



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

July 29, 2010

Clark county could save almost \$50,000 on insurance costs
Evening News and Tribune
Braden Lammers
7/28/10

The Clark County Commissioners received a bit of good news on the cost of the county's insurance premiums Tuesday, but are still tackling questions on how to fund the next portion of the Star Hill Road project. A decision on approving the county's insurance was delayed last week and picked up at a special meeting Tuesday, because Edward Culpepper Cooper, the county's agent-of-record, asked for extra time to secure a lower premium. The rate that came back to the commissioners from the county's current insurance provider Bliss-McKnight actually increased from \$373,410 last year to \$394,588 for this year's renewal. But, worker's compensation premiums decreased from \$300,194 for last year to \$282,084 for the renewal. <http://newsandtribune.com/local/x1255113558/Clark-county-could-save-almost-50-000-on-insurance-costs>

Part of Center Road closed
Kokomo Perspective
7/27/10

The Indiana Department of Transportation closed Center Road, aka 300 South, between 150 East and 350 East on Monday, July 26, to begin Contract 3 construction along the U.S. 31 Kokomo Corridor. A detour routes motorists along 150 East to Ind. 26 to 350 East. Primco Inc. submitted a low bid of \$21,868,342 to win the state's Major Moves award for Contract 3. Work includes more than 2 miles of mainline road construction, five bridge and five large culverts. The Ind. 26 diamond interchange is a major part of the project. Contract completion date is mid-June 2012. The entire U.S. 31 Kokomo Corridor project extends from 2 miles south of Ind. 26 in Tipton County to 1 mile north of U.S. Highway 35 in Howard County. It is designed as a 13-mile "freeway" to improve traffic flow, reduce congestion and enhance safety for the motoring public. http://www.kokomoperspective.com/news/article_a17d4c0c-99b8-11df-8ea3-001cc4c002e0.html

Commissioners tout county roadwork
Evansville Courier & Press
Thomas Langhome
7/27/10

They pointed with pride, oozed optimism and sounded hopeful notes, and the Vanderburgh

County Commissioners did it all without giving a formal State of the County address. Speaking informally before the Rotary Club of Evansville today, Commissioners Steve Melcher, Troy Tornatta and Lloyd Winnecke took turns updating the Rotarians on county road, financial and local government projects. Melcher, the three-member executive governing body's president, told the Rotarians the \$26.1 million project to widen and raise a two-mile stretch of North Green River Road between Lynch and Millersburg roads while keeping the road open is still on target to be finished by December. The price tag includes \$8 million for the cost of building three new bridges between Pigeon Creek and Hirsch Road and replacing existing bridges over Pigeon and Firlick creeks. It is the single largest road project undertaken in Vanderburgh County without the use of federal money.
<http://www.courierpress.com/news/2010/jul/27/vanderburgh-county-commissioners-tout-county-roadw/>

Construction Begins On The New Clinton Street Bridge
Indiana's News Center
Scott Sarvay
7/27/10

Construction is set to begin on one of Fort Wayne's busiest streets. INDOT has started placing signs around the Martin Luther King Bridge and will shut down one lane of Clinton Street before the week is over. The project combines city, state and federal funding and will replace the bridge with a new arched steel truss style facade with lighting. Many feel the bridge will change the landscape entering downtown. The bridge will be completed by the end of 2011. <http://www.indianasnewscenter.com/news/local/Construction-Begins-On-The-New-MLK-Bridge-99339624.html>

State sitting on millions in unspent road money
Fort Wayne Journal Gazette
Sylvia Smith
7/28/10

More than \$103 million in highway money – some of it OK'd by Congress nearly two decades ago – remains unspent in Indiana, according to an analysis of federal data. The \$103 million includes money for the Clinton Street bridge renovation, a Fort Wayne project that is on the verge of final approval. In 2005, Congress allocated more than \$4 million for the project. Construction on the bridge will begin this summer, and the money will be spent. The five-year delay is not unusual, according to the database compiled by the Sunlight Foundation, a watchdog organization that advocates for transparency in government affairs. The group found that about \$6.5 billion has been on ice in Transportation Department accounts after members of Congress went to bat for hometown favorites. They secured money – called earmarks – for road construction, sidewalk installations, bridge repairs and bus stations, but the projects were never completed. Some have never been launched.
<http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20100728/NEWS03/307289987/1002/LOCAL>

1 ramp open at new Mount Comfort Road/I-70 interchange
The Indianapolis Star
Melanie Hayes
7/29/10

A new highway ramp opened last week along I-70 in Hancock County, and another is expected to open next week. The Indiana Department of Transportation has been working to improve the interchange at I-70 and Mount Comfort Road since spring 2009, said Will

Wingfield, spokesman for INDOT. "The two new loop ramps will allow Mount Comfort Road traffic to enter I-70 without having to turn left," Wingfield said. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year, said Shelley R. Haney, a spokeswoman with INDOT. <http://www.indystar.com/article/20100729/LOCAL07/7290350/1139/LOCAL07/1-ramp-open-at-new-Mount-Comfort-Road-I-70-interchange>

Officials are wise to plan for the construction of I-69
The Bloomington Herald Times
7/28/10

The county plan commission has acted responsibly in recommending that corridor and alternative transportation plans for Ind. 37 that address the proposed Interstate 69 extension be included in the county's current comprehensive land-use plan. I-69 is a hot-button issue for local politicians and officeholders. It's rare the planned highway escapes criticism when it comes up in a public meeting, and at times, officials seem to want to work against it coming through Monroe County rather than plan for the best possible outcome when it does. Both the corridor plan and the alternative transportation plan take seriously the possibility that I-69 will be built here in the next few years rather than assuming a position of denial and refusing to acknowledge the plans for the interstate.

[For more information, please call TRIAD at 1-800-288-7423.](tel:1-800-288-7423)

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