



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

May 8, 2012

Big Four Bridge deck is well under way

The Courier Journal

5/5/12

The heavy lifting on laying the new deck on the old Big Four Bridge is well in progress, with the conversion of the span to the long-awaited, shared-use path over the Ohio River on budget and on schedule to open in December. The project is the final piece of the Waterfront Park master plan devised primarily by San Francisco-based park designer George Hargreaves nearly two decades ago, said David Karem, executive director of the Waterfront Development Corp. "This park is like a beautiful cake. And the bridge will be in the icing on it," said Karem, head of the city agency that tends the park that has cost well over \$100 million and has been developed in phases since the mid-1990s. Indiana's Department of Transportation has set aside \$8 million in federal money for developing an approach to the Big Four in Jeffersonville, and Jeffersonville has agreed to provide an additional \$2 million from a taxing district. Work on the approach and access to the Big Four on the Indiana side is under way and expected to be completed next summer, Kimmel said. [Big Four Bridge deck is well under way | Indianapolis Star | indystar.com](#)

Four bridge project teams to go through review process

News and Tribune

5/6/12

SOUTHERN INDIANA — The Indiana Finance Authority has formally initiated its industry review process with the four short-listed construction, finance and maintenance teams for the east-end portion of the Ohio River Bridges Project. "We are very pleased that we remain on schedule with our procurement timetable," said Indiana Public Finance Director Kendra York, in a press release. "We have looked forward to getting this phase under way in anticipation of a very competitive process." Over the next three months, a series of one-on-one meetings will be held with the short-listed proposers to explore potential ideas for innovation and cost savings as the concepts outlined in the industry review draft request-for-proposal documents are discussed, according to the release. In late July, a final request-for-proposal will be issued and responses are due to the Indiana Finance Authority in late-October. [Four bridge project teams to go through review process » Clark County » News and Tribune](#)

Cline Avenue demolition to begin

Post-Tribune

5/7/12

EAST CHICAGO — Work is expected to begin Tuesday on the demolition of the Cline Avenue bridge.

Walsh Construction Co. of Crown Point, which received an \$8.9 million state contract, is doing the demolition of the elevated bridge over the Indiana Harbor and Ship Canal. The state closed the bridge in 2009 after inspectors found serious structural deficiencies. The state is in talks with a private operator to replace the span with a toll bridge. The road is a major artery for Northwest Indiana industries and residents. State officials estimated the demolition of the bridge would continue through the end of the year. Meanwhile, the Indiana Department of Transportation has closed Riley Road through early June for safety precautions during the demolition. INDOT has established a detour taking southbound Riley Road traffic from Dickey Road to 129th Street to Indianapolis Boulevard. Northbound traffic will take Indianapolis Boulevard to 129th Street to Dickey Road, and back to Riley Road. A closed sign is posted at the intersection of Dickey Road and Riley Road, but Riley Road will be accessible south to the ramps for westbound Cline Avenue traffic. [Cline Avenue demolition to begin - Post-Tribune](#)

Panels oppose tolls in votes

The Courier-Journal
5/7/12

Jeffersonville's City Council and Clarksville's Town Council approved resolutions at separate meetings Monday night urging federal transportation officials to expedite construction of the eastern bridge and postpone the downtown bridge construction until there are alternatives to charging tolls on that span. Leaders of both communities cited recent studies that forecast a loss of businesses in Jeffersonville and Clarksville in asking the Federal Highway Administration to postpone the I-65 bridge construction to devise a financing plan without tolls. Clarksville's seven-member council unanimously passed the resolution, while Jeffersonville's council voted 7-1, with one member absent. The Federal Highway Administration signed off last month on the project's Supplemental Environmental Final Impact Statement, which was prompted by changes to the estimated \$2.6 billion Ohio River Bridges Project. It includes new spans downtown and between Utica and Prospect, Ky., and a rebuilt Spaghetti Junction.

[Panels oppose tolls in votes | The Courier-Journal | courier-journal.com](#)

Indiana to Take Part in Rail Study

Inside INdiana Business
5/7/12

Washington – U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood today announced that Illinois, Indiana and Michigan have agreed to move forward with a comprehensive study that will help determine ways to reduce rail congestion and let trains achieve higher speeds along the Chicago-to-Detroit high-speed rail corridor. The goal of the study, which will be funded through a \$3.2 million grant from the Federal Railroad Administration and \$200,000 each from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Norfolk Southern, is to reduce passenger travel times between Chicago and Detroit and efficiently move freight through one of the nation's busiest freight rail networks, the congested Chicago to Porter, Ind., segment. "This is an important step toward achieving higher speeds along the entire Chicago to Detroit rail corridor and improving the flow of freight to the east coast," said Secretary LaHood. "Eliminating bottlenecks will boost the economy by reducing delays and allow for the freer flow of both people and goods throughout the region." [Indiana to Take Part in Rail Study - Newsroom - Inside INdiana Business with Gerry Dick](#)

INDOT will pay up to \$150,000 to repair detour damaged Delaware County roads

The Star Press
5/7/12

MUNCIE -- When state officials closed Ind. 3 north of Muncie last August for a culvert repair project, the proposed detour would have taken traffic on a 30-mile route to Interstate 69 and,

ultimately, Grant County. Local officials acknowledged at the time that, in reality, drivers would take local roads, which would take a beating from the increased traffic. During Monday's meeting of the Delaware County commissioners, officials said the Indiana Department of Transportation will reimburse the county for up to \$150,000 in repairs to the local roads damaged by traffic that took the "unofficial" detour. Angie Moyer, the county's engineering office administrator, told the commissioners the state would reimburse the county for repaving about three miles of local roads. "As we pave, we submit it to them," Moyer told the commissioners. [INDOT will pay up to \\$150,000 to repair detour damaged Delaware County roads | The Star Press | thestarpress.com](#)

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