



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

### **June 27, 2013**

**INDOT: Funding Approved for U.S. 31 Hamilton County**  
WISH TV  
6/25/13

INDIANAPOLIS (INDOT) - U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood today informed Governor Mike Pence by phone that future U.S. 31 Hamilton County construction has been approved to use 90 percent federal funding, an increase above the 80 percent maximum for non-interstate projects. Indiana is the first state to use a new provision in the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) transportation legislation that Governor Pence supported while in Congress. Indiana plans to seek increased federal match for additional critical freight projects around the state. The Federal Highway Administration's Indiana Division assisted in securing Secretary LaHood's approval of \$23 million in increased federal funding for the U.S. 31 Hamilton County project. Indiana maximizes its allocations of state and federal transportation funding before using Major Moves construction funds, which generate investment earnings. "Indiana is among the first states to take advantage of innovative tools and resources under the MAP-21 transportation legislation to speed delivery of critical transportation projects," Governor Pence said. "We are following an aggressive schedule to finish what we started and upgrade 13 miles through Carmel and Westfield by the end of 2015." For the Illiana Corridor project, Indiana and Illinois were the first to publish a combined Final Environmental Impact and Record of Decision that was encouraged under the MAP-21 legislation. Indiana also used recent federal guidance to expedite surveying and other field work for I-69 Section 4 between Crane and Bloomington.

[INDOT: Funding Approved for U.S. 31 Hamilton County](#)

Also, [INDOT gets \\$23 million boost to help get US 31 done by 2015 | Indianapolis Star | indystar.com](#)

**City to lose subsidy**  
Kokomo Perspective  
6/26/13

Because of changes in federal legislation, there is a chance that Kokomo could lose up to \$60,000 in transportation funding. Larry Ives, director of the Kokomo Howard County Governmental Coordinating Council, told the council there is a small chance, but he wanted to keep them aware of what could happen in the future. Ives said the city gets \$600,000 a year, roughly, in public mass transit funds from the state of Indiana. According to Ives, there was a bill passed before the last legislation session that would allow INDOT to use various funds to help fund Amtrak. The federal government made a change to funding that stipulated any railway less than 300 miles will no longer receive federal funds. "It would be up to the state of Indiana to fund or subsidize Amtrak if the line itself is under 300 miles," he said, adding the line that travels from Chicago to Indianapolis and runs through Lafayette is under the 300 mile requirement. "So that subsidy that has been paid to Amtrak for that line will no longer be there from the government, which means that state has to pick it up." The current allocation for the state of Indiana is \$43

million in Public Mass Transportation Funds. Ives said if the funds were cut 10 percent, which is what is being estimated right now, the city of Kokomo could lose up to \$60,000. "The bill was passed before we realized the language that was in there. It's really kind of ambiguous," he said. "The consensus is that INDOT has the right to take the money out of PMTF money if they want to. We don't think that Amtrak and public transportation are the same thing."

[City to lose subsidy - Kokomo Perspective: News](#)

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