



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

### **May 7, 2013**

#### **Fort Wayne Seeks Input on Mass Transit**

Inside INdiana Business

5/2/13

The goal of the Bus Fort Wayne plan is to lay the foundation to grow and improve the community's public transit systems in order to increase public transit ridership, and to establish public transit as a viable, preferred transportation choice. The plan includes many community-wide recommendations to accomplish this goal, a few of which include: educating residents about the benefits of public transportation, improving the public transportation experience for riders, and continuing to look for stable funding sources to support public transportation. "A strong public transportation system impacts a community's quality of life by improving air quality, lowering traffic congestion and providing residents alternatives for traveling to work, school, medical appointments and more," said John Urbahns, division director of Community Development. "Bus Fort Wayne creates the strategy for improving our public transportation system and encouraging more residents to take advantage of it." Bus Fort Wayne will coordinate with the City's Bike Fort Wayne and Walk Fort Wayne plans; these three plans are part of the City's efforts to promote a variety of transportation options for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit users of all ages and abilities. After the public meeting, City planners will further refine the Bus Fort Wayne plan and then present it to the Plan Commission and City Council. If adopted, it will be an amendment to Plan-it-Allen!, the community's comprehensive plan. [Fort Wayne Seeks Input on Mass Transit - Newsroom - Inside INdiana Business with Gerry Dick](#)

#### **Transit study a go: Pence signs bill to study South Shore**

Post-Tribune

5/4/13

INDIANAPOLIS — Gov. Mike Pence has signed a bill that would start a summer study committee to look at the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District. House Enrolled Act 1450 will focus a study on the board of trustees makeup, funding for the board, use of Public Mass Transit Funds, and ridership numbers. The study will also consider expanding the lines south toward towns like Lowell, Munster, and St. John. The legislation's author, state Rep. Mara Candelaria Reardon, D-Munster, said the current board's organization doesn't accurately reflect ridership on the line, which is largely used by residents of Lake County. "This is an opportunity to better reflect the ridership with the representation on the board," Reardon said, "and hopefully be more supportive of expanding the line. "That's the ultimate goal," she added, "to have the South Shore rail expand toward Munster, and we'll look at all the issues and identify the challenges." [Transit study a go: Pence signs bill to study South Shore - Post-Tribune](#)

#### **Cleveland-Ash roundabout construction begins this summer**

South Bend Tribune  
5/6/13

SOUTH BEND — St. Joseph County residents will see construction for a new roundabout begin this summer — possibly by mid-June. The Cleveland and Ash Roads intersection improvement project reached several milestones recently, according to county engineer Jessica Clark. The Indiana Department of Transportation recently awarded the construction contract to Goshen firm Rieth-Riley, she said, and the St. Joseph County commissioners approved a bid award today for The Troyer Group of Mishawaka to act as the inspection company on the site, she said. "They're going to be the county representation on-site for field inspection," Clark said after the meeting. Now that the inspection company was selected, county officials will work out a contract with The Troyer Group for cost, she said, which will have to come through the commissioners once finalized. According to the recommendation information provided to the commissioners, the Cleveland/Ash project is 80 percent federally funded through Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funds. The county will fund the remaining 20 percent. The low bid for construction was \$1,157,213.88, according to documents. Because of the nature of CMAQ funds, INDOT administers the construction contract. The entire project will reconstruct about 0.6 miles of road, according to recommendation documents, with new storm sewers, lighting, landscaping and modifications to a current retention basin taking place, too. Utilities will also have to be relocated. American Electric Power, which owns the easements the utilities are on in the area, is eligible for reimbursement for the costs of relocation, according to Clark. The reimbursement will be 80 percent federal funds, with county responsible for 20 percent of the estimated nearly \$46,000 cost. <http://www.southbendtribune.com/news/sbt-clevelandash-roundabout-construction-begins-this-summer-20130506,0,7280528.story>

### **Indianapolis roads crumbling despite huge influx of infrastructure dollars**

RTV6  
5/6/13

INDIANAPOLIS - The Call 6 Investigators have uncovered thousands of sections of crumbling roads in the heart of central Indiana, despite the city of Indianapolis spending an unprecedented amount of money on infrastructure in recent years. From the sale of the city's water utility in 2010, the RebuildIndy program has provided an influx of more than \$420 million to help fix deteriorated roads and improve infrastructure. Call 6 Investigator Kara Kenney obtained a database of road sections in Marion County and found each gets a "Pavement Condition Index" ranking on a scale of 0 to 100, with a 0 score indicating a failing road and 100 indicating a road in excellent condition. Kenney found 13 percent of road sections are listed as failing, poor, or very poor. "I don't find any poor roadways acceptable," said Andy Lutz, chief city engineer. "No, it's not acceptable, but it's kind of the nature of the beast of being in a lack of funding." The data is not surprising to homeowners who have been waiting for years to see their road paved. "I want something done about this street now," said Jim Poole, who lives in the 1800 block of North Emerson Avenue. "It's so frustrating." Poole said the road is in such disrepair that pieces of it end up in his yard. "I had a rock come through the window," said Poole. "The street's falling apart. It's so frustrating." Patrick Murphy, who lives on 79th Street between Michigan and Township Line roads, showed Kenney piles of asphalt that have accumulated on his property. "I have to clean this up every spring," said Murphy. "It's terrible. These holes go somewhere, and it turns into gravel that fills my driveway." Tonya Ford, who runs a day care on Boulevard Place, is concerned about cars swerving around the rotting road. "It's definitely a safety issue for the kids," said Ford. "We've actually had suspension on our cars damaged." Records obtained by Kenney show citizens filed 38 complaints to the Mayor's Action Center about crumbling conditions on Boulevard Place in the last two years. [RTV6 - Indianapolis roads crumbling despite huge influx of infrastructure dollars - Call 6 Investigators Story](http://www.theindychannel.com/news/call-6-investigators/indiana-counties-running-out-of-money-to-fix-roads) Also, <http://www.theindychannel.com/news/call-6-investigators/indiana-counties-running-out-of-money-to-fix-roads>

## **INDOT Awards Contract to Goshen Company**

Inside INdiana Business

5/7/13

WESTFIELD, Ind. - The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is awarding a \$10 million contract for The New U.S. 31 Hamilton County. The contract includes constructing new local access roads and local road improvements, as well as utility relocations and right-of-way clearing between 169th and 203rd streets. Rieth-Riley Construction of Goshen, Indiana submitted the lowest of five bids to receive the award. Rieth-Riley is also the contractor for The New U.S. 31 Hamilton County upgrade between 146th and 169th streets. Rieth-Riley plans to close 151st Street west of U.S. 31, between Greyhound Pass and Greyhound Court, on or after Monday, May 20 for approximately 60 days. The closure allows construction to begin on new approaches to U.S. 31 and the "split diamond" ramp system that will connect with Greyhound Pass and 146th Street. Access to Target will remain open from U.S. 31, but access at Greyhound Court and 151st Street will be closed. The signed detour will direct traffic around the closure by way of Greyhound Pass. [INDOT Awards Contract to Goshen Company - Newsroom - Inside INdiana Business with Gerry Dick](#)

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