



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

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Region wants bridge to replace condemned Cline Avenue span
The NWI Times
Keith Benman
1/10/10

EAST CHICAGO | Speaker after speaker Saturday told 14 state legislators that a new bridge must be built to replace the condemned Cline Avenue span over the Indiana Harbor and Ship Canal. "All of our economic development plans in the city of Hammond require that bridge," Hammond City Engineer Stan Dostatni told the lawmakers seated on stage at East Chicago Central High School. "We want that bridge replaced." But it will be some time until it is determined if the bridge will be replaced, and even "short-term" projects on roads around Cline Avenue may not take place until 2011 or 2012, according to a timeline sent Friday to state Rep. Chet Dobis by Bob Zier, chief of staff to state Transportation Commissioner Michael Reed.
http://nwitimes.com/news/local/lake/article_08218770-a3cb-5861-a531-2eda8e582980.html

Indiana 49 overpass work eagerly awaited
Post-Tribune
Chelsea Schneider
1/11/10

Valparaiso officials eagerly await a state road project that will elevate Vale Park Road over Indiana 49. Though construction isn't set to begin until next year, Valparaiso Mayor Jon Costas expects the Indiana Department of Transportation project to serve as a gateway into the city. Last month, INDOT filed a procedural permit with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources because the interchange is scheduled to be built on a floodway, said DNR spokesman Phil Bloom. As of Wednesday, the permit was pending with the state office, Bloom said. The proposed project will take the current signal intersection and rebuild the thoroughfare into what city engineer Tim Burkman called a "diamond interchange." Vale Park will be made into a bridge over Indiana 49 with on and off ramps. <http://www.post-trib.com/news/porter/1983769.porterbridge0107.article>

City wants to keep rail hopes alive
Kokomo Tribune
Scott Smith
1/8/10

There's one very large obstacle to Kokomo's long-term hopes for a north-south commuter rail line — the U.S. 31 Kokomo Corridor Project. State officials have outlined a planned change to the \$345 million Corridor project that would turn 125 East in Howard County into a dead-end south of

Oakford. Indiana Department of Transportation officials estimate they'll save millions if they can avoid construction of a bridge to carry 125 East — and a Norfolk Southern railroad line — over the planned bypass.

http://www.kokomotribune.com/local/local_story_008223101.html?keyword=topstory

Rough span of U.S. 24 should extend life
Fort Wayne Journal Gazette
Benjamin Lanka
1/10/10

A rough road isn't always a bad thing, especially if it reduces maintenance costs for taxpayers. Q. I have noticed the recent resurfacing of U.S. 24 west of Liberty Mills Road seems to be rougher than the old surface. It appears the section between Liberty Mills Road and County Line Road is rougher than sections west of County Line. Is that section intended to be rougher?

A. Very perceptive, Rick, and you are correct: The section is intentionally rougher. Toni Mayo, spokeswoman for the Indiana Department of Transportation, said the new surface put on this section of U.S. 24 is called microsurfacing. This is a mixture of components that result in more pavement noise than traditional street repaving with new asphalt. The treatment is a method of preventive maintenance intended to extend the life of the road. She said the section of U.S. 24 west of Allen County was done in the traditional method, which has less pavement noise.

Q. It was never so welcome to see the work on Illinois Road progressing to the point of relieving some congestion at Hadley Road. It was a complete disappointment when they opened the additional right-turn lane only to realize they made it 50 feet or so.

A. Well, Daniel, I'm glad you like the new road even if you feel the turn lanes are too short. INDOT's Mayo, however, said all turn lanes at Hadley actually are several hundred feet long. The state's project supervisor studied traffic flow throughout the intersection since it opened and has not seen unusual delays in turn lanes in any direction. A check of the traffic signal also didn't reveal any problems.

<http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20100109/LOCAL0203/301099964/1002/LOCAL>

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