



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

May 10, 2012

Jeffersonville City Council calls for delay of bridge

Chicago Tribune

5/8/12

JEFFERSONVILLE — It's not often that a councilman gets a round of applause at a Jeffersonville City Council meeting. However, Councilman Dennis Julius received that kind of reception Monday night when he introduced a resolution calling on the delay of the downtown portion of the Ohio River Bridges Project. The project seeks to build two new bridges over the Ohio River, one in downtown Jeffersonville, the other near Utica. The prospect of using tolls to cover the project's \$2.6 billion price tag has remained controversial during the years it's been discussed. Julius' resolution asks the Federal Highway Administration to delay construction of a downtown bridge as further funding options are sought. It cites a recently released economic impact study in saying "the downtown bridge portion of this project creates a huge negative impact resulting in a net loss of jobs while taking hundreds of millions of dollars out of the local economy through tolling." Julius clarified the resolution does not ask the federal government not to build the downtown bridge, only to delay it until plans for funding are figured out. [Jeffersonville City Council calls for delay of bridge - chicagotribune.com](http://www.chicagotribune.com)

Clarksville agrees to keep overpass

Chicago Tribune

5/8/12

CLARKSVILLE — The Clarksville Town Council agreed to write a letter to negate a deal it had previously agreed to pursue with the Indiana Department of Transportation. The deal was a proposal to remove the Lewis and Clark overpass at Brown's Station Way and replace it with a level, or at-grade, intersection. But the agreement was put on hold when new town council members took office. A larger than normal crowd attended Monday night's town council meeting and all of those who spoke were in favor of leaving the overpass the same. "I think it's a situation of if it's not broke don't fix it," said Clarksville resident John Phipps. "I think the expense of removing that is not very economical. I'd like to see it stay the way it is." Gilkey said that "absent an agreement on the part of anyone else to take that [bridge] over, the state maintains that responsibility." He also cited the cost of construction to remove the overpass at \$4 million for the state and about \$2.6 million for Clarksville, or \$600,000 plus nearly \$250,000 in engineering expenses to take care of only the drainage issues near the overpass. "Let's solve the problem we have now and let's deal with the other problems when we absolutely have to," Gilkey said. [Clarksville agrees to keep overpass - chicagotribune.com](http://www.chicagotribune.com)

City to spend \$5 million on roads & trees

WANE

5/9/12

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (WANE) -- City leaders will spend \$5 million dollars to address problems with local roads and ash trees. The money is part of the \$8.5 million in taxes returned to Fort Wayne by the state of Indiana following its recent fiscal errors. Mayor Tom Henry said \$3.5 million will be used for transportation and infrastructure improvements and \$1.5 million will help fight the infestation of ash borers that is ruining thousands of trees. "We're turning lemons into lemonade for our neighborhoods," said Mayor Henry. "Through the Restoration Funding Program we now have an added \$5 million to invest across the city. That means this year we'll be able to improve 42 miles of streets and boost resources by \$1.5 million in our fight to preserve our green canopy and overcome the impact of the emerald ash borer."

[City to spend \\$5 million on roads & trees](#)

Groups Pitch Building 2nd Interstate

WTHI

5/9/12

WASHINGTON, IND. (WTHI) - Business and industry leaders pitch for construction of another new interstate through southern Indiana. A coalition from southern Indiana and western Kentucky is proposing the construction of I-67. The highway would reach from Washington, Indiana to Bowling Green, Kentucky. Construction crews are ahead of schedule but still have plenty of work to do near Washington before they are finished with I-69. Now, some leaders in Indiana and Kentucky have a proposal that would make this road also a part of a second interstate called I-67. "I know they are in the process of doing a study to really identify the traffic flow, traffic patterns, the economic impact, so yeah, it's at its beginning," said Ron Arnold with the Daviess County Economic Development Corporation. There's nothing really exact about the I-67 proposal at this time, but we do know this much. The idea is to latch into I-69 near Washington, extend all the way south to Jasper, to Owensboro, and eventually Bowling Green, Kentucky where the highway will also join in with I-65. [I 67 Proposal | wthitv.com](#)

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