



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

January 22, 2010

Salem-Noble project moves forward
The News and Tribune
Braden Lammers
1/22/10

Construction projects that came before the Clark County Commissioners at Thursday's meeting both pleased and befuddled the county executives. Representatives from the River Ridge Development Authority were on hand to give an update on the effort to install traffic lights and turn lanes at Salem-Noble Road and Ind. 62. According to River Ridge Engineer Marc Hildenbrand, the preliminary engineering plans have been completed and sent to the state for approval. The plan sent to the state includes closing three cross-over lanes in between the traffic signal at River Ridge Circle and the proposed signal at Salem-Noble Road along Ind. 62. http://www.newsandtribune.com/local/local_story_021225625.html

State has bucks for bridge, but not for larger plans
The NWI Times
Keith Benman
1/22/10

An INDOT chief assured nervous local officials Thursday the state has enough money to pay for a new bridge for Cline Avenue but not enough to fund more grandiose plans that have emerged. "We have X amount of dollars to put into a solution for traffic and that is traffic as you see it today," INDOT Chief of Staff Bob Zier said Thursday. Zier spoke via conference-call hookup Thursday morning to a meeting of the board of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, which is made up of local officials from 52 communities in Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties. In turn, the NIRPC board approved a draft memorandum of understanding that would form a Cline Avenue Coalition of local governments and business to "speak with one voice" on the road's reconstruction. Last week, Zier spent two days meeting with local casino managers, steel company and BP executives and mayors. He wanted to find out about problems they face now and what should be done with Cline Avenue in the long term. The elevated lanes of Cline Avenue long have been seen as an obstacle to U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky's Marquette Greenway Plan for increasing public access to Lake Michigan. But neither local officials nor Zier would broach much about what other plans have emerged for Cline in the more than three weeks since INDOT announced it would permanently close the bridge. http://nwitimes.com/news/local/lake/article_3fb0c7fd-6b6b-5809-ba1b-8ad474324e2e.html

Construction under way
Workers begin excavation work for Hoosier Heartland Corridor

Pharos-Tribune
Kevin Lilly
1/21/10

CLYMERS — Construction for the Hoosier Heartland Corridor is under way around Clymers. Motorists have likely noticed concrete barriers going up and heavy equipment moving earth in an area along Ind. 25 between county roads 500 South and 325 West. The \$17.75 million project, which was awarded to Walsh Construction out of Chicago, began earlier than other portions of the Heartland in Cass County because of soil type. “What this project is doing is building the road base for the new Ind. 25,” said Joshua Bingham, a communications specialist with the Indiana Department of Transportation. That road base will be 20 to 30 feet higher than the current level of Ind. 25. Along with excavation work, Walsh Construction will build a bridge over the Winamac & Southern Railroad spur and 400 West, and another one over the Norfolk & Southern Railroad spur to the east of 400 West. Completion of the project is set for April 30, 2011, which will allow for a settling period of two to three months before pavement is applied. The paving contract for this section of roadway is tentatively scheduled to be awarded this spring, with an estimated completion date in the summer of 2012.

http://www.pharostribune.com/local/local_story_021215837.html

25th Avenue closure will last for 5 months
Post-Tribune
Michael Gonzalez
1/22/10

GARY -- The Board of Public Works on Thursday announced a five-month closure of a stretch of 25th Avenue due to sewer and storm water work beginning next month. The board also approved contracts for road construction inspectors for projects funded by last year's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the federal economic stimulus plan. Rex Construction was already scheduled to close 25th Avenue from Fairbanks Street west to Sherman Street for one week to relocate sewer mains. Another company, Garner Services, received approval for the five-month closure for the same stretch from Feb. 2 to July 17 to install storm water interceptors. <http://www.post-trib.com/news/lake/2004988,groads0122.article>

Carmel will extend coordinator's contract
The Indianapolis Star
1/22/10

Carmel -- Officials in Carmel will extend the contract for the coordinator of the Keystone Parkway construction project through October for \$173,000. The money will come from funds already marked for Keystone. The city is paying for the \$112 million project with \$90 million in state funds, an \$11 million bond and interest. The city has contracted with Indianapolis-based American Structurepoint for millions of dollars for professional services such as technical expertise and negotiating for rights of way. City Engineer Mike McBride estimates the funding for the project coordinator would have run out by the end of the month without the additional money. The City Council raised no objections Tuesday to extending the contract. Construction on Keystone began in 2008, and intersections with 106th, 116th, 126th and 136th streets are open. Construction has not yet begun at the last two intersections in the project, Carmel Drive and 131st Street.

<http://www.indystar.com/article/20100122/LOCAL0101/1220361/1001/news>

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