



## BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

### Infrastructure Media Summary

June 18, 2013

#### **Chesterton again accused of misusing tollway proceeds**

NWI Times  
6/16/13

The state has again suggested the town of Chesterton improperly used proceeds from the lease of the Indiana Toll Road toward the construction of a municipal building. The neighboring town of Porter was called out by the state for problems involving sewer billing and a long-standing emergency services contract with NIPSCO. The concerns in both towns were raised in recently-released audits by the Indiana State Board of Accounts. The Chesterton funds in question, which are a part of the state's Major Moves program, are restricted for the construction of highways, economic development, inter-local agreements and as a municipality's contribution to the regional development authority, according to the 2011 audit. Town officials continue to disagree with the state's finding, arguing the project at Broadway and 15th Street meets the criteria for economic development by promoting opportunities for gainful employment and attracting or retaining a major business. Charlie Pride, an office supervisor with the Board of Accounts, has said the disagreement over the funding is not likely go any further unless someone files a complaint with the Porter County prosecutor's office. The Board of Accounts lacks the authority to pursue its objection further, he said. The 2010-11 audit carried out in Porter says the town has failed to collect \$22,488 owed to it by NIPSCO for police and fire services at the company's industrial property. The annual \$150,000 contract dates to 1985. Porter Clerk-Treasurer Carol Pomeroy said she has been in contact with NIPSCO and disagrees that the town is owed the money. The state board also said the town was failing to differentiate its sewage treatment bills based on water meter size, as is called for by local ordinance. Pomeroy said the problem has been corrected.

[Chesterton again accused of misusing tollway proceeds : Duneland Community.Com](#)

#### **Illiana route planning drives forward; opposition still trying to put brakes on project**

Post-Tribune  
6/18/13

Lowell — Planners are getting closer to the final path the preferred B-3 corridor of the proposed Illiana Expressway will take. However South Lake County opposition to the highway continues to push for the no-build option. Monday representatives from the Indiana and Illinois Departments of Transportation conducted the final Indiana public meeting of the Tier II study at Lowell Middle School to gather input from stakeholders for consideration in determining the final route. A second public meeting will take place Tuesday in Illinois in Peotone. A smaller crowd was on hand for the meeting, the majority of whom appeared opposed to the highway altogether. Input from earlier Tier II meetings prompted planners to decrease the number of north-south roads that would have been cut off by the highway. Currently only two roads will terminate at the highway. The 12-mile stretch highway in Indiana will cross 13 north-south roads along its path that will run

approximately along 163rd Street in between Cedar Lake and Lowell. Marshall and Harrison streets now are the only two roads slated for closure. A third road, Sheffield Avenue, will be rerouted as a frontage road, according to Jim Earl, project manager of the Indiana Department of Transportation. Interchanges will be located at U.S. 41, Indiana 55 and Interstate 65. Responses from these meetings will be used in determining the final route, which will be presented during a public hearing in the fall. James Earle, Illiana project manager for INDOT, said the route presented in the fall will be final and take into consideration the details left out of Tier I including environmental issues, emergency services and financing.

[Illiana route planning drives forward; opposition still trying to put brakes on project - Post-Tribune](#)

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