



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

### **September 6, 2012**

#### **County bridge funds frozen**

Post-Tribune  
9/4/12

CROWN POINT — Although the Lake County Highway Department will receive an estimated extra \$50,000 from the motor vehicle revenue fund in 2013, that is a drop in the bucket when it comes to maintaining streets and highways in unincorporated Lake County. The big hit to this department is that the cumulative bridge revenue has been stalled at \$2 million for at least the last three years. Highway Superintendent Mark Malczewski told the County Council during a 2013 budget hearing last week that members will have to look seriously at the bridge fund. There has been no increase in the last three years. They are looking at some major safety work on their bridges coming up sooner than the budgets allow. The Highway Department maintains bridges that are part of a county road. Malczewski said there was a \$200,000 increase in the cost of fuel over the last year. That is much lower than it would have been if the snow had been heavy and they would have had to send the plows out more often. Added to that is the zero balance and projected balance in both the construction fund and rainy-day fund. Councilman Ted Bilski, D-Hobart, asked Malczewski about his department adding new software to answer and log all incoming calls for service. Malczewski said he would love it. [County bridge funds frozen - Post-Tribune](#)

#### **New Albany's McDonald Lane project gets another OK**

News and Tribune  
9/4/12

NEW ALBANY — The City of New Albany continued to move forward on the planned McDonald Lane improvement project Tuesday, as the Board of Public Works and Safety approved a contract centered on the right-of-way phase of the effort. Federal funds will account for 80 percent of the estimated \$6.2 million project, and the match is the same for the near \$1 million coordination contract the city entered into with the Indiana Department of Transportation, or INDOT. INDOT manages the federal funds for the construction project, and the federal share for the contract approved by the board of works Tuesday is \$750,000. It takes about a year to complete the right-of-way phase for such projects, and the city is hopeful it can begin construction on McDonald Lane in 2014. Last week, the city held a public meeting with property owners in the McDonald Lane area to unveil the construction plans, which include the addition of two roundabouts. Discussion during the meeting on the roundabouts “generated as much positive [comment] as negative, I would say,” Public Works Projects Supervisor John Rosenbarger said. The roundabouts are planned for the intersections at Oxford Drive and Hickory Vale Drive along McDonald Lane. When the city added a roundabout along Daisy Lane, it was met with some trepidation, but Rosenbarger said the features serve as a way to slow down traffic. [New Albany's McDonald Lane project gets another OK » Recent Local News » News and Tribune](#)

## **Louisville public transportation advocacy group sues to block Ohio River Bridges Project**

The Courier-Journal

9/5/12

A Louisville public transportation advocacy group is suing in federal court to block the Ohio River Bridges Project. A complaint the Coalition for the Advancement of Regional Transportation filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court says federal and state agencies lack legal authority to implement tolls on the new bridge planned downtown. The coalition has been part of a lawsuit filed earlier by River Fields and the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States, and will now be a plaintiff in the case, said Clarence Hixson, the coalition's attorney. The suit makes 14 claims against the project, including that it violates the Civil Rights Act of 1964 because the tolls would disproportionately affect minority groups. The organization also argues the eastern bridge and tunnels for project would endanger the region's drinking water and lead to the violation of air quality standards. In a news release, the coalition said the \$2.6 billion project siphoned funding from a public transportation plan the group advocated, which included light rail. [Louisville public transportation advocacy group sues to block Ohio River Bridges Project | The Courier-Journal | courier-journal.com](http://www.courier-journal.com)

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