heavily traveled and not -- in other parts of the city for those who walk or bicycle. That's why a new initiative -- complete streets -- deserves serious consideration. In brief, complete streets is a concept that looks at streets from the needs of a neighborhood, including trees, curbs, sidewalks, bike lanes and pavement. Eric Kelly, an urban planning professor at Ball State University, plans to get all the students in his department to help devise a complete street program for the city. [OUR VIEW: Complete streets would aid Muncie transportation | The Star Press | thestarpress.com](#)

#### **SR 641 Backers: I-69 Has Delayed Construction**

Indiana Public Media

2/22/12

The Indiana Department of Transportation has given a more definitive timeline regarding the completion of State Route 641 in Vigo County. The 6.2 mile, four-lane divided highway is meant to reduce congestion, as well as increase access to Interstate 70. The project began in 2003, and according to INDOT officials the road should connect with Highway 46 at I-70 by the end of 2014. INDOT's public hearing Tuesday night at Terre Haute South Vigo High School relieved some

residents who were concerned the project wasn't moving along as originally planned. Vigo County resident Jim Booe says the road will eventually be beneficial to drivers. "I think the plans that I see now make very good sense, the interchanges look real good, and I think if they finish when they say on the book, everyone will be happy," he says. Some residents however, feel INDOT's priorities have been elsewhere in recent years. Terre Haute resident Mark Grayless feels there hasn't been enough focus on SR 641. "They should have went that road instead of I-69 new route, saved Indiana taxpayers millions upon millions of dollars for a ten minute longer trip to Evansville," Grayless says. So far, two of the four phases of the project have been completed. [SR 641 Backers: I-69 Has Delayed Construction | News - Indiana Public Media](#)

### **Lafayette projects riding on federal transportation bills**

Journal & Courier  
2/23/12

The House and Senate versions of transportation bills are about as popular - and well-received - as the measles outbreak around Indianapolis after the Super Bowl. Proponents of the bills say states would get more control over how to spend their allocations of highway funding, according to a story from Gannett's Washington Bureau. But local officials say both the House and Senate bills would provide significantly less funding for Indiana and take away local control of projects. "It would dramatically reduce the amount of federal funding for our community, and we would be in competition with every other city in the state" for federal funds," West Lafayette Engineer Dave Buck said, "except the big cities." That's because the Senate version of the bill would end Metropolitan Planning Organizations for urban areas with populations smaller than 200,000. [Lafayette projects riding on federal transportation bills | Journal and Courier | jonline.com](#)

### **Bridge Project Proposal Process Moving Forward**

Inside Indiana Business  
2/23/12

Indianapolis, Ind. -- The Indiana Finance Authority (IFA) and Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) will be providing updated information and answering questions from prospective proposers related to the procurement of the East End Crossing of the Ohio River Bridges Project on March 2nd, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Kentucky International Convention Center, Louisville, KY. All interested parties should pre-register for the event by 5:00 p.m. February 29th, 2012 online at <http://www.kyinbridges.com/>. As previously announced, the Ohio River Bridges Project will include two procurement processes, with IFA and INDOT responsible for procuring the East End Crossing on behalf of the State of Indiana. It is expected that the East End Crossing will be procured as an Availability Payment concession. The IFA expects to issue a Request for Qualifications relating to the East End Crossing on or about March 9, 2012. [Bridge Project Proposal Process Moving Forward - Newsroom - Inside INdiana Business with Gerry Dick](#)