



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

July 27, 2010

Record breaking road construction will slow traffic on race day
WTHR
7/22/10

With countless fans about to visit Indianapolis for this weekend's Brickyard 400, they will be shuffling around numerous cone zones. Transportation officials say what we're seeing is basically stimulus dollars at work as well as the 5th year of Major Moves, so we have in 2010 and through the next few years, record-breaking road construction, in excess of a billion dollars per year. In Indy alone, the Mayor Greg Ballard is devoting nearly twice as much to the city's capital improvements fund, to make more repairs than ever before. Part of it is stimulus money. The city of Indianapolis received \$24 million dollars of federal stimulus money in 2009 that they're using this year, pumping it into their capital improvements plan. That's on top of the \$88 million that's allocated every year for capital improvement projects. One of the biggest projects drivers are noticing now, is the 38th street rehabilitation project that runs from I-65 to I-465. "They are resurfacing all of that. They're rehabilitating the curbs and sidewalks and some bridges along that way too. So it's a \$4 million dollar," said Sarah Holsapple, Indianapolis Department of Public Works. The 38th street rehabilitation project is expected to last through the fall of 2011. The good news is, crews will be suspending all that road work for Race Day, opening all three lanes in both directions, as well as all turning lanes to alleviate any congestion. Also, the Accelerate I-465 Project, from I-70 up to Crawfordsville Road. INDOT says on Race Day they're going to try to pull back as many barrels and barricades as they can to open more lanes, but they say many of the closures and lane restrictions are unavoidable.

<http://www.wthr.com/Global/story.asp?S=12851240>

Star Hill now top priority?
Meeting recessed until Tuesday
Evening News and Tribune
Braden Lammers
7/23/10

Star Hill Road construction may again be the priority road project in Clark County. This comes as the Indiana Department of Transportation has threatened to remove the long-proposed road that would connect Ind. 60 just east of Borden to the tourist-friendly Starlight community from the county's project list. While St. John Road has been designated by the Clark County Commissioners as a higher priority project, the risk of losing their investment and more than \$9 million in federal funding is causing members to reevaluate their plans. Delaying the St. John Road project would not have an immediate adverse consequence. "When we met with INDOT they said delaying St. John Road another year it wouldn't kill it," said Greg Fifer, attorney for the commissioners. At least one of the

commissioners has been a consistent opponent of pushing back an existing road project to construct a new road. If the plan does not continue on Star Hill Road, the county stands to lose \$600,000 in investments already made and the \$9 million in federally allocated funds. <http://newsandtribune.com/local/x871675667/Star-Hill-now-top-priority>

5 Points to get roundabout
Post-Tribune
James Wolf Jr.
7/23/10

Roosevelt Road, Vale Park Road and Calumet Avenue each will be temporarily shut down when the city creates a roundabout, which concerns business owners near the "five-points intersection." About seven business owners showed up Thursday for a public hearing on the environmental study, and some had concerns about how shutting down the high-traffic roads will affect both drive-in business and supply truck traffic. Brady Bryan, who recently purchased and improved the property at 2504 Roosevelt for about \$500,000, said he decided to move Home Pro of Valparaiso there because of the more than 7,000 passing cars each day. "Now, in the worst economy in 20 years, it's going to screech to a halt," he said. "I'm nervous that this is going to take me out of business." Bill Baker of Urschel Properties was concerned about routes trucks could use from Indiana 49 reach businesses. Construction itself won't begin until fall 2011 at the earliest but possibly early 2012, said project manager Wing Lau of American Structurepoint Inc. of Indianapolis. <http://www.post-trib.com/news/porter/2526074,new-vroundabout0723.article>

Daniels criticized for lopping costs on I-69 extension
Indianapolis Business Journal
Chris O'Malley
7/24/10

Standing along a two-mile ribbon of fresh concrete, with 140 miles more of Interstate 69 to build, Gov. Mitch Daniels nevertheless appeared triumphant in May. The first stretch of the new road—from Evansville to Crane—would be finished by the end of 2012, three years ahead of schedule and on budget at \$700 million, Daniels proclaimed just north of Evansville. "The completion of the I-69 dream is nearer than anyone imagined," Daniels told downstaters who've long complained of being neglected by Indianapolis. The highway will mean "more jobs in Indiana, corner to corner." The controversial highway won't be exactly as everyone dreamed, however, raising questions whether Daniels is undermining the road's economic development potential. <http://www.ibj.com/daniels-criticized-for-lopping-costs-on-i69-extension/PARAMS/article/21228>

INDOT will resurface Ind. 44 East next week
Palladium-Item
7/24/10

The Indiana Department of Transportation will resurface Ind. 44 East next week. The highway is part of the state's detour for U.S. 27 South construction. U.S. 27 South is now closed from Stone Road to the north edge of West College Corner for a federal stimulus reconstruction project. If weather allows, crews from INDOT's Cambridge City Subdistrict will apply a "chip and seal" treatment to Ind. 44 East from Liberty to the Ohio state line, said Harry Maginity, INDOT spokesman. Chip-sealed pavement is an integral part of INDOT's Pavement Preservation Program, Maginity said. Studies show every \$1 spent on the maintenance plan saves \$10 in road repairs, with the application expected to last six years, he said. <http://www.pal-item.com/article/20100724/NEWS01/7240315>

Carmel businesses worry about U.S. 31 project

Some Carmel businesses are in neutral as they realize U.S. 31 Major Moves project isn't on the fast track

The Indianapolis Star

Chris Sikich

7/26/10

With one office building brimming with tenants along U.S. 31, CMC Properties was ready to put the shovels in the ground on two more. But those plans are on hold. There's growing frustration in Carmel about how long it will take a \$600 million Major Moves project to turn U.S. 31 -- one of the fastest-growing commercial corridors in the state -- into an interstate-quality, limited-access highway. Although construction will start elsewhere in Hamilton County next year, the majority of planning in Carmel hasn't been finalized. Construction could take years, with most of it expected in 2014 or later.

<http://www.indystar.com/article/20100726/LOCAL01/7260330/1001/NEWS>

New I-65 interchange in NW Indiana delayed

WTHR

7/25/10

Completion of a new interchange on Interstate 65 in northwestern Indiana has been delayed by weeks because of a Teamsters union strike that lasted for most of June. Work began last year on the new interchange near Crown Point between U.S. 30 and U.S. 231. It had been expected to open in August, but state highway department spokesman Jim Pinkerton says that the opening won't happen until at least mid-September. Pinkerton says that construction has progressed well other than the delay from the strike, which stalled work on several other highway projects in the area. Crown Point officials are hoping the \$8.2 million interchange for 109th Avenue will attract construction of retail stores, hotels and corporate buildings. <http://www.wthr.com/global/story.asp?s=12866529>

Construction to close busy intersection south of Frankfort

Journal & Courier

7/26/10

The road reconstruction project on Indiana 38/39 through Clinton County will close the intersection at Kelley Road starting Tuesday. Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc. will be reconstructing the intersection and the closure is expected to last for 45 days. The nearly \$10.4 million project will replace the pavement on Indiana 38/39 from Kelley Road to Farmers Gravel Road. The improvements to the roadway will add one 12-foot travel lane in each direction. The drainage will be improved with new curbs and gutters plus sidewalks will be added at various locations throughout the project. The project is slated for completion by Nov. 20, 2011.

<http://www.jconline.com/article/20100726/NEWS09/100726010/Construction-to-close-busy-intersection-south-of-Frankfort>

Navigating a roundabout

City of West Lafayette passes along information

WLFJ

Joe LePage

7/26/10

With construction on Cumberland Avenue running along smoothly, the City of West Lafayette is getting residents ready for a roundabout. City engineers realize residents have a lot of questions so they're passing along "how to" information. The added information is designed to get drivers ready for new-look signs and safety procedures, as well as let them know where other roundabouts are planned for the future. City engineers are referring to the project as the city's first modern roundabout, because it has a smaller circumference than the original roundabout, located off of Yeager Road and Win Hentschel Boulevard. <http://www.wlfi.com/dpp/news/local/city-of-west-lafayette-gives-information-on-navigating-a-roundabout->

www.buildindianacouncil.org