



2019 Next Level Connections Fact Sheet

Broadband

- \$100 million to bring affordable high-speed fiber optic broadband access to unserved and underserved areas of the state
 - The state will offer grants for providers to bring broadband services with a minimum of 100/10 Mbps to areas of the state lacking service
 - The grant program will include a state/local match
 - A newly released Purdue University study found that Indiana could gain billions of dollars in economic benefits over 20 years with full deployment of broadband into rural areas
 - Indiana is working to create a fully integrated transportation network for the 21st century that maximizes the state's economic competitiveness and solidifies the state's role as the Crossroads of America
 - Future mobility management will require real time information to support individual and commercial transportation needs, including readiness for emerging autonomous vehicle technologies and communications
 - Affordable, high speed broadband has become a business and personal necessity. Hoosiers should be able to connect to high speed, affordable broadband regardless of where they live, work or go to school
 - The state will work with providers, communities and other groups to design the final grant program and determine how to best optimize the investment

Trails

- \$90 million to connect more Hoosiers to hiking, biking and riding trails
 - The majority of funding will be used to create a grant program for local and regional trails, with emphasis on connections between cities, towns and counties and connections between existing trails, shovel-ready projects, and those that are part of a regional plan or quality-of-place initiative
 - Some funds will be used for development of Department of Natural Resources priority trails projects
 - The grant program will include a state/local match
 - Installation of fiber optics, utilities or sewers could be a benefit
 - Indiana has about 3,600 total miles of trails, including local, state, federal and nonprofit trails that are open to the public
 - DNR's goal is to provide a trail within five miles of every Hoosier by 2020 (94.4 percent in 2017)
 - The state will work with communities and trails groups to design the final grant program

Road construction

- \$600 million to accelerate the completion of I-69 Section 6
 - Move up completion from 2027 to 2024
 - Eliminates need for debt financing over many years
- \$190 million for improvements to U.S. 20 and 30 and new interchanges on U.S. 31
 - Increase the number of projects on U.S. 20 and U.S. 30 that will be completed through 2023
 - Projects include resurfacing, bridge improvements, new interchanges
 - Adds new U.S. 31 interchanges at State Road 18 in southern Miami County, Business 31 in Peru, and State Road 10 in Argos; 236th Street at the Hamilton/Tipton county lines is already being planned
 - These four interchanges will reduce the number stoplights on U.S. 31 from Indianapolis to South Bend to two
 - The governor's goal is to remove remaining stoplights and railroad crossings and make U.S. 31 a free-flow road
- Clean the state's highways
 - INDOT will increase its spending from \$19 million to \$57 million to put more resources to cleaning and mowing along the state's highways
 - Existing INDOT funds will be utilized

International flights

- \$20 million to establish additional international nonstop flights to/from Indianapolis
- Goal is to connect to more international hubs in North America, Asia and Europe
- The first such flight from Indianapolis to Paris commenced in May
- More nonstop flights will encourage additional economic investment and direct connections with more markets throughout the world

Fourth water port

- In 2017, the Ports of Indiana entered into an agreement for an option to purchase 725 acres of land in Lawrenceburg as the potential home to the state's fourth port
- Financial, economic and environmental due diligence is ongoing
- Cost to purchase the land is approximately \$8 million
- A fourth port would connect southeast Indiana to more development opportunities and strengthen the position of the Ports of Indiana

West Lake service, South Shore double tracking projects

- The Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD), Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority (NWRDA) and the Indiana Finance Authority are partnering to pursue both projects
- The West Lake project would create commuter South Shore rail service from Hammond to Dyer

- The South Shore double tracking project would add a second line along a parallel track from Gary to Michigan City
- The West Lake application to the Federal Transit Authority for review and ranking was submitted today (Sept. 4); the South Shore submission will be made in the next federal fiscal year

How the state will fund Next Level Connections

The Indiana Finance Authority (IFA) will amend its agreement with the Indiana Toll Road Concession Company (ITRCC) to allow ITRCC to increase toll rates for heavy vehicles by 35 percent on the Indiana Toll Road. The state will receive \$1 billion in proceeds. The IFA board will consider the agreement at its September meeting.

- The \$1 billion payment will occur over the next three years. The first payment of \$400 million is expected in early October; \$300 million in October 2019, and \$300 million in October 2020
- The proceeds from the ITRCC agreement will be used to fund planned road projects in the seven Toll Road counties and the freed up INDOT resources will be directed to the Next Level Connections program
- The one-time increase applies to Class 3 and above vehicles only; passenger cars are not impacted
- The toll rates, per mile, will remain among the lowest in the country
- Annual toll rate increases will continue as prescribed in the original. Annual adjustments are made on July 1
- Current tolls and new tolls with transponders. Cash tolls are very similar
 - Class 3 -- \$16.33 current; \$22.04 new toll
 - Class 4 -- \$34.04 current; \$45.96 new toll
 - Class 5 -- \$44.46 current; \$60.02 new toll
 - Class 6 -- \$52.11 current; \$70.35 new toll
 - Class 7 -- \$96.90 current; \$130.80 new toll
- With this new agreement, ITRCC will invest an additional \$50 million in upgrades to the Toll Road. This will include installation of a smart truck parking system, expansion of overhead message boards, cameras, and variable speed signs, among other improvements. By 2025, ITRCC will have invested a total of \$500 million in Toll Road upgrades over a decade