



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

July 17, 2012

INDOT distributes \$8.8 million in federal funds for Southwestern Indiana road projects

Evansville Courier & Press

7/12/12

The Indiana Department of Transportation is handing out a total of \$8.8 million in federal dollars to six Southwestern Indiana communities to help them finish road projects that are already under construction. The communities that received the money gave presentations at INDOT's Vincennes District office, detailing their scope and necessity. "INDOT is pleased to continue to work with local communities and see their priority projects become funded and built," said Randy Fowler, the department's Vincennes District deputy commissioner. Projects receiving funding include Petersburg's truck route project, Tell City's River Road project, Crawford County's bridge over Norfolk Southern railroad, Pike County's bridge over the Patoka River, Dubois County's Holland Road project and Daviess County's Cannelburg Road Project. [INDOT distributes \\$8.8 million in federal funds for Southwestern Indiana road projects » Evansville Courier & Press](#)

Judge denies effort to speed up bridges lawsuit

The Courier-Journal

7/13/12

A federal judge has turned down the U.S. government's request to speed up a lawsuit related to the Ohio River Bridges Project. The Federal Highway Administration had asked U.S. District Judge John G. Heyburn II to set an unspecified deadline "this summer" for Louisville-based conservation group River Fields, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Coalition for the Advancement of Regional Transportation to challenge the project's new Record of Decision. Heyburn has not ruled on a more specific motion by Kentucky and Indiana on a schedule "to avoid further needless delay in resolving this case on the merits." That motion would require River Fields and the National Trust — the groups that brought the lawsuit in 2009 — to file any amended complaint by Monday, July 30 and have the matter resolved by the end of the year. [Judge denies effort to speed up bridges lawsuit | The Courier-Journal | courier-journal.com](#)

Hoosier Heartland nearing final leg

Pharos-Tribune

7/13/12

LOGANSPORT — Bids for the final leg of the Hoosier Heartland were opened this week, marking a milestone four decades in the making. The Indiana Department of Transportation opened bids Wednesday for construction of the 4.7-mile-long final leg of the Hoosier Heartland and state officials announced Thursday that the apparent low bidder was Fort Wayne-based Primco Inc., with a bid of \$24.7 million. That contract is to build the stretch of road from 325 West to Ind. 29,

said Jim Pinkerton, communications director for INDOT. Pinkerton said the contract would not be finalized or awarded for a couple of weeks. The new Ind. 25 will be a 31-mile, four-lane, limited access divided highway. The project is divided into four segments between Lafayette and Logansport. Along that stretch of highway, INDOT's consultants are in varying stages of design and construction. Of the 25 total contracts for the corridor, 11 are complete and 14 are under construction, according to the website for the Hoosier Heartland Industrial Corridor, www.hhicinc.com. That group, now led by former state Sen. Tom Weatherwax, has been pushing for construction of the highway for decades. [Hoosier Heartland nearing final leg » Local News » Pharos-Tribune](#)

With development boom expected, study to examine Clark's transportation needs

The Courier-Journal
7/13/12

As Clark County grows in the next decade, transportation planners and elected officials predict the community will need a better road linking the River Ridge Commerce Center, the county's airport and Interstate 65. The growing county of 110,600 residents also may need more public bus routes to serve the once-rural area outside Jeffersonville that has rapidly sprouted new subdivisions. Those are a couple of the issues transportation planners are expected to examine as they launch a \$198,000 study on a wide-ranging county thoroughfare plan. On Thursday night, the county commissioners and the Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency, or KIPDA, held an open house at the Jeffersonville Township Public Library on Court Avenue to tell residents, business leaders and local elected officials about the study and to gather comments. The thoroughfare plan is expected to help county leaders and planners map out transportation needs for the next 20 years. [With development boom expected, study to examine Clark's transportation needs | The Courier-Journal | courier-journal.com](#)

I-69 exits to get dual numbers due to highway's extension from Indianapolis to Evansville

The Republic
7/14/12

Angola, Ind. — When you travel along Interstate 69 later this year, the old, familiar exit signs are going to get additional numbers for Auburn, Angola, Pokagon State Park and all of the other exits in Steuben and DeKalb counties and the remainder of the state, all the way to Indianapolis. That's because with the extension of the highway from Indianapolis to Evansville, the road will grow in length by 184 miles in Indiana. The first 65 miles of the extension are supposed to open later this year. Because interstate numbering starts at the south and increases as one travels north in a state, I-69's exits and mile markers are going to change, but it is not as simple as adding 184 to the existing signs. "Instead of adding 184, you'll be adding 200," said Mary Foster, spokeswoman with the Indiana Department of Transportation, Fort Wayne District. "I think that will reduce the impact quite a bit." Consequently, Auburn's exit 129 will become 329. Angola's main exit, 148, will become 348. And if you want to go to Pokagon, you'll take exit 354. In Indianapolis, where the road currently terminates, mile 0 will become 200. For a few years, to ease the public into the change, the exits will have dual numbers. So, the Pokagon exit will have the numbers 154 and 354 for a while. "There will be dual signage for a number of years," Foster said. [I-69 exits to get dual numbers due to highway's extension from Indianapolis to Evansville](#)

Kennedy Bridge repairs will take longer than planned

The Courier-Journal
7/16/12

Attention Louisville and Southern Indiana drivers: You may want to unplug your GPS devices for a while. The ramp closings, detours and unexpected changes in plans that are confusing

motorists and electronic navigation systems alike are not over. Transportation officials said Monday that repairs to corroded steel on the Indiana approach to the Kennedy Bridge will take longer than planned, likely keeping lane and ramp restrictions that were supposed to end this week in place until next week. That's in addition to exit ramps throughout the Spaghetti Junction interchange and in Jeffersonville, Ind., that were closed beginning in June. There's also more work on tap for major interstates, including a shutdown this weekend of southbound lanes on Interstate 65 and overnight closures this week on ramps at the Gene Snyder Freeway. Wingfield said the contractor, MAC Construction and Excavation of New Albany, Ind., spent the weekend installing temporary supports, removing deteriorated pieces of steel and fabricating steel segments that will be spliced with beams that run parallel and perpendicular to bridge traffic. The corrosion was found when workers removed joints that conceal the beams. The delay in repairing the steel was due to getting "design plans completed and approved and making sure that all the contractor's questions were answered," Wingfield said. He said there is no safety concern with the approach to the Kennedy, which handled 137,000 cars and trucks a day in 2011, according to traffic estimates. [Kennedy Bridge repairs will take longer than planned | The Courier-Journal | courier-journal.com](#) Also, [Bridge delays, closures will last longer » Clark County » News and Tribune](#)

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