



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

February 9, 2010

3rd Section of I-69 Extension Earns Federal Approval
WIBC
Don Riley
2/4/10

The Federal Highway Administration has approved the construction of another section of the I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis project. The approval funnels federal funds into the design and construction of the 26-mile stretch known as Section 3. The section begins near Washington in Daviess County and runs into Greene County near the Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center. Bid letting starts next week for the first phase, construction of three county road overpasses. Cher Goodwin with the Vincennes district of INOT says construction on the roadway itself won't begin until around the Fourth of July. She says INDOT has a goal of opening the new sections of I-69 from just north of Evansville into southern Greene County by the end of 2012. <http://www.wibc.com/news/Story.aspx?ID=1192761>
Also, <http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/newsitem.asp?ID=39977>

Plans for road extension, more stimulus funds
The Corydon Democrat
2/4/10

Harrison County Engineer Kevin Russel informed the county's board of commissioners Monday morning that he received construction plans for the Federal Drive extension project in north Corydon. Russel said he will meet with Jason Copperwaite, of Paul Primavera and Associates Engineers, to develop contract specifications. Russel said the project is something he has been working on with economic development to move forward. The extension could potentially connect Pacer Way and Federal Drive behind the Walmart Supercenter. Russel also discussed the "Jobs Bill for Main Street Act of 2010," which was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives. He said the legislation may provide funding for a second round of stimulus money for highway and infrastructure work in the same amount as the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act" in 2009.
<http://www.corydondemocrat.com/Blog-4163.114125-4346.114125> [Plans for road extension more stimulus funds.html](http://www.corydondemocrat.com/Blog-4163.114125-4346.114125)
Also, <http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20100207/EDIT09/302079957/1147/EDIT07>

Costs, design questions remain on Eastern Boulevard project
The News and Tribune
David Mann
2/4/10

Even as it enters its second year, Clarksville officials are still debating the costs and scope of the Eastern Boulevard resurfacing project. Thursday night the Clarksville Redevelopment Commission — the primary agency behind the project — approved a \$15,000 change order to rehabilitate the entrance of Clarksville Flowers and Gifts, eliminating a problem wherein vehicles back directly out of parking spaces onto the busy thoroughfare. It also approved the use of \$3,000 to design a solution to similar parking problems in front of neighboring properties, including Resch's Tavern, Asylum Extreme, Neely Chiropractic and what's known as the Minshall property nearby. The contractor, Mac Construction, is already asking for more money because of delays, said Jorge Lanz, engineer with the firm Jacobi, Toombs and Lanz. It's wanting about \$200,000 above the \$4 million it's currently being paid, Lanz said. The proposed changes might be so time consuming that the portion of the project in question may have to be deleted, and broken out into a separate job, so as not to incur more costs. The project, the only resurfacing Eastern Boulevard has had in about 20 years, began in August of 2008. The plan is to widen and modernize the road, add a turning lane, sidewalks, lighting and landscaping. It was supposed to be complete in November 2009, but has been delayed by the relocation of water and gas utilities and by a handful of weather problems, officials have said.

http://www.newsandtribune.com/clarkcounty/local_story_035225730.html?keyword=topstory

Bridge work OK'd
The Seymour Tribune
Aubrey Woods
2/5/10

BROWNSTOWN — Work should start this spring on rehabilitating the nation's longest covered bridge. That's a result of the awarding of a nearly \$1 million contract Jan. 27 by the Indiana Department of Transportation to CLR Construction and Transportation Inc., Vincennes, for repairs to the Medora Covered Bridge. County highway superintendent Warren Martin told Jackson County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday that CLR submitted a bid of \$989,403.65, by far the lowest submitted for the federal project that will be funded with so-called stimulus money. Other bids ranged from \$1.4 million to \$1.6 million.

<http://www.tribtown.com/news/tribtown-19928-awoods-mailto.html>

Questions and answers on Ohio's passenger train
Fort Wayne Journal Gazette
2/7/10

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The state is to get \$400 million in federal stimulus money to restore passenger train service among its major cities, part of a plan to build a national high-speed rail network. Ohio's project calls for a startup, 79-mph service connecting Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton and Cincinnati beginning in 2012. Is that fast enough? Who will ride it?

<http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20100207/NEWS11/100209631/1006/NEWS>

Work on local section of I-69 to begin in April
Greene County Daily World
Nick Schneider
2/5/10

Driving on the newly constructed Interstate 69 in parts of Greene County took an acceleration forward -- becoming closer to reality on Wednesday with a major announcement by officials with the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The Federal Highway Administration has issued a Tier 2 Record of Decision (ROD) for Section 3 of the I-69 Evansville to Indianapolis project.

Section 3 begins just north of U.S. 50 east of Washington and runs through Daviess County into Greene County to U.S. 231 near the NSA Crane Center. Construction is set to begin in April, according to INDOT officials. <http://gcdailyworld.com/story/1608766.html>

LaGrange, Kosciusko counties may revert to gravel roads in face of rocky revenue
WSBT
2/7/10

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (AP) — Rising gas prices that prompted motorists to buy fuel-efficient cars and take shorter trips have cut state gas-tax revenue, forcing several counties to consider whether they will have to revert to gravel roads in some areas. State gas-tax revenue plummeted last year to the lowest levels since 2003. Indiana had \$539 million to distribute for the fiscal year that ended in July, compared with \$564 million in 2003. <http://www.wsbt.com/news/local/83748867.html>

Miles may count in future gas tax
Fort Wayne Journal Gazette
Ashley Hasley
2/7/10

Within a few years, a driver who pulls up to the gas pump might pay two bills with a single swipe of the credit card: one for the gas and the other for each mile driven since the last fill-up. That might be the result of what many transportation experts see as an inevitable revolution in the way Americans pay for their highways. The flow of the gas-tax pipeline that has poured cash into one of the world's premier highway systems has slowed as some people drive less and others choose more fuel-efficient vehicles. Maintaining that aging network and tackling the rush-hour congestion afflicting most cities will require billions of dollars. <http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20100207/NEWS03/302079916/1066/NEWS03>
Also, <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20102070390>

Millions in stimulus could come to area
WLF1
Aaron Leedy
2/8/10

Tippecanoe County has the possibility of receiving millions of dollars in funding through the Jobs for Main Street Act, currently in Congress. Area Plan Commission Executive Director Sallie Fahey said the passage of the bill would require the Indiana State Department of Transportation to work more rapidly. "The biggest change for us locally is that not only will projects under this bill would have to move forward at a pretty quick pace, but they will actually have to be under contract, which means the contractors will have to be selected through the INDOT bidding process and be ready for construction. That's a very quick turn around," said Fahey. Fahey said if the money is not spent in 90 days, it would go back into a national fund for redistribution. http://www.wlfi.com/dpp/on_the_money/millions-in-stimulus-could-come-to-area

Commissioners prepare for I-69 impact
The Washington Times-Herald
Emilee Shake
2/8/10

The Daviess County Commissioners held a portion of their Monday meeting at the Daviess

County Highway Department Garage where they discussed plans for the Interstate 69 project. “They’re building overpasses ahead of actually building the interstate,” said Phil Cornelius, county foreman. The commissioners along with Cornelius and County Highway Superintendent Larry McLin discussed routes for contractors working on the interstate. County roads 700E, between 1650N and 1700N, and 1200N, between 575E and 500E, were decided upon for the overpass bridges for which the bids will be out on Wednesday. The speed on those bridges was set at 30 miles per hour by the commissioners. Other overpass bridges speeds are still in negotiation. Select, highly-trafficked roads with overpasses will be set for 55 mph. http://www.washtimesherald.com/local/local_story_039182650.html

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