



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

July 15, 2010

Engineers plan \$5.8M fix for WL road
Journal & Courier
Curt Snyder
7/14/10

If all goes as planned, a long-discussed Lindberg Road bridge over the Celery Bog in West Lafayette could be a reality by August 2011. That's a lot earlier than West Lafayette officials had originally planned. And it doesn't come a moment too soon for traffic planners and drivers on a road that continues to settle into the marsh. "It's to the point where if it's any worse, it's going to be considered unsafe," said Dave Buck, West Lafayette's city engineer. That, he said, would necessitate a temporary fix or potentially closing a portion of the road where asphalt gets wavier by the month. The West Lafayette Redevelopment Commission on Tuesday agreed to transfer \$560,000 from a local tax increment financing district to Tippecanoe County to pay for design work on the planned \$5.8 million bridge. Tuesday's meeting also marked the first public unveiling of the bridge's proposed design.
<http://www.jconline.com/article/20100714/NEWS/7140317/Engineers-plan-5-8M-fix-for-WL-road>

North-side I-69 projects a go
Fort Wayne Journal Gazette
Benjamin Lanka
7/14/10

The state plans to construct a new interchange at Interstate 69 and Union Chapel Road in two years, followed by a massive overhaul to the I-69 interchange with Dupont Road in 2013. The new multimillion-dollar interchange would require displacing about a half-dozen homes in an effort to alleviate traffic congestion in northeast Allen County. But the project must still pass several procedural approvals before it becomes reality. On Tuesday, the Urban Transportation Advisory Board, a local traffic planning group, approved adding the engineering and right-of-way acquisition to its traffic plan, but not the project's construction. Engineering and right-of-way are each estimated to cost \$2 million for the Union Chapel interchange, but construction estimates were not provided by the Indiana Department of Transportation. Parkview Health is contributing to the project's cost, as well as the cost of Union Chapel improvements at Auburn and Diebold roads.
<http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20100714/LOCAL/307149979/1002/LOCAL>
Also, <http://www.wane.com/dpp/news/local/new-i-69-ramps-planned-for-union-chapel>

City to take views on major road proposal
The Herald Bulletin

Dave Stafford
7/14/10

An ambitious long-term road project on the drawing board for years will be presented for public comment at a hearing on Thursday. The city proposes extending 67th Street from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard east to Columbus Avenue in phases that would cost more than \$20 million and take years to complete. "It opens up hundreds of acres on both sides of the road for development," Anderson Board of Public Works Chairman Greg Graham said Tuesday. The 67th Street project is designed as a three-lane frontage road parallel to Interstate 69 that would be capable of handling semitrailers while also serving as a major east-west thoroughfare across the south end of the city. Current plans include two traffic roundabouts — one at 67th and Ridgeview Road and a second at 67th and Madison Avenue. "Roundabouts have been shown to basically move traffic better than traffic signals," City Engineer Mike Spyers said. "Traffic slows down and goes through intersections instead of stopping." According to the proposal, the first phase of the project would rebuild and extend 67th Street about one mile east to Ridgeview. The second phase, from Ridgeview to Madison, would be built beginning in 2013. The final phase, from Madison to near Columbus Avenue, would be built in 2016.

<http://heraldbulletin.com/breakingnews/x829290915/City-to-take-views-on-major-road-proposal>

Riley Road ramp contracts awarded
The NWI Times
Keith Benman
7/13/10

The Indiana Department of Transportation has awarded the job of rehabilitating a westbound ramp from Riley Road to Cline Avenue, a major building block in the permanent bridge detour. Walsh Construction Co., of LaPorte, was the low bidder last week at \$2.22 million and this week was awarded the job, according to information posted at INDOT's website. Superior Construction Co., of Gary, was the only other bidder, with a bid of \$2.29 million. INDOT rejected bids from the same two companies submitted at an earlier bid opening on June 23. The state agency said the bids came in too high, with Superior Construction the apparent low bidder at \$2.23 million.

http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/lake/article_c0eaf7e0-31f3-540a-ab74-0fc628b49e18.html

Broad Street at 45th in Griffith to close
Post-Tribune
Chelsea Schneider Kirk
7/13/10

Broad Street in Griffith will close at the intersection of 45th Avenue for utility work beginning July 19, according to a release from the town's Public Works Department. Construction is scheduled to last about 21 days and will close the entire intersection to all through traffic. Businesses will remain open during the closure, according to the release. The detour is Colfax Street to the east, Kleinman Road and Wiggs Avenue to the west, Main Street to the south and Ridge Road to the north. Griffith Director of Public Works Rick Konopasek was unavailable for comment on Monday. Broad Street is also being reconstructed in two phases from Ridge to 45th and then Lake Street and Main Street through Griffith's downtown. <http://www.post-trib.com/news/lake/2490778,broad0713.article>

Toll Express Lanes Under Consideration for I-65, I-69

WIBC
Amber Stearns
7/14/10

Highway planners are considering a new method designed to lessen congestion on two major highways. Officials plan to study the feasibility of tolled express lanes on I-65 and I-69. Appearing on the WIBC Morning News Wednesday, City Planning spokesman Philip Roth says the concept would be to have additional lanes on the highways where people would travel at a price for a smoother, faster ride. Roth says the cost of the toll would vary dependent upon congestion with the idea people would be willing to pay more to avoid the congestion. Roth says I-65 south of downtown and I-69 north from I-465 are the general areas being considered. The plans for potential implementation would coincide with road construction slated for I-69 by 2018 and I-65 by the year 2020.

<http://www.wibc.com/news/Story.aspx?id=1252549>

Also, <http://www.indystar.com/article/20100714/LOCAL/7140339/Toll-lanes-proposed-to-ease-gridlock-on-I-69-I-65>

New I-69 Exit Gets Green Light
Indiana's News Center
Brian McElhatten
7/13/10

A plan aimed at reducing congestion on Dupont Road and Interstate 69 is moving forward. Engineers will soon begin designing a "diverging diamond" interchange to be built at I-69 and Dupont Road with another interchange planned for I-60 and Union Chapel Road. The interchanges are designed to reduce traffic congestion at the Dupont exit by giving vehicles another way by which to exit, but some residents in a nearby subdivision aren't happy. INDOT officials admit they may need to "relocate" four to six homes near the Union Chapel Road interchange. Further surveys will be conducted to determine how many properties will be effected. Construction on the \$2.35 million project is expected to begin in 2012, with final completion anticipated later that year.

<http://www.indianasnewscenter.com/news/local/New-I-69-Exit-Gets-Green-Light-98357864.html>

Also, <http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20100714/LOCAL/307149979/-1/LOCAL11>

Mishawaka eyes more work on Main
South Bend Tribune
Kim Kilbride
7/13/10

Along with widening the primary thoroughfare through town, the addition of new street lighting, sidewalks and tree lawns will all be part of the next phase of the city's Main Street improvement project. City officials hosted a meeting at Battell Center on Monday evening to discuss the project, which targets the area of Main Street from Mishawaka Avenue north to Battell Street. Gary West, director of engineering for the city, said Main will be widened to two travel lanes on each side. Plus, a center left-turn lane will be added. Additionally, he said, work such as replacing storm sewers will be done on Grove, Lawrence and Battell streets. This phase of the project will not require the acquisition of any property, West said. The work is slated to get under way within the next two weeks and will continue through Oct. 31. Then, it will resume next April or when the weather allows. Main Street will be closed for a total of 12 days during this phase. The project will permanently eliminate on-street parking on Main Street, West said.

<http://www.southbendtribune.com/article/20100713/News01/7130321/-1/googleNews>

Kirkwood & Madison to close for construction through August
The Bloomington Herald Times
Michael Malik
7/14/10

The intersection of Madison Street and Kirkwood Avenue near Bloomington's downtown will close today until about the end of August as construction crews continue to do streetscape work. The closure is part of a \$1.7 million three-phase project to improve Kirkwood Avenue's streetscape, storm water infrastructure and more. As part of this project, Kirkwood Avenue between College Avenue and Morton Street has been closed since May 10. Justin Wykoff, manager of engineering for the city, said that the College-to-Morton section may re-open by July 23 at the latest. "Possibly early next week that whole section will be open," Wykoff said. The entire project is about two weeks behind schedule, Wykoff said, because the city decided to use concrete instead of asphalt for the road. The third, and final, phase of the project on Kirkwood Avenue from Madison to Rogers streets will be closed from the end of August until Oct. 6. Final completion of the project, which includes 30 days for cleanup and other miscellaneous tasks, is set for Nov. 6.
[For more information, please call TRIAD at 1-800-288-7423.](#)

4 Zionsville roads to be repaved
The Indianapolis Star
Gretchen Becker
7/14/10

Zionsville residents may experience delays when four roads receive permanent repairs this month. Frequent freezing and thawing last winter and spring as well as heavy truck traffic caused damage to portions of Boone County roads 875 East, 500 South, 400 South and 800 East. The roads were temporarily repaired with gravel. The temporary gravel will be replaced with asphalt during the month of July.
<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20107140387>

Update on Margaret Avenue project
WTHI
Abby Walton
7/14/10

There are lots of construction projects going on around Terre Haute but one you've asked us about recently is the Margaret Avenue project. So on Wednesday, we spoke with Terre Haute Mayor Duke Bennett to get an update. When finished, the Margaret Avenue project will expand from 3rd Street all the way to 46. Already, Phase One of the New Margaret Avenue, out by the east side Wal-Mart, has been completed. And in June, Phase Three, an extension of the New Margaret Avenue was awarded to Plant Brothers. Construction on that phase should begin soon and will be funded with TIF money. The mayor says bidding for Phase Two of Margaret Avenue from 3rd to 7th will go out in November with construction starting in March. <http://www.wthitv.com/dpp/news/local/Update-on-margaret-avenue-project>

Fishers puts a priority on improving intersections this year
Turn lanes or traffic signals will be added at 4 intersections to ease traffic congestion
The Indianapolis Star
Carrie Ritchie
7/15/10

Fishers hopes a few changes at some of the town's intersections will have a big impact on traffic flow. In addition to the widening of 126th Street, Fishers is focusing its time and money this year on adding turn lanes or traffic signals at four busy intersections. The town is planning other intersection improvements, including several roundabouts, for next year. The town's engineering department identified a list of intersections that could use some improvements based on traffic congestion and safety, and at least four of those will get a face-lift this year. Right-turn lanes will be added on the northbound side of Allisonville Road at 106th Street and on the southbound side of Cumberland Road at 116th. Signals will be added at the intersection of 141st and Allisonville and Hague Road and Crosspoint Boulevard.

<http://www.indystar.com/article/20100715/LOCAL0102/7150397/1015/LOCAL01/Fishers-puts-a-priority-on-improving-intersections-this-year>

Mount Comfort razing paves way for wider road
The Indianapolis Star
Eric North
7/15/10

The recent demolition of a small office building in western Hancock County may have gone unnoticed by most passers-by. But for some, it was a center of activity in the community for generations. The building on the southwest corner of Mount Comfort Road -- also known as Hancock County Road 600 West -- and Station Way had stood for as long as most people could remember. It had served as the area's main grocery, butcher shop, government offices and a business hub at various times throughout the 20th century, but an upcoming project to widen Mount Comfort Road spelled its end in mid-June. "Our (project) is going to be a five-lane road," said County Engineer Joe Copeland. "We needed that space for the widening." The plan includes widening the road from two lanes to five lanes -- two in each direction with a middle left-turn lane -- stretching from I-70 north to the Hancock-Hamilton county line. (It also will include a roundabout at Mount Comfort Road and County Road 300 North -- also known as 38th Street in Indianapolis.)

<http://www.indystar.com/article/20100715/LOCAL07/7150334/1139/LOCAL07/Mount-Comfort-razing-paves-way-for-wider-road>

www.buildindianacouncil.org