



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

March 4, 2010

I-69 extension comes with cost
WTHR
Jeremy Brilliant
3/2/10

Indianapolis - Construction is set to begin next month on another section of I-69 in southern Indiana. The highway is eventually supposed to connect Indianapolis with Evansville. There are still questions about how the project will be funded and the exact price tag, but transportation officials say 90 percent of it will be paid for with federal funds. But there is a human price too. Greg Stuckey's 100-year-old farmhouse in rural Daviess will soon be bulldozed. I-69 is already a fact further south in Warrick and Gibson Counties. Eventually, the highway is supposed to connect Evansville with Indianapolis. "There's a sense of isolation all the way down here in southwestern Indiana", said Evansville Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel, a Democrat. "We're about as far away as you can get from Indianapolis and still remain in the state." The highway is supposed to change that, cutting the commute by 13 to 27 minutes. But even in a best case scenario, the trip will still take at least two and a half hours. <http://www.wthr.com/Global/story.asp?S=12070760>

Illiana headed to governor's desk
The NWI Times
Dan Carden
3/3/10

INDIANAPOLIS | The Illiana Expressway bill is one signature away from becoming law after the Indiana Senate voted 42-0 on Tuesday to send Republican Gov. Mitch Daniels legislation authorizing the proposed toll road to be built as a public-private partnership. Daniels told The Times he will sign it. "It's no guarantee that we can effect the transaction and get the road built, but it clears the way," Daniels said. "I'm very excited. This is exactly what we've been advocating a long time." Standing before the Senate on Tuesday afternoon, state Sen. Ed Charbonneau, R-Valparaiso, explained that the \$1 billion Illiana proposal that left the Republican-controlled Senate in January came back from the Democratic-controlled House as a \$5 billion infrastructure program, including a potential \$4 billion private investment for Ohio River bridges. He urged the Senate to accept the changes made by the House. http://nwitimes.com/news/local/lake/article_4b89c5e9-a39d-560e-a877-1ef45d1a07e4.html
Also, <http://www.post-trib.com/news/2079749,new-illiana0303.article>

Construction planned for Ardmore Avenue
Widening section from two to four lanes

WANE
Drew Blair
3/2/10

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (WANE) - Fort Wayne City Engineers wait for the green light from City Council to begin construction along Ardmore Avenue between Jefferson Boulevard and Taylor Street. City Engineer David Ross said the construction is necessary to make that street accessible to truck traffic. The City plans to widen the section of road from two to four lanes, add a tree-lined median, a sound barrier wall and reroute neighborhood access. People living along Ardmore Avenue view the construction as a necessary evil. Nancy McCammon-Hansen has lived in Wildwood Park for four years. She said she understands why construction has to happen but that she is not happy with the destruction of her neighborhood's look and feel. <http://www.wane.com/dpp/news/wane-fort-wayne-construction-planned-for-ardmore-avenue>

Potential I-69 Exit Update
Indiana's News Center
Laura Donaldson
3/2/10

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (Indiana's NewsCenter) - Indiana Department of Transportation officials are taking the next step in creating a new exit off of I-69. INDOT officials are considering adding an exit north of Dupont Road where Union Chapel and I-69 meet. But there's a neighborhood in that area now. The issue went before the Urban Transportation Advisory Board and the Northern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council Tuesday. INDOT officials say they've always known an additional exit between the 14-mile stretch of Dupont Road and Auburn would need an additional exit because of the area's growth. That growth includes the Autumn Ridge housing area and Autumn Ridge Golf Club where several residents are concerned about losing their homes and perhaps a portion of the golf course in favor of this project. <http://www.indianasnewscenter.com/news/local/86020507.html>
Also, <http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20100303/LOCAL/303039933/1002/LOCAL>

Commissioners take two more weeks to look at 7th Road corridor project
The Pilot News
Rusty Nixon
3/2/10

The Marshall County Commissioners will have a decision to make in the next two weeks. The question is whether or not to go ahead and sign a project coordination contract with the Indiana Department of Transportation on the 7th Road interchange project that will eventually connect 7th Road from the new U.S. 31 to Pioneer Drive. The project will eventually run at a price tag around \$14 million of which the county has \$2.3 million on hand. <http://www.thepilotnews.com/content/view/152409/27/>

Paving the way for paving
The NWI Times
Melanie Csepiga
3/3/10

CEDAR LAKE | The Town Council is paving the way for more road projects, just in time for the spring construction season. On Tuesday, the council took a step toward the second phase of work on West 133rd Avenue, made plans for Parrish Avenue resurfacing and awarded the bid for paving projects on a number of town streets. First out the gate may be

the West 133rd continuation to U.S. 41. The council agreed to have the scoring results of prospective engineering firms forwarded to the Indiana Department of Transportation. <http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/lake/52e8bb9b-dcdc-537d-9094-5f0674cde0f3.html>

Bridge work will close U.S. 52 next week
Journal & Courier
Dorothy Schneider
3/4/10

John Faulkner spent about 15 minutes parked on U.S. 52 Wednesday morning on his way to Colfax. The Lafayette resident was one of many drivers delayed by the trains stopped on the Norfolk Southern Railroad crossing as they were processed in the rail yard near U.S. 52. That's what the Indiana Department of Transportation has planned. In fact, a portion of U.S. 52 around the tracks will close as early as next week for construction, which is expected to last until mid-November. Two bridges, one northbound and one southbound, will be built over the Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks. The \$5.4 million project is being paid for with federal stimulus dollars. <http://www.jconline.com/article/20100304/NEWS/3040329>

U.S. 20 Bypass to expand in Elkhart County
WNDU
Mark Peterson
3/3/10

The State of Indiana announced plans on Wednesday to extend 'the end' of the U.S. 20 Bypass in Elkhart County. The four-lane divided highway now disappears at State Road 17. A project to widen and improve a three mile stretch of U.S. 20 to the east will essentially extend the bypass to State Road 15 (south of Bristol, and North of Goshen). "The letting date, the projected letting date for this is October of 2012," said INDOT Deputy Commissioner Robert Alderman. "It should be a one year's construction project—total construction." In other words, the work should be finished sometime in 2013. <http://www.wndu.com/hometop/headlines/86278997.html>
Also, <http://www.southbendtribune.com/article/20100304/News01/3040317/-1/XML>

I-465 express lane reset for Monday start
The Indianapolis Star
Kevin O'Neal
3/4/10

People using the interstates in the Castleton area on the Northeastside should watch for work crews this weekend and be ready for new express lane patterns next week. The Indiana Department of Transportation will change lane patterns on I-465 and I-69, to get ready for a construction project that will widen the interstates over the next few years. The change goes into effect Monday, and highway crews will spend the weekend getting the road ready for the change. Over the weekend, highway crews will restripe I-465. The resulting lanes will be narrower than the lanes that drivers have been accustomed to the using, and the changes will include a temporary eastbound express lane on I-465 from Meridian Street to Allisonville Road. <http://www.indystar.com/article/20100304/LOCAL1802/3040465/1001/NEWS>

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