



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

August 11, 2011

Report: I-69 to consume one-fifth of 2012-2104 highway funds, shortchanging other projects

Daily Reporter
8/9/11

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Indiana's 142-mile extension of Interstate 69 between Indianapolis and Evansville will siphon hundreds of millions of dollars away from other road and bridge projects in coming years, according to a report from an environmental group. The report by the Hoosier Environmental Council concludes that the highway's nearly \$3 billion estimated cost will consume one-fifth of funding available for state highway construction and maintenance projects between 2012 and 2014. In 2013 alone, nearly 30 percent of Indiana's highway funds will go toward I-69, the report said. [Report: I-69 to consume one-fifth of 2012-2104 highway funds, shortchanging other projects](#)

Also, [Report: I-69 draining money from other projects | Palladium-Item | pal-item.com](#)

One bridge down, one to go

Portagecommunity.com
8/10/11

PORTAGE | As Porter County officials christened the recently reopened Lute Road bridge Wednesday morning by cutting a red ribbon stretched across it, work is continuing to replace a second bridge maintained by the county within Portage city limits. Porter County Highway Department Engineer Ray Riddell said, if all falls into place, the bridge over Willow Creek on Evergreen Avenue should be replaced by year's end. That should help put an end to traffic troubles in the city the last year that saw three main east/west arterial streets shut down due to construction projects. Traffic on Stone Avenue has been interrupted for two construction seasons due to the massive storm water project undertaken by the city. That project is scheduled to be completed by the end of November.

http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/porter/portage/article_658d4a89-9b5b-55f0-97b5-7d3710ff4a52.html

Fountain Square businesses feel brunt of delayed road project

Wthr.com
8/10/11

INDIANAPOLIS - If you drive Indianapolis at all, you know road construction is at all-time high. There are some 276 projects underway across the city as part of Rebuild Indy. While the road work will ultimately make for a smoother ride, it can come with a heavy cost for businesses caught in the middle of the mess. Business owners in Fountain Square say they're definitely feeling the pinch. Wally Bolinger owns the Red Lion Grog House which opened a year and a half

ago on Virginia Avenue amid high hopes. Bolinger says the road to success took a detour after work began on the Cultural Trail in March. "It's hard getting people out here when they don't know where to find a place to park," he said, noting that business has dropped 33%. [Fountain Square businesses feel brunt of delayed road project - 13 WTHR](#)

City plans to put \$80M from utility sale into new fund

lbj.com

8/10/11

Indianapolis officials want to use \$80 million from the sale of the city's water and sewer utilities to create a new fund to help the city maintain its prized AAA bond rating. Mayor Greg Ballard had pledged to use all money from the sale to not-for-profit Citizens Energy Group—roughly \$425 million—for projects such as demolishing abandoned houses and rebuilding roads, sidewalks, bridges and other infrastructure. City officials maintain that pledge to improve city infrastructure still stands because the \$80 million fund is temporary. "It's like a bumper sticker saying to the ratings agencies, 'Look how prudent we are,'" said Chris Cotterill, Ballard's chief of staff.

<http://www.lbj.com/city-plans-to-put-80m-from-utility-sale-into-new-fund/PARAMS/article/28832>

EDITORIAL: Yes, I-69 is a very big project for state; so what?

News-sentinel.com

8/11/11

As long as they stuck to the physical impact of I-69 construction, environmentalist critics of the project had a point. They didn't win the political or legal arguments, but their contention that breaking new ground for a route instead of making greater use of existing road paths would be more environmentally destructive certainly had the moral high ground. This page previously supported the less-destructive option of upgrading Interstate 70 and U.S. 41 to become the Indianapolis to Evansville extension of I-69.

[Yes, I-69 is a very big project for state; so what? | The News-Sentinel - Fort Wayne IN](#)

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