



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

December 27, 2011

South Bend to spend \$3.7 million on infrastructure

South Bend Tribune
12/22/11

SOUTH BEND — The Board of Public Works today awarded bids for the completion of infrastructure work related to Ignition Park and the Triangle subdivision. The board agreed to pay HRP Construction of South Bend \$1.7 million to complete work related to Ignition Park, and Selge Construction Co. of Niles \$2 million to complete work related to Ignition Park. Major Moves and Economic Development Income Tax, or EDIT, money will pay for the Triangle work, which includes new streets, sidewalks, curbs and lighting, storm and sanitary sewer upgrades, and landscaping. "Infrastructure work will begin in the spring, and by the latter part of the spring, we'll be building homes," Sexton said. The new infrastructure, including storm and sanitary sewers, streets, curbs, sidewalks, lighting and other utilities, will serve the entire park, according to Jitin Kain, a senior economic development specialist with the city. Selge, as the selected contractor, is obligated to complete the work, representing phase one of a two-phase infrastructure plan, by July 1 of next year or face a penalty. [South Bend to spend \\$3.7 million on infrastructure - southbendtribune.com](http://southbendtribune.com)

Rokita supports county efforts regarding Dunbar

Banner Graphic
12/22/11

Putnam County has a well-known ally in its efforts to procure federal grant money for the Dunbar Covered Bridge. U.S. Rep. Todd Rokita (R-Indiana) has written a letter of support to the Putnam County Commissioners, encouraging them to pursue the rehabilitation of the bridge through National Historic Covered Bridge Preservation (NHCBP) funding. Rokita's special assistant Michael Day delivered the letter to Monday's commissioners meeting. "The rehabilitation of the Dunbar Covered Bridge is of great importance to the surrounding community for both its historical worth and its significance as an economic-generating attraction," Rokita wrote. Estimated costs for rehabilitating the bridge are \$1,061,000, with the county requesting \$756,000 in grant money. This would leave the county to pay the remaining \$305,000.

Work to the bridge would include extensive structural work as well as cleaning and repainting of the bridge, replacing its roof, replacing all vertical siding to match existing, restoring the original design of portals and constructing new asphalt approaches. Work on that bridge is slated for 2013 and 2014. Applications for this round of NHCBP grants are due in January, and the Putnam County Highway Department has the application prepared for submission. [Greencastle Banner-Graphic: Local News: Rokita supports county efforts regarding Dunbar \(12/22/11\)](#)

Beech Grove-Amtrak settlement will pay for new Main Street

Indiana Business Journal
12/23/11

The city of Beech Grove will finally reconstruct its flood-prone Main Street, thanks to a \$750,000 settlement with Amtrak. "It's a critical issue for the future of the city," said Joey Fox, chief of staff for Mayor Terry Dilk, who announced the settlement Friday morning. Flooding is such a problem on Main Street that business owners have to set out sandbags after an inch of rain, Fox said. That's made attracting new businesses nearly impossible. The city received a \$4.2 million federal transportation grant in 2008 to reconstruct the 13-block corridor, but the project never started because Beech Grove couldn't come up with its 20-percent share of the \$5 million cost, Fox said. The Main Street project will include design elements similar to the city's Emerson Avenue streetscape improvements, built in 2006, Fox said. The Indiana Department of Transportation is expected to let bids in spring, so work may start this summer, he said. [Beech Grove-Amtrak settlement will pay for new Main Street | 2011-12-22 | Indianapolis Business Journal | IBJ.com](#)

New I-65 Exit Coming To Johnson County Interchange Planned 10 Miles South Of I-465

WRTV Indianapolis
12/26/11

GREENWOOD, Ind. -- A new Interstate 65 interchange in Greenwood will eventually link to a road joining two other highways in the southern suburbs of Indianapolis. The site about 10 miles south of Interstate 465 will be the third interchange connecting Greenwood with I-65. Mayor Charles Henderson said construction is expected to start in 2014. Henderson said he believed the interchange would spur further development in the area. The new interchange fits with the plan for an east-west corridor to carry traffic from Interstate 74 in Shelby County to the route of the yet-to-be-built Interstate 69 extension in western Johnson County. "To have that connection between those three interstates and coming through our own community makes us really the hub," Henderson told the Daily Journal. "It gets the future really looking bright." Plans are for the city to pay about half of the estimated \$22 million cost using revenue from a special taxing district for infrastructure projects. The remainder will be covered by the state highway department. The city will give the state a \$2 million down payment in the coming months as paperwork is completed. The remaining \$9 million will be paid when the state hires a contractor. [New I-65 Exit Coming To Johnson County - Indiana News Story - WRTV Indianapolis](#) Also, [I-65 work to begin in 2014; Greenwood to fund half of project's cost | Johnson County Republican Party](#)

EDITORIAL: Interstate 69 foes face an equally determined Daniels

Evansville Courier & Press
12/27/11

Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels, about to begin his final year in office, assured Hoosiers last week that one of the jewels of his administration, the construction of Interstate 69 in Southwestern Indiana, will clear one of its major hurdles and will be built through Monroe County. According to reports from the Associated Press and the Herald Times in Bloomington, Ind., Daniels said, "The road is going to be built. We have different options for doing it. Certainly the least attractive option would be one in which we were forced to shift funds...I hope we won't be doing that." Daniels was referring to the Bloomington-Monroe County Metropolitan Planning Organization's decision still to not include I-69 in its county transportation plan.

Without it, the Indiana Department of Transportation cannot use federal funds for the 1.75-mile stretch of I-69 that will pass through Monroe County. One the other hand, those options he mentioned include denying Monroe County the use of road funds on other projects in the county. Southwestern Indiana residents will know more on Feb. 10 when the Bloomington planning group holds its next meeting, and hopefully changes its mind on allowing federal funds to be used on the project. This ridiculousness has gone on since May when the Bloomington group took action

against I-69. [EDITORIAL: Interstate 69 foes face an equally determined Daniels » Evansville Courier & Press](#)

DOUG ROSS: Use proceeds for real economic development

NWI Times

12/27/11

Sometimes an act is criminal, sometimes it's illegal but not criminal, sometimes it's legal but wrong. Where does Chesterton's misuse of Major Moves money fit among those three categories? If you listen to Chesterton officials, the answer is: Nowhere. They argue the use of \$750,394 in proceeds from the Indiana Toll Road lease for construction of the town's new municipal complex is a fair use of the money.

Gumby would be proud. It's quite a stretch to consider the new municipal building an appropriate use of that money. Yet the town's attorney said it was an economic development project. The State Board of Accounts contends in the audit, "Building costs are not allowable costs from Major Moves funds according to Indiana Code 8-14-16-5." A case could be made for a building being considered an economic development project, but this building is not that case. So the state agency for auditing local government disagrees with Chesterton officials on the use of this money. What happens now?

Most likely, nothing. [DOUG ROSS: Use proceeds for real economic development](#)

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