



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

October 4, 2012

Can The Cedar Grove Bridge Be Saved?

Eagle Country 99.3FM
10/4/12

Cedar Grove, Ind.) – A group is trying to save a closed and neglected bridge in Franklin County. The Cedar Grove Bridge is a steel truss bridge built in 1914 by the Indiana Bridge Company of Muncie. For much of its history, the bridge with a rare “camel back” design carried State Road 1 over the Whitewater River. It was closed to traffic in 1999. The Indiana Department of Transportation currently owns the bridge and is considering demolishing the structure. Not much of the bridge deck remains. Rust is apparent throughout. The only folks who see it are the few canoers who paddle beyond a stopping point upriver, those who travel to a back corner of the village or the handful of residents on Graf Road. The bridge’s history, however, may not be over. Indiana Landmarks and a group called Friends of the Cedar Grove Bridge, a committee part of the Whitewater Canal Trail organization, want to restore the 360-foot span and make it part of a walking and biking path. The group also believes the structure could be placed on the National Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Bridges.

[Eagle Country 99.3 FM | Lawrenceburg, IN](#)

Mayor discusses new bridge approach with industry leaders

Madison Courier
Peggy Vlerebome
10/4/12

A proposal for a new approach to the Madison-Milton bridge is the result of several meetings with local industry leaders, Mayor Damon Welch told the Redevelopment Commission on Wednesday. "A few industry leaders got together and we've been talking about how to get this ball rolling," Welch said. Industry and business owners prefer a straight route connected to State Road 56, Welch said. He said options that were listed several years ago included four or five possibilities, all but one of them a straight line between State Road 56 and Harrison Street. The other option would be the same route as before the Harrison Street approach was closed for the bridge replacement project, with modifications. That route used East Second and Baltimore streets for U.S. 421, with three stops for traffic coming off the bridge and two for traffic going to the bridge. The curbs at the intersections are worn down from trucks driving over them. "It will be widening where it comes off on Second (Street) and where you turn onto Baltimore," Welch said of the proposal. The option developed several years ago included demolishing two houses, one on the northeast corner of Second and Baltimore and the other on the southwest corner of Baltimore and Main streets to give trucks more room to turn. The proposal will be presented to the commission at its next meeting along with a request for \$200,000 to help pay for the first step in the process, he said.

[Mayor discusses new bridge approach with industry leaders - The Madison Courier Daily](#)

[Newspaper - Madison, Indiana - Madison, IN](#)

Federal highway cash assured for 2 years, state told

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Dan Stockman

10/3/12

FORT WAYNE – Federal transportation funding is expected to remain largely unchanged over the next two years, officials say, but the future after that is unclear. Karen Bobo, assistant division administrator for the Federal Highway Administration office in Indianapolis, told local transportation planners at the Urban Transportation Advisory Board on Tuesday that the highway bill passed by Congress this summer keeps funding about the same, but there will be tough choices to come. Almost all federal transportation money comes from gasoline taxes, a revenue stream that is shrinking as vehicles get more fuel efficient. The White House recently set rules to double fuel efficiency standards to an average 54.5 miles a gallon. Bobo said officials are looking for alternatives, but they are few and unpalatable. "Some of it includes raising the gas tax, and nobody wants to do that," she said.

[Federal highway cash assured for 2 years, state told | The Journal Gazette](#)

Plans for Greene County's I-69 Community Celebration Day coming together

Greene County Daily World

Nick Schneider

10/3/12

A Greene County planning committee is busy preparing for a king-sized Interstate 69 celebration on Oct. 20 that can be enjoyed by entire families and communities. The Greene County site will be near the intersection of State Road 58/U.S. 231 junction with the new interstate highway. The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is providing limited access to sections of the nearly completed I-69 for Community Day events at five locations of the I-69 corridor. "I would like to see the entire county represented at this event," according to Brianne Jerrels, administrative assistant in the Greene County Economic Development Corporation Office, who is leading the local effort. Each location will feature family friendly activities. "This is the first time INDOT has allowed public access of this nature on an interstate highway under construction and community leaders plan to take advantage of this special opportunity before the new corridor opens later this year," INDOT Vincennes District spokesperson Cher Elliott said.

[Greene County Daily World: Local News: Plans for Greene County's I-69 Community Celebration Day coming together \(10/03/12\)](#)

Indiana highway agency awards contract for building contested section of I-69 extension

Greenfield Daily Reporter

Associated Press

10/3/12

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — It will cost less than expected to build part of a hotly contested section of the Interstate 69 extension through southern Indiana, the state highway agency said. The Indiana Department of Transportation said the winning bid of \$57.5 million was 16 percent below what engineers had estimated for construction of a four-mile stretch of the highway's route in southern Monroe County near Bloomington. The section is in a 27-mile length of I-69's route from near the Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center to Indiana 37 south of Bloomington that has faced local opposition over its environmental impact and the location of interchanges in the hilly, wooded area. Thomas Tokarski, a longtime I-69 opponent and president of Citizens for Appropriate Rural Roads, said legal challenges to the highway project would continue despite its ongoing construction.

[Indiana highway agency awards contract for building contested section of I-69 extension](#)

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