

Allisonville Road Project In Greenfield District Passes Halfway Point



Walsh Construction crews set bridge beams July 20 at Allisonville Road and I-465 on Indianapolis' northeast side.

INDOT's reconstruction of the Allisonville Road Bridge over I-465 on Indianapolis' busy northeast side is more than 50 percent complete and on track to meet a mid-September bridge opening date. Contractor Walsh Construction closed the bridge May 30 and, by signed agreement, has 110 days to re-open the bridge. At that point, Walsh must open northbound and southbound lanes within 25 days, anticipating a mid-October open to traffic date, substantially completing the project. Incentives for early completion are built into the contract.

The project got off to a great start when crews demolished the former bridge in less than a week. INDOT Project Engineer Jason Deering says things have continued at the same pace.

"The construction on both the bridge and the surrounding interchange is progressing well," Deering said. "The excessive heat has made operations a little more difficult, but we have lost almost no work time due to the lack of rain."

Concrete paving on the new interchange ramps is ongoing, and mechanically stabilized earth walls connecting the ramps to the bridge are being finished. Walsh crews set 34 bridge beams, covering two 91-foot spans over I-465, over the course of five nights, finishing July 23.

"With the bridge beams now in place, local motorists will see a substantial change to the look of the project," Deering said.

The \$19 million reconstruction will incorporate a single-point urban interchange (SPUI) design to accommodate nearly 50,000 vehicles on an average day. The design will allow two lanes in opposing directions to make left turns at the same time — both entering and exiting I-465. The added lanes and new interchange design will increase traffic capacity and minimize congestion. The roadway elevation and bridge clearance will each be five feet higher. The previous bridge had the lowest clearance of any bridge over I-465 and was regularly struck by oversize loads.

For more information on the project and to see the SPUI design, visit www.AllisonvilleRoad.com.