



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

January 19, 2010

No instant stimulus: Goshen's federal funds hung up in paperwork
In the 11 months since the stimulus act was signed, Goshen hasn't yet been able to put much of the federal assistance -- and local laborers -- to work.

The Truth Newspaper
Justin Leighty
1/17/10

GOSHEN -- It's been 11 months since Congress passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, promising quick action to put people back to work. But after sending more than \$7 million to Goshen, the only real impact is a few more blocks of sidewalks and helping limit increases for sewer bills. There are more projects in the pipeline for the coming months, to be sure, but so far "quick" has been a, well, relative term. Bashor Road will be repaved between Reliance and Elkhart roads, and Eighth Street will be paved from Madison to College avenues soon, giving \$434,000 in stimulus funds to Niblock Excavating, according to Mary Cripe with the city's engineering department. Niblock also will get an extra \$78,000 in stimulus funds to add some extra sidewalk work to an already planned federal "Safe Routes to Schools" project. Contractors will bid on additional paving work on Dierdorff Road, Middlebury Street, Clinton Street and Lincoln Avenue later this month, with construction expected to happen later this year, according to Cripe. That work, all ARRA funded, is estimated to cost just shy of \$850,000.
<http://www.etruth.com/Know/News/Story.aspx?id=503294>

South Bend Outlines TIF Projects
Inside Indiana Business
1/18/10

The city of South Bend says it will invest \$41 million in economic development and infrastructure this year as a result of the growth in its eight tax increment financing (TIF) districts. More than 60 percent of the TIF revenue is concentrated in the Airport Economic Development Area, which incorporates Ivy Tech Community College, Ignition Park and South Bend Regional Airport. <http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/newsitem.asp?ID=39647>

Meeting to discuss Sare-Rogers road improvements
Bloomington Herald Times
1/19/10

Bloomington city officials are inviting the public to participate in a discussion of proposed improvements to the intersection of Sare and Rogers roads. The meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in city council chambers in City Hall. "City engineering staff and Brock

Ridgeway of Eagle Ridge Civil Engineering Services will make a brief presentation, which will be followed immediately by a comprehensive question and answer session," according to a written statement. "The project proposal incorporates increased safety strategies for both pedestrians and drivers at this intersection."

[For more information, please call TRIAD at 1-800-288-7423.](tel:1-800-288-7423)

Indiana Casinos Adjust to Bridge Closing
Inside Indiana Business
1/18/10

Three northwest Indiana casinos continue to deal with the impact of the state's decision to permanently shut down the Cline Avenue Bridge, a key traffic artery to the properties. Indiana Gaming Insight Editor Ed Feigenbaum says the two Majestic Star casinos and the Ameristar Casinos Inc. property in East Chicago face a "very difficult" task to change the traffic patterns of potential customers. He says they will have to embark on expensive marketing campaigns and give customers more reasons to head to the casinos.

<http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/newsitem.asp?ID=39652>

High-speed rail supporters await news
Rally attendees told grant application has been submitted.
The News-Sentinel
Aaron Organ
1/18/10

It's tough to find anyone who doesn't support running high-speed passenger rail in Fort Wayne. Mayor Tom Henry is all aboard, pun intended. So are city councilmen Tom Didier (R-3rd) and Tom Smith (R-1st), and county commissioner Bill Brown. State Reps. Win Moses (D-Fort Wayne) and Phyllis Pond (R-New Haven), State Sens. Tom Wyss (R-Fort Wayne) and Dennis Kruse (R-Auburn), U.S. Sens. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) and Evan Bayh (D-Ind.), and U.S. Rep. Mark Souder (R-3rd) are all ready to lay tracks through town. All joined, either in person or via representative, the roughly 800 supporters who came to the packed-to-capacity Baker Street Station at Saturday afternoon's "Rally for Rail." Now those elected officials and residents who share the collective dream are waiting to see if the federal government is on their side, too. Geoff Paddock, a co-founder and head of the Northeast Indiana Passenger Rail Association, informed a spirited group of rail supporters Saturday that the Indiana Department of Transportation has submitted an application to the Federal Rail Association for a \$2.8 billion grant that would see the state's piece in a high-speed rail line from Chicago to Cleveland by way of Gary, Warsaw and Fort Wayne. Paddock said a decision could come as early as month's end. <http://www.news-sentinel.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100118/NEWS/1180316>

Valpo changes road construction priorities
The NWI Times
Phil Wieland
1/19/10

VALPARAISO | The estimated cost of improving Silhavy Road between LaPorte Avenue and Evans Avenue has more than doubled, forcing the city's Redevelopment Commission to change its project priorities. City Engineering Director Tim Burkman told the commission Thursday the cost to widen the road, add sidewalks and improve drainage has risen from \$1.3 million to \$2.8 million. With five major projects slated to get federal funding over the next three years, Burkman and Stuart Summers, executive director of the commission, recommended the Silhavy improvement be pushed back to 2011 and only the

sidewalks and drainage work done. The first priority should be to use tax increment financing revenue to pay for the construction of the roundabout at Silhavy and Vale Park Road, Burkman said. That project is scheduled for this year at an estimated cost of \$1.5 million, of which \$700,000 is federally funded. The goal is to finish the roundabout before the state begins construction of an interchange at Ind. 49, possibly by the end of the year. <http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/porter/053f3192-21b5-5052-ba77-b9a14b213928.html>

Changes planned for roads near mall

WFLI

1/19/10

LAFAYETTE, Ind. (WFLI) - The city of Lafayette is teaming up with the Indiana Department of Transportation to improve traffic around the Tippecanoe Mall. The Lafayette Board of Works approved the first major construction project of 2010 this morning. The city's total price-tag for the project is just over \$6.5 million. City engineer Jenny Miller said the work includes a three lane road, a roundabout and a widening of Concord Road. "Right of way and land acquisition will be happening this year. We should be bidding in December for construction at the first of 2011," said Miller. Miller said the project is a two year construction season job. She said it could be done by 2012, weather permitting. http://www.wfla.com/dpp/on_the_money/changes-planned-for-roads-near-mall

Carmel opens 116th Street overpass

The Indianapolis Star

Chris Sikich

1/19/10

Carmel has opened the 116th Street overpass over Keystone Parkway to traffic. Construction on Keystone began in 2008 and intersections with 106th, 116th, 126th and 136th streets are now open. Keystone opened under 116th Street last week. Pedestrian movements at the interchange will not be permitted at this time as the remainder of the multi-use paths and sidewalk on the bridge are still awaiting construction, according to a news release. <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20101190386>

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