



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

February 18, 2010

County will replace 5 bridges
Zionsville Times Sentinel
2/17/10

Five rural Boone County bridges will be replaced next year, including two at the same intersection. The county council Tuesday, Feb. 9, approved spending up to \$950,000 for engineering studies of the bridges. Money for the design, and for the construction, comes from the county's cumulative bridge fund. Tom Kouns, county highway superintendent, said all but one of the bridges are "skewed" — at an angle to the stream they cross — which means more money must be budgeted for their design. Engineering expenses for the skewed bridges will be no more than \$200,000 each. Two bridges that cross Big Eagle Creek in Big Springs are about 50 yards apart but on separate roads, Kouns said. Bridge 62 is on the west side of County Road 500 North and CR 1100 E; bridge 58 is on the north side of that intersection. "It makes sense that, if we replace bridge 62, we do bridge 58 during the same construction season," Kouns said.

http://www.timesentinel.com/local/local_story_048101903.html

Lebanon receives \$2.2 million for gateway project
Zionsville Times Sentinel
Rod Rose
2/17/10

A \$2.2 million grant will help Lebanon improve Indianapolis Avenue from the Boone County Fairgrounds to Hendricks Drive. Indianapolis Avenue's renovation will be based on the Lebanon Gateway & Corridor Master Plan, a program to renovate the city's major highway entrances. Mayor Huck Lewis said the grant was confirmed Jan. 29. The funds can be used for design, construction or "really, anything," to improve the appearance and design of Indianapolis Avenue, Lewis said. Lebanon's funding is among \$198 million in federal stimulus money distributed by the Indiana Department of Transportation to 14 Metropolitan Planning Organizations. Also known as MPOs, the groups help local governments coordinate road, rail and other transportation improvements. Boone County belongs to the Indianapolis MPO. It will likely be six months before a design for the project is ready, Lewis said. Lebanon hired American Structure Point, an Indianapolis-based architecture firm, to draft plans for the project. The gateway master plan included a concept for a roundabout that would combine Indianapolis Avenue's intersections with Walnut Street and Spencer Avenue. The project is not guaranteed, however.

http://www.timesentinel.com/local/local_story_048101809.html

Indy residents get say on transit plan
First public hearing gives folks a chance to comment on plan
The Indianapolis Star
Vic Ryckaert
2/17/10

More than 100 people came to a Near-Eastside church Tuesday night for the first public hearing on a \$10 billion plan to bring commuter trains and better bus service to Central Indiana. A group of business and city leaders called Indy Connect held the meeting at Englewood Christian Church to gather public comments on what it calls the "first draft" of a mass-transit plan that eventually could see trains running from Greenwood to Fishers. Indianapolis is the nation's 14th-largest city, but its public transportation system ranks 100th. IndyGo riders have limited route options and typically wait 30 minutes or more for a bus. <http://www.indystar.com/article/20100217/LOCAL18/2170380/Indy-residents-get-say-on-10B-transit-plan?GID=YBq4//iilLXjeC+ZsLyOczAq7BAZW2N5HgSaipy4yU8%3D>

Road construction dates set
WLFJ
Tiffanie Dismore
2/18/10

Construction on Yeager Road and Concord Road up to Maple Point will begin in 2011. The Technical Transportation Committee prioritized project requests for 2011 through 2015 with federal funds. The construction phase for both Yeager Road and Concord Road will be the first two projects to begin in 2011. Engineering work will start on South 18th Street and so will engineering work on South 9th Street. Engineering work on North Street in Battle Ground has also been planned to take place in 2011. Construction on the Cumberland Road Extension will start in 2012 along with engineering work on phase one of Soldiers Home Road. Construction work on Happy Hollow Road is set to begin in 2013. <http://www.wfji.com/dpp/news/local/road-construction-dates-set>

City passes consulting contracts for road projects
WFIE
Nathan Ryder
2/17/10

Vanderburgh County commissioners took a vote on some big county road projects at Tuesday night's meeting, but it wasn't without a disagreement. One of the projects up for discussion was a study on whether or not a new interchange should be built on I-164 at Millersburg Road. More potential road projects in Vanderburgh County mean more money for consultants. Tuesday night, the commissioners were set to vote on awarding more than \$1 million in consulting contracts on future projects, but lone Republican Lloyd Winnecke had a problem with that. <http://www.wfie.com/Global/story.asp?S=11995729>

U.S. 30 will become much safer highway
Post-Tribune
2/17/10

More than three years ago, the Post-Tribune reported that Merrillville Town Councilman Joseph Shudick was working relentlessly to get the state to remove eight crossovers on U.S. 30 between Broadway and Taft Street -- a stretch of about a mile and a half. We applauded Shudick for his efforts and joined with him to urge the Indiana Department of Transportation to act quickly on what had become a death trap. Perhaps in the eyes of

some units of government, bringing a project to the point of construction in three years is acting quickly. Regardless, ground was broken last week. <http://www.post-trib.com/news/opinion/2051461,edit-traffic-02xx.article>

Bridge project gets \$20M minimum
Madison Courier
Sara Denhart
2/17/10

The Madison-Milton bridge replacement will receive \$20 million of the \$95 million that Kentucky and Indiana had requested in federal stimulus funds. "Obviously, we'd like to have the full amount," Madison Mayor Tim Armstrong said. "As long as I'm in office and working with Judge-Executive Randy Stevens in Kentucky, we will continue to push forward and make sure this project is completed. ... It's important not only for the infrastructure, but to our whole community to sustain what we have and for growth in the future." Armstrong said that getting some money "is a positive step" because it is the first time the bridge replacement has received federal money. Stevens, the judge-executive in Trimble County, said this morning that he was told by state officials that Kentucky and Indiana would not have received the federal funding without a clear path on how to fund the project with the shortfall.

<http://madisoncourier.com/main.asp?SectionID=178&SubSectionID=287&ArticleID=55383>
Also, <http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/newsitem.asp?ID=40189>

Massive intersection project includes demolition of 45 houses
South Bend Tribune
Margaret Fosmoe
2/17/10

SOUTH BEND — The complicated Five Points intersection on the city's northeast side would vanish as part of a \$10.5 million plan to widen Indiana 23 and improve traffic flow. The long-awaited state plan to improve Indiana 23 near the University of Notre Dame would make the roadway four lanes, separated by a landscaped median, with left turn lanes at the side street openings. The Indiana Department of Transportation plan would require the purchase of 35 occupied residences, 10 vacant or abandoned houses, and the vacant former Frankie's Barbeque restaurant. Most of the houses that would be demolished are on the south side of Indiana 23.

<http://www.southbendtribune.com/article/20100217/News01/100219467/-1/googleNews>
Also, <http://www.fox28.com/global/story.asp?s=12003859>
Also, <http://www.southbendtribune.com/article/20100218/News01/2180311/-1/XML>

Engineers plan 4 lanes for widened State Blvd. stretch
The News-Sentinel
Bob Caylor
2/18/10

Engineers are designing the four-lane reconstruction of State Boulevard, but no drawings showing the precise details of the work have been done yet. Traffic Engineer Shan Gunawardena said the project will entail widening State between Cass and Clinton streets. That stretch of the street, now two lanes, will become four traffic lanes, with a turn lane or landscaped median between the eastbound and westbound lanes of State. As part of the project, the sharp curve in that stretch will be smoothed during the construction. Gunawardena said the widening has been on the city's long-term wish list of road construction since the 1980s. Now, traffic there is greater than many residents realize. The

engineer said 14,000 to 20,000 vehicles travel State between Cass and Clinton daily. By comparison, State between Clinton and Spy Run Avenue carries about 21,000 cars a day.
<http://www.news-sentinel.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/SE/20100218/NEWS/2180315>

Construction continues as Noblesville expands

The Indianapolis Star

Melanie Hayes

2/18/10

Noblesville has come a long way from 1966, the year Mayor John Ditslear moved to the city. "It was a rural community of 7,500," he recalls, chuckling. How times have changed. The 2000 census marked the city's population at 28,800. Ditslear said the current estimate is 51,000 to 52,000. To keep up with the growing community, Noblesville has added and rebuilt roads and intersections to accommodate heavy traffic. The city's engineering department is running on a budget of \$1,937,830, a decrease of 23 percent from 2009's budget of \$2,523,767, said city Clerk-Treasurer Janet Jaros. Still, the department has big plans this year, including road improvements and extensions, adding traffic lights and roundabouts and building trails.

<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20102180364>

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