



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

September 27, 2011

Report Targets Hundreds Of Troubled Bridges

TheIndyChannel.com

9/22/11

The report places Indiana as 26th in the number of structurally deficient bridges, with about 10 percent of the bridges in the state in that category. LaGrange County is best off, with no deficient bridges, while about a third of Sullivan County's bridges are in that category, according to the report. The Hoosier Environmental Council, which supports repair of current roads and bridges over building new, said Indiana is too oriented toward new construction. "Indiana has not been keeping pace with the needs to repair our existing roads and bridges," said the HEC's Tim Maloney. "In our view, that's happening because of the emphasis that the state has had as part of the Major Moves program on new construction." But the Indiana Department of Transportation said the report isn't quite what it seems.

[Report Targets Hundreds Of Troubled Bridges - Indiana News Story - WRTV Indianapolis](#)

Feds talk bridges: Louisville mayor meets with Obama

News and Tribune

9/23/11

SOUTHERN INDIANA — President Barack Obama stood on a bridge above the Ohio River on Thursday and used the span as evidence of the failing transportation infrastructure across the country. But as far as residents of Southern Indiana and Louisville are concerned, the president was standing on the wrong bridge. Obama held a press conference on the Brent Spence Bridge — the Interstate 75 span connecting Northern Kentucky to Cincinnati — urging for the passage of his American Jobs Act, which addresses repairs to the nation's infrastructure and offers a way to put Americans back to work. <http://newsandtribune.com/local/x1117974239/Feds-talk-bridges-Louisville-mayor-meets-with-Obama>

Madison-Milton bridge project makes national 'Top 10' list

MadisonCourier.com

9/23/11

The Madison-Milton bridge project has been named one of the Top 10 bridge projects in the country by Roads & Bridges magazine. The industry publication announced the 2011 winning projects in a video announcement on YouTube. The project is No. 3 on the list, which recognizes the best in bridge construction projects in the U.S. The magazine will present its Top 10 awards in November at its annual conference in Las Vegas. Projects are judged on several factors, including size, contractor challenges and impact on drivers.

<http://madisoncourier.com/main.asp?SectionID=4&SubSectionID=287&ArticleID=65316>

INDOT: Closed Bridge Doesn't Need Full Replacement

TheIndyChannel.com

9/23/11

INDIANAPOLIS -- The closed Sherman Minton Bridge over the Ohio River will not need a full replacement, the Indiana Department of Transportation said Friday. The Sherman Minton Bridge, which carries Interstate 64 from New Albany over the Ohio River into Louisville, Ky., was ordered closed earlier this month by Gov. Mitch Daniels after inspectors found a crack in a load-bearing steel support beam. INDOT Commissioner Michael Cline said Friday that the agency has learned enough in its ongoing testing and assessment of the bridge to rule out a full replacement, which would have been the most costly and time-consuming option. [INDOT: Closed Bridge Doesn't Need Full Replacement - Indiana News Story - WRTV Indianapolis](#)

No Oct. 1 opening for Lindberg Road bridge

JOnline.com

9/24/11

Resignation. That was one of the prevailing sentiments coming from residents in West Lafayette's Blackbird Farms neighborhood Friday, when they learned the completion date for the bridge rising over the Celery Bog on Lindberg Road has yet again been delayed. A week ago, officials hoped the bridge would open in time for Purdue University's Oct. 1 home football game against Notre Dame. Now the opening has been pushed to the end of October. "It's just another delay after many others," said resident Tom Schwartzel, a past president of the Blackbird Farms Homeowners Association. "I've decided when the bridge is finished and it's operational, fine. After all these years and all these disappointments, the only thing you can do is look forward." [No Oct. 1 opening for Lindberg Road bridge | Journal and Courier | jonline.com](#)

Ohio River bridge failure could aid Cline bridge boosters

Nwi.com

9/25/11

State officials order the emergency closure of a critical bridge that serves as a lifeline for commuters and businesses in two states. Diverted traffic causes chaos on nearby city streets. Some politicians offer assurances the bridge will be rebuilt while others point fingers. Some start asking where the \$3.8 billion from the Toll Road lease went. But this time, it's not the Cline Avenue Bridge, spanning the Indiana Harbor and Ship Canal in East Chicago, that's the focus of discussion. Instead, it's the Sherman Minton Bridge, spanning the Ohio River and connecting New Albany, Ind., with Louisville, Ky. [Ohio River bridge failure could aid Cline bridge boosters](#)

Road work will affect traffic for two years

LowellCommunity.com

9/26/11

LOWELL | Much-needed road improvements to the west and east of town will impact drivers and school bus routes for the next two years. Beginning Oct. 3, Indiana Department of Transportation work will begin on Ind. 2 at the Norfolk Southern railroad underpass west of Lowell where the pavement is severely buckled. That area is expected to be closed for two to three weeks for the work. It's part of a \$2.8 million resurfacing project on Ind. 2 from U.S. 41 to Ind. 55. At the same time, some pavement improvements will begin at the Interstate 65/Ind. 2 interchange east of Lowell. Jim Pinkerton, media relations director for INDOT, LaPorte, said the resurfacing there should improve the pavement condition until the INDOT Major Moves interchange project is

completed in 2012 and 2013. [Road work will affect traffic for two years](#)

Momentum pumping for upping gas tax in Elkhart County?

WSBT-TV

9/27/11

From potholes to paving, some Elkhart County Roads are in pretty bad shape. So the county council president is pushing to increase the gas tax by 10 cents a gallon to help fix the miles of deteriorating pavement. There's already an 18 cent per gallon gas tax in Indiana, but Elkhart County sees very little of that revenue. And the county is short \$3.5 million this year when it comes to fixing the roads. Add in bridges and road maintenance, the shortfall is even more. In light of that financial picture, county council president John Letherman says a gas tax hike now makes sense. "We have a need to maintain what we have," Letherman said. "If we don't see some changes pretty quick, we're going to be upside down to the point where they're going to be falling apart and then they're going to be really expensive to fix," Letherman said. [Momentum pumping for upping gas tax in Elkhart County? - WSBT-TV](#)

www.buildindianacouncil.org