



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

February 2, 2012

INDOT proposes diamond interchange at Indiana 49 and Vale Park

Chesterton Tribune

1/30/12

The Indiana Department of Transportation is proposing to build a interchange at the intersection of Ind. 49 and C.R. 400N/Vale Park Road, to enhance the connectivity of those intersections and to upgrade a stretch of Ind. 49 to function as a freeway. INDOT has scheduled a public hearing on the project for 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, at the Valparaiso High School cafeteria at 2727 N. Campbell St. An informal project open house session will begin at 5:00 p.m.; the formal presentation, at 6 p.m. INDOT is specifically proposing this: •Elevating C.R. 400N/Vale Park Road over the existing Ind. 49.

•Upgrading this stretch of Ind. 49 to freeway standards by eliminating the non-freeway items of at-grade intersections. The preferred design alternative is a diamond Interchange with roundabouts at the ramp intersections with C.R. 400N/Vale Park Road. The ramps would be constructed the same as the diamond interchange but instead of the traditional four-legged signalized intersections at the ends of the ramps, there would be two roundabouts. [INDOT proposes diamond interchange at Indiana 49 and Vale Park](#)

Temporary ramps connected during downtime

The Madison Courier

1/31/12

The first weeklong closing of the Milton-Madison bridge will be April 25 through 29, weather and river levels permitting, the Indiana and Kentucky transportation agencies announced this morning. There will be a ferry boat for emergency medical services only, the announcement said. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and the Indiana Department of Transportation will have a public meeting March 22 at Brown Gym on Broadway to explain traffic changes during the closure and how emergency services will be provided. The doors will open at 6 p.m., and the public can informally talk to the project team and ask questions before the presentation, which will begin at 7 p.m. During the week the bridge will be closed, traffic will cross the Ohio River at Vevay or at Louisville. While the bridge is closed, contractor Walsh Construction Co. will work around the clock to remove the existing bridge approaches and connect temporary ramps in Madison and Milton, the announcement said. When the bridge reopens, traffic will use the temporary ramps to get on and off the existing bridge. Bridge project officials have said that large trucks will not be able to use the bridge because of turns on the temporary ramps. [Temporary ramps connected during downtime - The Madison Courier Daily Newspaper - Madison, Indiana - Madison, IN](#)

House approves funding plan for airport roads

NWI Times

1/31/12

INDIANAPOLIS | The Indiana House voted 96-0 Tuesday to authorize the use of state highway funds to build airport access roads. State Rep. Earl Harris, D-East Chicago, believes his legislation eventually will pave the way for the federal government to pay most of the cost of connecting region highways to the Gary/Chicago International Airport. Harris said the federal government will pay 95 percent of the cost of airport-connecting roads, but the state's transportation agency needs legislative approval to access that money and spend state highway funds for the remainder. House Bill 1307, which applies statewide, now advances to the Senate. [House approves funding plan for airport roads](#)

**Bucshon amendment would dismantle Bloomington's I-69 roadblock
Governor could override Metropolitan Planning Organization**

The Evansville Courier & Press

2/1/12

WASHINGTON —Eighth District Congressman Larry Bucshon plans to offer an amendment to a vital transportation measure today that he hopes will end efforts to block construction of a section of I-69 between Indianapolis and Evansville. The proposal would permit a governor to override the decision of a regional Metropolitan Planning Organization if its stands in the way of an interstate project of statewide significance. Currently, a portion of the long-planned I-69 project is in jeopardy because the Bloomington/Monroe County Metropolitan Planning Organization has failed to approve a 1.75-mile stretch of the road slated for Monroe County. The Indiana Department of Transportation, which is building the highway, can't use federal funds for construction of that short section if it isn't included in the group's transportation plan. The section was included in the plan at one juncture but was subsequently dropped.

[Bucshon amendment would dismantle Bloomington's I-69 roadblock » Evansville Courier & Press](#)

Transit bill: Indiana Senate President Pro Tempore says no revival

The Indianapolis Star

2/1/12

Senate President Pro Tempore David Long, R-Fort Wayne, says the Central Indiana mass transit plan will not be revived. Long said supporters have not made their case to the legislature and the Senate will not be amending the issue into a bill. "There's a real split, Democrats and Republicans, on that issue, both the House and the Senate," Long said today. "Central Indiana needs to work this out. I had told proponents it was probably a bad year to bring it." He said it would be "smart" to bring the issue next year, when the legislature is debating a new two-year state budget. The House Ways and Means Committee on Thursday voted 11-10 against transit legislation. Rep. William Crawford, D-Indianapolis, said most Democrats voted against the bill only because they disagreed with right-to-work language inserted by author and committee chairman Jeff Espich, R-Uniondale. [Transit bill: Indiana Senate President Pro Tempore says no revival | The Indianapolis Star | indystar.com](#)