



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

July 11, 2013

Jeffersonville requests state's assistance for Ind. 62 and Utica-Sellersburg Road intersection

Jeffersonville News & Tribune
Braden Lammers
7/11/2013

JEFFERSONVILLE — Traffic that is expected to pass through the region once an expanded downtown corridor and a new east-end bridge are complete has Jeffersonville officials eyeing a strategy to improve other roadways. Mayor Mike Moore held a news conference Wednesday to request the state's assistance in reconstructing the intersection of Ind. 62 and Utica-Sellersburg Road, an increasingly congested area. In addition to a request to improve the intersection, Moore asked the state to lower the speed limit through the area — just beyond the interchange with Interstate 265 — from 55 mph to 45 mph. Whatever the traffic count is for the intersection now, it is likely to change with River Ridge Commerce Center's continued development and with the opening of the east-end bridge in 2016. Clark County, Jeffersonville, River Ridge and the state all pledged money to make improvements at Ind. 62 and Salem-Noble Road. The total cost for the project to add turn lanes and signals to the intersection was \$3.2 million. Moore estimated that the improvements to Utica-Sellersburg Road will cost more than those made to the Salem-Noble Road intersection.

<http://newsandtribune.com/local/x1952119364/Jeffersonville-requests-states-assistance-for-Ind-62-and-Utica-Sellersburg-Road-intersection>

City reaffirms funds for street projects

Lebanon Reporter
Sarah Lang
7/11/2013

Three city street projects awaiting state funding will be in the running for a 2015 bid date after the Lebanon City Council publicly committed its share of the funding at Monday's meeting. Tom Kouns, Lebanon's project and grant administrator, gave the council an update on these three projects — phase one of the Indianapolis Avenue project, phase three of the Gateway Trail project, and the Hattie B. Stokes Safe Routes to School project. To get the best price, the city planned to send all three out to bid at the same time. Things were going "just swimmingly," Kouns said, when the Indiana Department of Transportation ran into some financial issues, forcing them to push back many projects from around the state. Lebanon's three projects were set to go to bid in January of 2014, and the city was financially prepared for its share of the cost, but INDOT pushed the date back by one year, to January 2015. Once INDOT went through the numbers again, 29 of the original 36 state projects were pushed back again to 2016, Kouns said. But Lebanon was promised a 2015 date as long as the council would reaffirm its financial commitment by July 17. The council approved the request unanimously. The city will fund

approximately \$404,280 of the Indianapolis Avenue project, \$27,222 of the Gateway Trail project, and \$164,515 of the Safe Routes to School project. Kouns said the numbers are flexible and could be changed some when the projects actually go out for bid. The city already has the funds ready for the Gateway Trail and Safe Routes to School projects, Kouns added.

<http://reporter.net/local/x35810126/City-reaffirms-funds-for-street-projects>

South Muncie Gateway bids opened - Two of the four bidders, including the lowest, were from Muncie

The Star Press

Seth Slabaugh

7/10/2013

MUNCIE — A decade-old proposal to improve the entrance to south Muncie took a big step forward on Wednesday. The Indiana Department of Transportation opened construction bids for the South Muncie Gateway project. Three of the four bids were very close to each other. E&B Paving, Muncie, barely edged out the other bidders with its bid of \$1,927,791. Brooks Construction, Fort Wayne, was behind E&B at \$1,942,614, followed by R.A. Myers Construction, Muncie, at \$1,948,657. The fourth bidder was Milestone Contractors, Columbus, at \$2,489,173. The 1,700-foot project will include a new roundabout at the intersection of Walnut and Madison streets near Southway Plaza Shopping Center. Other features include Madison Street reconstruction, a 15-foot tall sculpture of a flower made of steel and tempered glass, a new "Muncie" sign, a sidewalk, decorative LED light poles, rain gardens, new trees and 16-foot-wide medians (planted with native plants) to calm traffic.

<http://www.thestarpress.com/article/20130711/NEWS01/307110021/South-Muncie-Gateway-bids-opened>

Realignment on schedule as U.S. 31 takes shape

South Bend Tribune

Amanda Gray

7/11/2013

SOUTH BEND -- Summer construction on the realignment of U.S. 31 has gone smoothly in this area and the project is on target for completion in the fall of 2014, according to Matt Deitchley, spokesman for the Indiana Department of Transportation's northwest office. On June 5, portions of the U.S. 20 bypass — the St. Joseph Valley Parkway — were closed for 20- to 30-minute stretches to put bridge beams in place for the Fellows Street bridge over the bypass. Similar closures will happen when beams are put in place over U.S. 31 for the new Jackson Road bridge, Deitchley said. Though there's no official date yet, the beams will be placed sometime this fall — most likely not before October, he added. Construction on roadways will continue through fall of 2014, he added. "We're looking forward to being done with construction by fall of next year," he said. Construction and realignment of U.S. 31 between the U.S. 20 bypass in South Bend and U.S. 30 in Plymouth includes about 15 miles of highway on new terrain east of the existing route, according to INDOT. When completed, the new stretch of U.S. 31 between South Bend and Plymouth will include four interchanges. They will be at Kern Road, Pierce Road/Indiana 4, U.S. 6 and 7th Road in Marshall County. The realignment construction between Plymouth and South Bend will cost \$221 million, INDOT has said.

http://www.southbendtribune.com/news/local/article_2670d8ac-e8f8-11e2-8467-0019bb30f31a.html

Pence brings Browning back to INDOT

NWI Times

Dan Carden

7/10/2013

INDIANAPOLIS | Gov. Mike Pence is bringing state lottery director Karl Browning back to once again lead the Indiana Department of Transportation. Browning was INDOT commissioner from 2006 to 2009 under Republican Gov. Mitch Daniels. He resigned after clashing with the then-House Democratic majority over whether to use federal stimulus funds for local road projects. Daniels ultimately used the stimulus money to plug other state budget shortfalls. The current Republican governor touted Browning's experience at INDOT as the primary reason for his return. "Karl is the right leader for this agency at a critical time in the development of our state's infrastructure, and I am grateful he is willing to continue to serve the people of Indiana in this role," Pence said. "He brings extensive experience, integrity and a steady hand to one of state government's most important tasks."

http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/pence-taps-karl-browning-for-return-stint-as-indot-leader/article_7aa7697c-229e-5ca2-8647-6bbceff5daf5.html

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