



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

June 3, 2010

Strike may snarl road construction
The NWI Times
Bowdeya Tweh
6/2/10

A group of Ironworkers Local 395 members went on strike Tuesday after a contract with more than 100 commercial and industrial contractors expired a day earlier. Mike Summers, business manager for the Portage-based local, said a one-year contract representing about 500 workers in the craft expired Monday without another deal in place. A strike authorization vote was held two weeks ago for employees on project sites including the Indiana Toll Road and Interstate 80/94, Summers said.

http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/lake/article_099b92cc-872f-529a-af73-d9bad5f1a07b.html

Milling project restricts US 33 south of US 20 Bypass
Fox 28
Brian Holzgraefe
6/1/10

US 33 between the US 20 bypass and CR 20 is now restricted as workers continue milling the pavement then paving the road, according to an Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) announcement. Funding for this project is through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The contract was awarded to Brooks Construction, based on the company's low bid of \$10 million. While completion for this particular restriction is the end of the week, the total project is not scheduled to be complete until October, 2010.

<http://www.fox28.com/Global/story.asp?S=12573721>

Downstate U.S. 31 work expected to take 7 years
South Bend Tribune
6/1/10

Some who live near the heavily traveled section of U.S. Highway 31 north of Indianapolis say they're glad a long-planned reconstruction is on its way, even though planners expect it will take seven years to complete. Work is to start next year on upgrading the highway through Carmel and Westfield to interstate standards in phases through 2017 — a key part of a \$1.2 billion reconstruction project between Indianapolis and South Bend. State highway officials presented project details in Carmel last week. Plans for the 13-mile section north from Interstate 465 include eliminating numerous traffic signals as 10 street crossings will be converted into interchanges and five crossings will be turned into overpasses or underpasses.

<http://www.southbendtribune.com/article/20100601/News01/6010372/-1/googleNews>

Road upgrade kicks off improvements in Lafayette Square area
Indianapolis Business Journal
Tom Harton
6/1/10

A \$20 million improvement of West 38th Street between Guion and High School roads that is set to begin next month is the first in a series of initiatives that stakeholders hope will revive the real estate fortunes of the area anchored by Lafayette Square Mall. The road project, 80 percent of which is to be federally funded, will be finished in the fall of 2011. It includes resurfacing the thoroughfare, improved pedestrian crosswalks and adding a landscaped median, all of which is consistent with the goals of the newly adopted Lafayette Square Area Plan. The plan, developed for the Lafayette Square Area Coalition by locally based firm R.W. Armstrong, was adopted by the coalition May 18. It calls for rebranding the area the International Marketplace to capitalize on an influx of independent, ethnic businesses in recent years. <http://www.ibj.com/road-upgrade-kicks-off-improvements-in-lafayette-square-area/PARAMS/article/20243>

State shakes off driving decline
The Indianapolis Star
Jeff Swiatek
6/2/10

If you've noticed less traffic on the roads, you're not imagining it. Hoosiers are driving less. Traffic last year in Indiana was down 5.5 percent since 2004, or about 4 billion fewer miles traveled by cars, trucks, buses and other vehicles on all of the state's 94,000 public streets, highways and interstates. The driving drop is greater in Indiana than nationally, where miles driven last year were down just 1 percent since 2004. The traffic data, gleaned from traffic counts taken at more than 4,000 spots across the country by the Federal Highway Administration, reflects the state's and the nation's recession-weakened economic pulse. Fewer miles driven is one result of the layoffs, business closings and wage cuts that have spread since the recession hit in late 2007, causing people to drive less and truckers to haul less freight. Rising gas prices during the past several years have discouraged travel as well. <http://www.indystar.com/article/20100602/BUSINESS/6020341/1003/BUSINESS>

I-465 overpass reopens on Far Northside
The Indianapolis Star
Gretchen Becker
6/2/10

Construction on a major Far Northside road project is ahead of schedule, but more work lies ahead. Indiana Department of Transportation contractors opened the new North River Road and Westfield Boulevard overpass at I-465 Friday, said Will Wingfield, INDOT spokesman. The opening was ahead of the original schedule, but construction is not complete. Workers tore down and rebuilt the overpasses as part of the interstate upgrades on I-465 and I-69. "The new bridge allows more lanes of a revitalized I-465 to travel below," Wingfield said in a release. The reconstruction of these two bridges is part of the \$72.8 million Major Moves contract, Wingfield said. Milestone Contractors of Columbus is widening and rebuilding about four miles of I-465, including six bridges. <http://www.indystar.com/article/20100602/LOCAL1802/6020403/1001/NEWS>
Also, <http://www.munciefreepress.com/node/21996>

Finishing roundabout will take 2 months
The Indianapolis Star
6/2/10

Work should be finished in about two months on a roundabout intended to smooth traffic in front of the Walmart shopping center along Ind. 37. The \$400,000 project began this week at the busy intersection of Clover Road and Town & Country Boulevard. Engineer John Beery expects lane restrictions throughout the project but anticipates few closures. The roundabout will be similar to one being built in front of Lowe's Home Improvement directly across Ind. 37. However, the new roundabout will have only one lane throughout and a right-hand turn lane for traffic heading west on Town & Country Boulevard and turning north on Clover Road toward the Walmart parking lot.

<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20106020372>

Greenfield intersection closed until Aug. 2
The Indianapolis Star
Melanie Hayes
6/2/10

The intersection of Franklin Street and West McKenzie Road was closed on Tuesday to traffic and will remain closed until Aug. 2. The city hired E&B Paving to turn the four-way stop intersection into a roundabout, make the interchange safer and improve the flow of traffic, said Greenfield city engineer Mike Fruth. The city is paying the company \$780,500 for the work. A study on traffic volumes at that four-way stop intersection show that 1,189 vehicles drove the intersection in an hour during the morning rush hour, and 1,462 vehicles during an hour of the evening rush hour, Fruth said.

<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20106020405>

Also, <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20106030448>

Final phases of Daisy Lane road project may stretch through summer
Evening News and Tribune
Daniel Suddeath
6/2/10

Originally pegged for a 2010 completion, the Daisy Lane improvement project will likely extend into next summer. Officials cited scheduling conflicts with utility companies as the reason for the delay during a pre-construction meeting Tuesday. The final two phases of the effort are to include reconstruction of sidewalks, replacement of the bridge over Falling Run Creek and the widening of Daisy Lane. Duke Energy must shuffle overhead lines in the Daisy Lane area before other utility companies can begin revamping their infrastructure, according to John Rosenbarger, director of public facilities and projects for the city.

<http://newsandtribune.com/local/x1174317206/Final-phases-of-Daisy-Lane-road-project-may-stretch-through-summer-of>

Top headaches on Ind. 38 will likely wait until 2011
The Indianapolis Star
Chris Sikich
6/3/10

Although preliminary work has begun at the Ind. 38 and Little Chicago Road intersection, commuters likely won't have to worry about major roadwork and closures until 2011. That's when the state estimates Anderson-based E&B Paving will begin to raise the intersection

about 8 feet and add turning lanes along both roads. As part of the company's \$4 million contract with the state, a hill west of the intersection on the state highway also will be lowered. Will Wingfield, a spokesman for Indiana Department of Transportation, said the project will improve sight lines in all four directions, and the turning lanes will prevent traffic from backing up at the heavily traveled intersection. Wingfield said the timeline could change, but at this point he believes the intersection will remain open through the year. In 2011, the intersection could be closed about six months as the major work begins. The project should be finished by the end of that year.

<http://www.indystar.com/article/20100603/LOCAL0104/6030379/1015/LOCAL01/Major-headaches-on-Ind.-38-Little-Chicago-Road-project-will-likely-wait-until-2011>

Roundabout coming to major intersection in Johnson County

The Indianapolis Star

Diana Penner

6/3/10

Construction is scheduled to begin soon on Johnson County's first roundabout at a major existing intersection, and it is expected to be finished by Aug. 15 for the new school year. The \$691,000 roundabout is planned for the intersection of Fairview and Morgantown roads. Pleasant Grove Elementary School and Center Grove Middle School North are in the southwest quadrant of that intersection, and residential areas are in front of the other three quadrants. Federal funds will cover 80 percent of the cost, and the county is responsible for the rest. Johnson County is following a local and national trend toward circular intersections -- also known as rotaries -- which are long familiar to drivers in many European nations.

<http://www.indystar.com/article/20100603/LOCAL04/6030385/1023/LOCAL04/Roundabout-coming-to-major-intersection-in-Johnson-County>

Phase One Of Aboite Center Road Construction Delayed By Weather

Indiana's News Center

Scott Sarvay

6/3/10

Because we had so much rain last month, part of a major road construction project won't be complete on time. According to the Allen County spokesman, the first phase of the project won't be done until July ninth. It was supposed to be complete in about two weeks. The project will widen Aboite Center to four lanes, and add sidewalks and a multi-use path. The whole thing should be finished by mid-October.

<http://www.indianasnewscenter.com/news/local/95516604.html>

www.buildindianacouncil.org