



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

**August 9, 2011**

### **Hundreds of road projects underway in Indianapolis**

Fox59  
8/4/11

INDIANAPOLIS—Nearly 300 road construction projects are underway across Indianapolis, 24 of them are downtown. The projects are part of the RebuildIndy initiative that is apparently growing thanks to a sale made by the city. "We get calls daily from residents and emails saying, it's filled with potholes, I don't have a sidewalk in my neighborhood or the sidewalk I do have is crumbling," said Sarah Holsapple, a spokesperson with the Indianapolis Department of Public Works. The city has already invested \$140 million on countless roadways and sidewalks. "This next batch of money will come from the sale of the water and waste water utilities to citizens energy and thats roughly \$266 million," said Holsapple.

[Road Projects: Hundreds of road projects underway in Indianapolis, downtown locations given priority - fox59.com](#)

### **Fellows St. changes in works**

South Bend Tribune  
8/4/11

SOUTH BEND - As Annette Pilkington and Beth McKillip look out at Fellows Street in front of their homes, the last thing they want to see is more traffic. But more traffic is just what's coming to the [residential](#) area north of [Ireland](#) Road. The Indiana Department of Transportation is planning to build a bridge that will carry Fellows over the St. Joseph Valley Parkway, also known as the U.S. 20 bypass, and connect it with neighborhoods south of the highway. InDOT spokesman Jim Pinkerton said the overpass will be needed for emergency responders to reach those neighborhoods south of the bypass more easily after the agency finishes upgrading U.S. 31 to a limited-access highway between [Plymouth](#) and [South Bend](#).

[Fellows St. changes in works - wsbt.com](#)

### **INDOT changing "phantom work zone"**

WLF1.com  
8/4/11

NewsChannel 18 has told you about a 13-mile stretch of Interstate 65 where drivers have to slow down to 45 miles per hour, even though crews are only working for about a mile of that stretch. Now, after NewsChannel 18's story, the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) said it's changing the distance drivers have to slow down. Crews are working on pipelines throughout the stretch and move up and down the interstate throughout the day. INDOT spokeswoman Debbie Calder said motorists won't have to drive 45 miles an hour the whole 13-mile stretch, which is on

I-65 from the State Road 28 exit in Clinton County to State Road 38 in Tippecanoe County.  
[INDOT changing "phantom work zone" | WLFI - Clinton County, Indiana](#)

### **Finishing Interstate 69 to Indianapolis will be up to Indiana's next governor**

Evansville Courier & Press  
8/6/11

INDIANAPOLIS —By the time Gov. Mitch Daniels leaves office in January 2013, Indiana will have spent nearly \$1 billion on construction of the approximately 90-mile stretch of Interstate 69 between Evansville and the Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center in Martin County. By that time, too, another section of the road will be under construction, and that piece will establish a highway connection from Evansville to Bloomington. That will mean four of the six sections into which the 142-mile project is divided will be moving toward to completion. It's far more progress than any of Daniels' predecessors had made, but it will leave some work for the next person to occupy his office to finish. [Finishing Interstate 69 to Indianapolis will be up to Indiana's next governor » Evansville Courier & Press](#)

### **Don't divert money away from infrastructure**

Indystar.com  
8/6/11

PNC's Indiana Chairman Steve Stitle in his Aug. 3 letter argued in favor of mayoral candidate Melina Kennedy's idea to take some of the city proceeds from the sale of the water company away from important infrastructure investment and put millions of dollars into education. I couldn't disagree more for the following reasons: First, education is primarily funded by our state tax dollars. The newly approved budget will spend more than \$7 billion on K-12 education each year. That is more than half of the state's total budget. Indiana leads the nation in the percentage of our budget spent on education. But we have seen examples across the country that money does not necessarily equate to success. Gov. Mitch Daniels and the legislature recently funded, for the first time, full-day kindergarten. They also passed initiatives many believe will lead to positive results in our classrooms. These important reforms deserve an opportunity to work. Second, our city's infrastructure has been ignored for decades.

<http://www.indystar.com/article/20110806/OPINION01/108060361/Don-t-divert-money-away-from-infrastructure?odyssey=mod%7Cnewswell%7Ctext%7COpinion%7Cp>

### **Another Valpo roundabout project ready to begin**

ValpoCommunity.com  
8/7/11

VALPARAISO - Work on the city's next roundabout is expected to begin in about a week. The Indiana Department of Transportation last week gave low bidder Walsh & Kelly Inc. approval to proceed with work at the intersection of Silhavy and Vale Park roads. The city and INDOT will meet with Walsh & Kelly this week, city Engineering Director Tim Burkman said. "This is great news for us, and we're very excited," Burkman said after getting word Friday from INDOT. The roundabout should be substantially completed and open to traffic by the end of the year. "They might have to finish tying in one of the legs in the spring, but it would have temporary pavement for traffic to use over the winter," Burkman said. "There will be restoration, landscaping and maybe some final paving to do in the spring." Cost of the project is \$1.68 million, of which the city's share is 20 percent.

[http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/porter/valparaiso/article\\_159a0603-f24f-5050-b2c6-d2af82930098.html](http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/porter/valparaiso/article_159a0603-f24f-5050-b2c6-d2af82930098.html)

### **Toll Road to Borman ramp closed for indefinite period**

nwi.com  
8/8/11

LAKE STATION | A second major region transportation link is closed for an indefinite period, with Indiana Toll Road Concession Co. embarking on a study for the possible replacement of the closed Indiana Toll Road exit 21 westbound ramp that carries traffic to Interstate 80/94. Indiana Toll Road Concession Co., the Toll Road's private operator, has hired consultants to study whether to repair a damaged parapet wall or embark on a project to demolish the current ramp and build a more efficient link between the two interstates, Indiana Toll Road Concession Co. spokeswoman Amber Kettring said.

[Toll Road to Borman ramp closed for indefinite period](#)

### **US 52 to shift constructed lanes**

WLF1.com  
8/8/11

TIPPECANOE COUNTY, Ind. (WLF1) - The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) announced traffic will shift into the newly constructed westbound lanes on or after Wednesday, August 10. Walsh Construction Co. will be reconstructing the eastbound lanes between Schuyler Ave. and Greenbush. Walsh Construction Co. was awarded the Major Moves road and bridge rehabilitation project. US 52 will be reconstructed from the Wabash River Bridge to just east of Beech Drive, north of Greenbush.

[US 52 to shift constructed lanes | WLF1 - Tippecanoe County, Indiana](#)

### **U.S. 40 resurfacing starts Monday**

Palladium-Item  
8/8/11

Milestone Contractors will begin work Monday to resurface one mile of U.S. 40 through Centerville. Crews will begin by patching damaged asphalt before paving a new surface between Mattie Harris and McMinn roads. Drivers should be alert for work zone signs, crews and equipment. U.S. 40 will be reduced to a single lane at times, and drivers should watch for flaggers and heed instructions. Patching of the highway is expected to last through August. Surface paving operations, which are scheduled to begin in early September, will require temporary closure of approaches and limit access to U.S. 40 from some side streets and drives. The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) selected Milestone to complete the project based on the Columbus, Ind., company's low bid of \$273,457.

[U.S. 40 resurfacing starts Monday | Palladium-Item | pal-item.com](#)

### **HEC: I-69 robs communities' money for roads**

The Bloomington Alternative  
8/9/11

INDIANAPOLIS - The Hoosier Environmental Council (HEC) today released "The Alarming Rise of Indiana Transportation Funding Dedicated to I-69," a policy paper detailing the fiscal shortfalls of the controversial construction project. HEC has been a 20-year critic of the I-69 project due to the damaging environmental impacts; however, this paper shines a light on the disproportionate percentage of available funding dedicated to its construction and what that means for other road and bridge funding needs throughout Indiana. The new terrain I-69 highway will eat up one-fifth of available highway construction and maintenance funding from 2012 to 2014. In 2013 alone, the highway will consume nearly 30 percent of Indiana's highway funds. The disproportionate percentage means many projects throughout the rest of Indiana will be stuck in "shovel ready"

mode or never even leave the drawing board.

[HEC: I-69 robs communities' money for roads | The Bloomington Alternative](#)

**GUEST COMMENTARY: Trade bailouts, borrowing for common sense**

nwi.com

8/9/11

Recent data show national economic growth is slowing from a crawl to a halt. Add that to the mountain of evidence that the federal government's bailouts and borrowing can't really create jobs. It's time Washington learned some lessons from Indiana, where government creates conditions for economic growth without punishing taxpayers and the private sector. Take two legislative successes near to my heart: the Major Moves highway-construction fund and telecommunications reform. They've brought thousands of jobs to Indiana and spurred almost \$6 billion in private investment statewide. In 2006, Gov. Mitch Daniels proposed leasing the Indiana Toll Road and using the proceeds to create the Major Moves trust fund, which would fully finance a unique 10-year renovation of state highways. I became a Senate sponsor of the bill because I saw the opportunity Indiana had to pay for needed projects that would improve the transportation of goods and people across our state. [http://www.nwitimes.com/news/opinion/guest-commentary/article\\_0b6dacb6-3ebd-528d-94f6-d10bba2cf720.html](http://www.nwitimes.com/news/opinion/guest-commentary/article_0b6dacb6-3ebd-528d-94f6-d10bba2cf720.html)

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[www.buildindianacouncil.org](http://www.buildindianacouncil.org)