



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

February 4, 2010

Bids to rehab Ironwood Drive Bridge in South Bend come in high
South Bend Tribune
Erin Blasko
2/2/10

SOUTH BEND — County commissioners today unsealed bids to rehabilitate the Ironwood Drive Bridge, and it appears the project could cost more than anticipated. Anlaan Corp., of Ferrysburg, Mich., submitted the low bid of \$2,040,762, followed by Northern Indiana Construction Co., of Mishawaka, which bid \$2,105,453.50. Both bids exceeded the original estimate of \$1.5 million submitted by DLZ, which is overseeing the project. Mike Kummeth, DLZ Bridge Department manager, said his office would be preparing a "bid tabulation" comparing its estimate to both bids line by line, to identify possible mistakes or "abnormalities." Work on the bridge, which spans the St. Joseph River near Indiana University South Bend, is to address deterioration to the substructure, which last received attention in 1969, Kummeth said. The curbs will also receive attention.

<http://www.southbendtribune.com/article/20100202/News01/100209852/1130>

Also, <http://www.southbendtribune.com/article/20100203/News01/2030327/1011/News>

West Jackson bridge to be replaced next year
The Star Press
Seth Slabaugh
2/2/10

MUNCIE -- If you use the West Jackson Street bridge over the White River with any regularity, get ready for some lengthy delays - and a detour - next year. The sagging, rusty structure is expected to be closed during half of 2011 for a total replacement. Delaware County commissioners on Monday awarded a \$306,690 engineering contract for the project to Indianapolis-based American Structurepoint. Angela Moyer, administrator of the county's engineering department, said she would ask the engineers to design a decorative bridge railing and sidewalk like the one on the High Street bridge.

<http://www.thestarpress.com/article/20100202/NEWS01/2020302/1002/news01/West-Jackson-bridge-to-be-replaced-next-year>

High-speed rails could cut problems to the quick
The Exponent
Mike Raisor
2/2/10

Traveling across Indiana and Illinois is about to get much easier, especially for those without access to a car. Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the Obama Administration has approved \$8 billion in funding for a high-speed railway system. Illinois has received \$1.23 billion to construct a rail

system that will link Chicago to St. Louis, with trains traveling up to 110 mph. According to the Federal Railway Administration, this particular rail link will allow customers to reach their destination 30 percent faster compared to current rail service, and 10 percent faster than driving between the two cities. Eventually, the Midwest route will link Chicago to every major city within 400 miles. Railway development and improvement could not have come at a better time. This opportunity will create thousands of much-needed jobs. Indiana received \$71 million for an "Indiana Gateway" to improve the Amtrak system. This new project alone will create more than 700 jobs for Hoosiers.

http://www.purdueexponent.org/index.php/module/Section/section_id/5/?module=article&story_id=19705

AUTHORITY FIGURES: Members named to bridges board, funding questions dominate first meeting
The News and Tribune
Braden Lammers
2/3/10

Two proposed bridges, one redesign and more than 20 years is all that has stood between the Ohio River Bridges project and actual progress, until this week. The Louisville and Southern Indiana Bridges Authority, or the bi-state authority, met for the first time Tuesday afternoon to help determine a funding mechanism for a \$4.1 billion project that will build a downtown bridge and east-end bridge connecting Louisville and Clark County and would reconstruct Spaghetti Junction in the former. Gov. Mitch Daniels, R-Ind., Gov. Steve Beshear, D-Ky. and Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson, a Democrat, the appointing officials of the 14-member, bi-state panel, kicked off the meeting. http://www.news-tribune.net/local/local_story_033225337.html

Indiana rail association joins Austin in disappointment at rail funding
The Herald Bulletin
2/3/10

ANDERSON — The Indiana High Speed Rail Association, an advocate for the Midwest Regional Rail System, announced Sunday it is in agreement with state Rep. Terri Austin of Anderson, who on Friday expressed her disappointment with federal funding going toward a northern Indiana rail project. Austin, who represents parts of Madison and Hamilton counties, said she hoped the money would refocus Hoosiers on a rail system in central Indiana that eventually could reach Madison County. The Indiana High Speed Rail Association has been advocating since 1994 for a central Indiana passenger rail line that extends from Chicago to the Gary/Chicago International Airport, Lafayette and Indianapolis with branches to Cincinnati and Louisville, Ky.
http://www.theheraldbulletin.com/local/local_story_034075259.html

State exploring I-69 relief options
Fort Wayne Journal Gazette
Benjamin Lanka
2/3/10

By next month, northeast Fort Wayne commuters and residents should have a better idea of where and whether the state plans to construct a new interchange on Interstate 69. Dan Avery, director of the Northeast Indiana Regional Coordinating Council, a regional transportation planning agency, gave a presentation Tuesday on the options being examined to alleviate congestion at the Dupont Road interchange on Interstate 69. While the interchange is already congested, Avery said it will get worse after the expanded Parkview North Hospital campus opens in 2012.
<http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20100203/LOCAL/302039936/-1/LOCAL11>

Bridge grant decision due by Feb. 17
The Madison Courier

Sara Denhart
2/3/10

Feb. 17 is the deadline for the U.S. Department of Transportation to announce whether the Madison-Milton bridge project will receive a \$95 million grant to pay for most of the replacement cost. Applicants across the nation had been told that an announcement was expected in late January. The application form for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery grant program says Feb. 17 is the announcement deadline. Some TIGER grant applicants in Maine and New Hampshire had to reschedule their projects' public hearings after Feb. 17 because of the delay of the announcement. They, too, had been told that an announcement would be made by late January. If the Madison-Milton bridge replacement is funded, construction would begin this year, and the bridge would be closed to traffic in early 2011 for about a year. The plan is to remove the superstructure and build a new one on the existing piers, which would be made larger for the wider new bridge.

<http://madisoncourier.com/main.asp?SectionID=178&SubSectionID=286&ArticleID=55151>

Ardmore expansion picks up speed
Fort Wayne Journal Gazette
Benjamin Lanka
2/4/10

The long-awaited expansion of Ardmore Avenue is finally under way, at least procedurally. The Fort Wayne Board of Public Works on Wednesday approved the project to expand and upgrade the road from Jefferson Boulevard to Taylor Street. With the approval, the city will open bids for the work Feb. 24, and construction will begin this spring. The project, originally estimated to cost \$5.5 million, is expected to be done by Oct. 30. <http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20100204/LOCAL/302049947/-1/LOCAL11>

Feds approve new section of I-69 extension
The Indianapolis Star
2/4/10

Work on another section of the I-69 extension between Indianapolis and Evansville is expected to begin this spring now that the Federal Highway Administration has approved it, transportation officials said Wednesday. The federal agency approved a 26-mile section beginning near U.S. 50 outside the city of Washington and ending at U.S. 231 near Crane Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center, in Greene County, said Indiana Department of Transportation spokeswoman Cher Goodwin.

<http://www.indystar.com/article/20100204/NEWS/2040464/1001/news>

www.buildindianacouncil.org