



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

February 26, 2013

Rieth-Riley wins I-69 lane contract

South Bend Tribune
2/22/2013

GOSHEN - Rieth-Riley Construction Co. of Goshen landed a contract with the Indiana Department of Transportation to add a southbound travel lane to Interstate 69 in Fishers, Ind. Rieth-Riley's \$11 million bid was the lowest of four competitors, which means it will coordinate all construction activities with the ongoing interchange improvement project at Exit 205. The company will also construct auxiliary lanes to connect interchange ramps.

http://articles.southbendtribune.com/2013-02-22/business/37248826_1_rieth-riley-construction-interchange-auxiliary-lanes

Mayor Plots Bridge Construction Timeline

Inside Indiana Business
2/22/2013

The mayor of East Chicago says construction on the new Cline Avenue Bridge could start in April. Anthony Copeland tells our partners at The Times of Northwest Indiana that once underway, the project could wrap up in just over a year. The former bridge was condemned by the state in 2009, with estimates to replace the span between \$150 million and \$250 million. The Times reports an Indiana Department of Transportation spokesman says once demolition is complete, the land can be turned over to United Bridge Partners, which intends to build and operate a toll bridge. The deal calls for the city to net 10 cents of every paid toll. Copeland says the new bridge will re-establish the direct route to the casino.

<http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/newsitem.asp?ID=58100>

INDOT seeks local OK to start I-69 work along Ind. 37 in Monroe County

Herald-Times
Jon Blau
2/23/2013

Local officials soon will be asked to approve construction for Section 5 of the Interstate 69 project through Monroe County. An amendment to a long-range transportation plan authorizing the Indiana Department of Transportation to conduct Section 5 construction activities has been submitted to the Bloomington/Monroe County Metropolitan Planning Organization. A public comment period on the proposed amendment will run until March 20. The MPO Policy Committee is scheduled to vote on the amendment submitted by INDOT at its April 12 meeting. The 2012-15 Transportation Improvement Program is a prioritized schedule identifying timetables and funding sources for major road projects. The local MPO has to include projects in its TIP in order for the

state to receive federal highway funding for work it wants to do within the planning group's jurisdiction.

[INDOT seeks local OK to start I-69 work | heraldtimesonline.com |](http://heraldtimesonline.com)

Railroad: Track repairs mean smoother, quieter trains

The Daily Journal

Joseph S. Pete

2/24/13

A major railroad maintenance project will take place in western Johnson County this year, and residents should expect quieter trains when it's completed. The Indiana Railroad Co. has been working on a \$65 million, five-year maintenance project of its tracks, which pass through Bargersville and western Johnson County. Work will start as soon as this spring on the section between Bloomington and Indianapolis, company spokesman Eric Powell said. That stretch cuts through the Center Grove area, Bargersville and rural Hensley Township before winding through Morgantown. The tracks run roughly parallel to State Road 135. The company expects to spend about \$3 million on improvements to the track in Johnson County this year, Powell said.

[Railroad: Track repairs mean smoother, quieter trains | dailyjournal.com |](http://dailyjournal.com)

House advances central Indiana transit measure

Herald Bulletin

2/25/2013

INDIANAPOLIS - The Indiana House is signing off on a measure that public transportation advocates hope will beef up bus service in central Indiana and potentially pay for a new rail line. Supporters of the mass transit bill said Monday that the measure is needed to connect workers to available jobs and improve the Indianapolis metro region's image among young professionals. Opponents say it would add another tax and pay for potentially wasteful projects. The measure would allow Marion County and its surrounding "doughnut" counties to ask voters to approve a new tax to pay for improved bus service. The House voted 56-39 Monday to night to approve the transportation measure. The Indiana Finance Authority would issue the bonds, and the central Indiana counties would build a regional transit organization.

<http://heraldbulletin.com/breakingnews/x564662616/House-advances-central-Indiana-transit-measure>

Indiana House passes state budget without Pence's tax cut

Eric Bradner

Evansville Courier & Press

2/25/2013

INDIANAPOLIS - A new state budget that omits Gov. Mike Pence's proposed income tax cut to boost education and transportation funding won the Indiana House's approval late Monday. The two-year, \$30 billion spending plan advanced on a 68-28 vote after a marathon day of debating bills ahead of the House's midnight deadline to send bills across the Statehouse hallway to the Senate. It boosts overall K-12 education spending by 2 percent in its first year and an additional 1 percent in its second year, puts more aside for a tuition reserve fund, and pumps an extra \$250 million per year in gas and sales tax revenue for state and local transportation funding. The bill pumps 20 percent of the sales tax revenue collected on gasoline purchases into transportation and also uses more of Indiana's 18-cents-a-gallon gas tax for that purpose, addressing a need a group of mayors raised this year. "It will offer sustainable funding within the structural surplus for roads and bridges - jobs now," Brown said. That's a departure from Pence's budget, which included extra funding for transportation only by including a trigger that would send part of the

state's surplus into an infrastructure fund - a move he estimated would amount to \$347 million once the current budget is closed out and his two-year budget proposal is also closed out.
[Indiana house passes state budget without Pence's tax cut | Courierpress.com |](#)

Operation Indy Commute meeting to outline construction plans

Michael Henrich
Fox 59
2/25/2013

INDIANAPOLIS - The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) planned a meeting Monday to outline this year's I-69 construction schedule. The public is welcome to attend the meeting, which starts at 6 p.m. at the Fishers Train Station at 11601 Municipal Drive in Fishers.

Transportation officials will deliver a presentation before opening up the floor to questions until 7:30 p.m. INDOT spokesman Nathan Riggs told Fox 59 News that the meeting will revolve around Operation Indy Commute, the ongoing work at and around I-69 Exit 205 (116th Street) and the State Road 37 interchange. After a delay in completing the northbound side of the interchange, Riggs said the contractor will start completing the work as soon as March 15, depending on the weather. The contractor will then move on to the southbound lanes, while a separate contract was recently awarded to add new lanes to both directions of I-69 between 116th Street and I-465, he said.

<http://fox59.com/2013/02/25/operation-indy-commute-meeting-to-outline-construction-plans/#axzz2M1QV2XSr>

I-69 opponents: Officials used outdated air data

Courier-Journal
2/25/2013

BLOOMINGTON, IND. - State and federal highway officials used outdated air emissions data to demonstrate that a segment of the Interstate 69 extension now under construction complies with the federal Clean Air Act, an attorney for the highway's opponents says. The environmental impact statement filed for a 27-mile segment of the Evansville-to-Indianapolis project used 2004 vehicular air emission data for Greene County, even though newer data from 2009 was available, said attorney Mick Harrison, who's representing groups and individuals suing over the half-built 142-mile highway. The air emissions report had to show that the southwestern Indiana county was in compliance with Clean Air Act standards for ozone pollution before the federal government could approve plans for the section, making it eligible for federal funding. The 2004 data showed Greene County's vehicular emissions were within required limits along part of the 27-mile segment now under construction between the Crane area and Bloomington. Harrison told The Herald-Times (<http://bit.ly/We4Afo>) that state and federal officials had waited for the 2009 emissions data, expecting that it would yield better results, but it actually showed higher estimated emission levels.

[I-69 opponents: Officials used outdated air data | courier-journal.com |](#)

NW Ind. residents hear about proposed expressway

Journal Gazette
2/26/2013

CEDAR LAKE, Ind. (AP) - More than 100 northwestern Indiana property owners with homes and businesses in the path of the proposed Illiana Expressway have met with state highway officials to discuss the project. Illiana corridor project manager James Earl told property owners at Monday's restive meeting in the Lake County town of Cedar Lake that he knows they have a lot of concerns about the project that would link Interstate 65 in northwestern Indiana and Interstate 55 in Illinois. The Times of Munster reports that Monday's meeting followed three landowner

meetings held last week in Illinois. Earl says the earliest offers for property in either state probably won't happen until summer 2014. He says that first the public will weigh in on the highway's proposed path in a series of hearings.

<http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20130226/NEWS07/130229658/1067/NEWS07>

www.buildindianacouncil.org