



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

April 26, 2012

INDOT: Exercise caution in work zones

WANE

4/24/12

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (WANE) -- As part of Work Zone Awareness Week, Indiana Department of Transportation officials are reminding drivers to exercise caution in work zones. Work Zone Awareness Week runs from April 23-27, right as the busy construction season begins and new construction and maintenance projects pop up across the state. "We want people to slow down, pay attention, make sure they're not distracted," said Mary Foster, Media Relations Director for INDOT. "We want everybody to go home safe." Foster added that one of the biggest causes for accidents in work zones is following too closely. She also warned of the three C's of distracted driving: cell phones, coffee, and CD's. In 2011, there were 14 fatalities in 13 work zone crashes, and 492 people were injured. It's not just the workers that are in danger either, as 4 out of 5 injuries or deaths in work zone crashes are the drivers or passengers. [INDOT: Exercise caution in work zones](#)

Complaints over I-69 plans continue at meeting on Bloomington-to-Martinsville section

Greenfield Daily Reporter

4/25/12

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — The complaints were quieter but still firm during the latest public hearing about plans for the Interstate 69 extension through southern Indiana. Some 400 people turned out Tuesday night at the Monroe County Fairgrounds to see and comment on the state highway department's proposals for I-69 interchanges and access roads along the current Indiana 37 route between Bloomington and Martinsville. About 20 people spoke against the plans, raising concerns focused on the loss of land, noise and air pollution, lack of bicycle access and money being diverted from local roads. "This process is absurd and nothing that is said here makes any difference," Bloomington bike shop owner Jeanne Smith said. Construction work is under way on a nearly 70-mile stretch of the highway from near Evansville to near Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center southwest of Bloomington, where opposition to the highway has been particularly intense since state officials selected its route a decade ago. [Complaints over I-69 plans continue at meeting on Bloomington-to-Martinsville section](#) Also, [INDOT Meeting Previews I-69 From Bloomington To Martinsville | News - Indiana Public Media](#), [I-69 Extension Proposal Stirs Controversy | Indy's News Center - 93.1 WIBC Indianapolis - Live. Local. First.](#)

House GOP Divide Holds Up Highway Projects

The Huffington Post

4/25/12

The bridge, one of the busiest in the U.S. interstate system, has been dubbed "functionally obsolete" by the federal government because its narrow four lanes on each level - originally designed as three lanes - create massive bottlenecks for traffic. But a \$2.4 billion plan to replace the Interstate 71/75 bridge has gotten little help from Boehner's House of Representatives, which abandoned efforts to pass long-term federal highway funding in favor of two 90-day extensions, the second of which passed last week. In the process, the highway bill has become a symbol of Boehner's frustrations in dealing with budget-conscious Republicans allied with the Tea Party movement. It also is part of a broader debate over whether the U.S. government - at a time when the federal debt tops \$15 trillion - should spend billions of dollars on much-needed projects that would create thousands of jobs. [House GOP Divide Holds Up Highway Projects](#)

Sinkhole led to closing on Third Street overpass

The Tribune Star

4/25/12

TERRE HAUTE — Stormwater over a period of many years is thought to have caused a large and deep sinkhole that closed several lanes of traffic on U.S. 41 in Terre Haute this month. B & T Draining and Excavating, under the direction of the Terre Haute Department of Engineering, completed concrete work Tuesday morning to patch the highway. State officials said traffic restrictions on the Third Street overpass near Indiana State University would be lifted by Friday. "We're giving [the concrete patch] time to cure," said Debbie Calder, a spokeswoman for the Indiana Department of Transportation, which placed the barricades on the highway after the sinkhole was discovered. INDOT officials expected the barricades, which currently have U.S. 41 reduced to just two lanes at the overpass, to be removed today or Thursday, she said. City Engineer Chuck Ennis said it is possible stormwater draining into cracks at the base of the overpass over several years may have allowed earth beneath the roadway to wash away. [Sinkhole led to closing on Third Street overpass » News » News From Terre Haute, Indiana](#)

Gregg Proposes Ending Indiana Sales Tax On Gas Democratic Candidate Convinced State Can Afford It

The Indy Channel

4/25/12

INDIANAPOLIS -- John Gregg, Democratic candidate for governor, proposed Wednesday eliminating the state sales tax on gasoline, a move he said would put more money in the pockets of Hoosiers. The gas tax plan is a perennial proposal of legislative Democrats, but Gregg's plan would go farther by eliminating the sales tax on gasoline permanently, not suspending it temporarily or reducing it. Gregg said he's convinced the plan would help Hoosiers who are hurting economically, and he's convinced the state can afford it. The Democrat said his plan would save the average Indiana family between \$260 to \$520 annually, depending on how much they drive. [Gregg Proposes Ending Indiana Sales Tax On Gas - Indiana News Story - WRTV Indianapolis](#) Also, [Gregg proposes eliminating state sales tax on gasoline | Indianapolis Star | indystar.com](#)

State Road 39 to close in Clayton for project to be completed in December

Greencastle Banner-Graphic

4/26/12

CLAYTON -- The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has announced State Road 39 will close Tuesday, May 1 for a pavement replacement project in Clayton. The pavement replacement project will close the roadway north of U.S. 40 until December. The closure is approximately 250 feet south of the Country Village Apartments to 50 feet north of Ragan Street. Hunt Paving Co. Inc. was awarded the \$3.5 million Major Moves contract from the state. The

project will replace the pavement on State Road 39 from just south of Amo Street to north of Ader Avenue in Clayton. The project will include the reconstruction of the pavement of State Road 39 within the project limits along with new sidewalks, driveway approaches and curb and gutter, a new enclosed storm drainage system and two new box culverts. The detour follows U.S. 40 to State Road 267 to U.S. 36. Local traffic will be able to utilize Hendricks County Road 0 for access into Clayton. [Greencastle Banner-Graphic: Local News: State Road 39 to close in Clayton for project to be completed in December \(04/26/12\)](#)

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