



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

June 14, 2012

INDOT projects seek federal funding

WLF1

6/12/12

LAPORTE, Ind. (WLF1) - The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) said they will hold a public meeting to receive federal funding applications. INDOT would like to receive input on the applications from Local Public Agencies (LPAs) applying for federal funding. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. (CST), June 13 at the LaPorte District office at 315 E. Boyd Boulevard, LaPorte. Four area counties have submitted applications for utilizing the LPA funds appropriated to the LaPorte District. At the June 13 meeting, officials from each county will have 10 minutes to give a presentation about the submitted project, how it will benefit the community, and the requested funds. Applications have been submitted for the following projects: • Cass County – County Road 400 S. Reconstruction • St. Joseph County – Underwood Road Bridge Replacement, over Pine Creek • St. Joseph County – Pierce Road Reconstruction • Newton County – County Road 325 W. Bridge Reconstruction, over Thompson Ditch • Porter County – Division and Smoke Road Intersection Improvement. The district's recommendations will be sent to a committee in Indianapolis for final approval. The committee will select and announce the awards in July. [INDOT projects seek federal funding | WLF1 - LaPorte, Indiana](#)

Residents Express I-69 Concerns To DNR

WBIW

6/13/12

(BLOOMINGTON) - At an informal meeting Tuesday to take comments regarding a permit to construct a bridge over a Clear Creek tributary for the extension of Interstate 69 through Monroe County, a dedicated group of opponents expressed their environmental-impact concerns to a Department of Natural Resources representative. Jon Blau of the Herald Times reports that the contingent of about 10 area residents, who complained about a lack of widespread notice for the meeting at Bloomington City Hall, expressed fear that building this section of the interstate near a floodway could have adverse effects on the water supply and on wildlife near Leonard Springs Nature Preserve. Instead, they collectively supported an alternative route for extending the interstate from Indianapolis to Evansville using the existing routes of I-70 and U.S. 41. Sandra Flum, project manager for the I-69 project with the Indiana Department of Transportation, attended the meeting and said she was optimistic those concerns were addressed in the permit application. Lacey Duncan, the DNR representative who oversaw the meeting, reiterated the meeting was expressly for collecting comments and not to decide the fate of the project or its viability. "This is your job, to protect (the environment)," resident Bill Boyd said, "not to rubber-stamp projects." [WBIW.com - 1340 AM, Bedford, Indiana](#)

East Chicago advances plan for Cline Avenue Bridge reconstruction

NWI Times

6/13/12

EAST CHICAGO | Another piece in the foundation for reconstruction of the Cline Avenue Bridge received preliminary approval Monday night from the City Council. The council created an economic revitalization area composed of the 48.6 acres beneath the existing span, paving the way for incentives developers have sought to rebuild the former state highway, Ind. 912, as a toll road. Indiana transportation officials declined to provide a local match for federal funding to replace the span over the Indiana Harbor and Ship Canal after it was closed by the state for safety reasons in 2009. That refusal created the opening for a private group, which wants to build and manage the 1.25-mile stretch between Riley Road and Indiana Harbor Drive, and charge a fee to drivers using the extension. In return for its estimated investment of \$150 million to \$250 million to rebuild the bridge, United Bridge Partners has asked East Chicago for 10 years of tax abatement and 25 years of financial leverage through creation of a tax increment financing district beneath the overpass. The TIF district would capture property tax revenue as the land's assessed valuation increases due to the investment, and would be used by the developer to leverage construction bonds for the project. [East Chicago advances plan for Cline Avenue Bridge reconstruction : East Chicago Community News](#)

Repair project makes for smoother travel on S.R. 44

Daily Journal

6/14/12

A change to the state's process of putting down rocks and oil to preserve roads lessened complaints from two years ago, when motorists reported damage to their vehicles. But some motorists still were not pleased with the new surface on State Road 44 when rocks flew up at their vehicles, including one complaint of a chipped windshield. The Indiana Department of Transportation chip sealed State Road 44 last month, a process that uses small rocks and oil to seal cracks and preserve the road for significantly less than the cost of repaving the road. That process was used two years ago on State Road 252, resulting in dozens of complaints and multiple claims for repairs, including for damage to nine Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson school buses, when rocks flew up and chipped paint and cracked windshields. The chip seal process costs less than 20 percent of what the state spends to repave a road with asphalt. The process also seals cracks, keeps water out and makes the road last longer, state officials have said. [Daily Journal - Repair project makes for smoother travel on S.R. 44](#)