



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

May 17, 2012

Hoosier Heartland highway project land swap could include \$6m Cass Co. bridge replacement

The Republic
5/15/12

LOGANSPORT, Ind. — The nearly 100-year-old Market Street bridge over the Eel River in Logansport may be completely replaced by the Indiana Department of Transportation as part of a Hoosier Heartland Highway land swap. Cass County will inherit four bridges from the state and the state will take three bridges from the county that are on a new route for Ind. 25 through Logansport. Among the bridges inherited by the county is the Market Street bridge, with an estimated \$6 million replacement cost. The state has vowed to either replace or repair the bridges going to the county, and the latest talks have included the state offering to replace that bridge, said Cass County Highway Superintendent Jeff Smith. "The last discussion we had that was, I won't say set in stone, but it was generally agreed that that bridge would be replaced by INDOT," Smith said. "That's what we were left with in our last discussion." But Smith said that discussion was a while ago and several personnel changes at the LaPorte district office have stalled some of the conversations. "We've been trying to get some more information out of INDOT on that, and so far we've come up empty," Smith said. [Hoosier Heartland highway project land swap could include \\$6m Cass Co. bridge replacement | The Republic](#) Also, [Highway project sets bridge swap in motion - News-Sentinel.com](#)

Harmony Way Bridge needs repairs, on endangered list

Evansville Courier & Press
5/15/12

INDIANAPOLIS —The aging bridge that carries vehicles over the Wabash River between New Harmony and Southeastern Illinois is considered one of Indiana's most endangered landmarks. Indiana Landmarks released its updated top-10 list this month, and the Harmony Way Bridge became Southwestern Indiana's newest entry. The bridge is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, but as the Indiana Landmarks report said, "The span is still open, but Harmony Way Bridge faces a far from harmonious future." The bridge needs repairs, but there's no way to fund them. "The bridge's piers and abutments have been declared structurally deficient with an estimation of \$8.4 million for repairs. The White County Bridge Commission can simply not raise that type of funding," said Stewart Sebree, the director of the Indiana Landmarks Southwest Field Office. [Harmony Way Bridge needs repairs, on endangered list » Evansville Courier & Press](#)

EDITORIAL: Daniels' innovative Major Moves plan brought roads, jobs

Evansville Courier & Press
5/16/12

When Gov. Mitch Daniels leaves office at the end of 2012, most of the \$3.8 billion that he made from the lease of the Indiana Toll Road in 2006 will have been spent or spoken for, says The Associated Press. Now, to all those Daniels political foes who say that when he leaves, the state will be broke of highway money, we would only say, give us a break. Indiana has enjoyed the benefits of millions in infrastructure improvements thanks to Major Moves, the innovative financing plan created by the Daniels Administration. Without it, Indiana would have done relatively little, other than to continue to patch up the Indiana Toll Road in Northern Indiana. The AP reported this week that Indiana will soon be as cash-strapped as other states and with few options available. Of course, we should remember that when other states were broke and not making infrastructure improvements in recent years, Indiana was spending much of the \$3.8 billion, not only building roads and making other improvements — including Interstate 69 — but creating jobs along the way. Indiana was getting the maximum value for an asset, while other states were stuck in the mud. [EDITORIAL: Daniels' innovative Major Moves plan brought roads, jobs » Evansville Courier & Press](#) Also, [OUR VIEW: Best option for Indiana: Spend toll road money now | The Star Press | thestarpress.com](#)

Deal reached for Cline toll bridge

Post-Tribune

5/16/12

EAST CHICAGO — The state and a private development group announced an agreement Wednesday for construction of a toll bridge in place of the shuttered Cline Avenue bridge. Gov. Mitch Daniels and East Chicago Mayor Anthony Copeland said the pact with United Bridge Partners, a team of FIGG Bridge Companies, Lane Construction Corp. and American Infrastructure MLP Funds, would build the new toll bridge with private funds in the footprint of the unsafe Cline Avenue structure. The state closed the elevated Cline Avenue bridge in 2009 after inspectors found it structurally unsound. Initially, state officials said it wouldn't be rebuilt. About 35,000 vehicles used the highway daily and it served as a major link between Hammond and Gary. Earlier in the week, the East Chicago City Council OK'd the plan giving Copeland the green light to transfer the 1.25-mile section of Cline owned by the state to United Bridge Partners. [Deal reached for Cline toll bridge - Post-Tribune](#) Also, [Cline Avenue Bridge to be rebuilt as...](#)

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