

U.S. 24 (Fort to Port) Officially Opened November 14



With a cut of the Major Moves ribbon, the U.S. 24 (Fort to Port) project is officially complete and open to traffic. Participating in the ceremony, from left: son of the late Sen. Bud Meeks-Brian Meeks, Allen County Commissioner Nelson Peters, Jacob Stir, Allen County Commissioner Therese Brown, INDOT Commissioner Michael B. Cline, Emma Stir, Governor Mitch Daniels, Caitlyn Stir, INDOT Project Supervisor Don Stucky, State Senate President Pro Tem David Long and Rep. Phyllis Pond. The Stir children are the grandchildren of Karen Stir, who lives on the Old U.S. 24.

Motorists on U.S. 24 in northeast Indiana and northern Ohio are traveling easier now with the official opening of the U.S. 24 (Fort to Port) expressway on November 14.

This \$93 million Major Moves project resulted in a new four-lane, limited access expressway that extends 75 total miles. Indiana's 11.2-mile portion of the project starts at I-469 in New Haven and extends to the Indiana-Ohio state line. The expressway continues in the Buckeye state to Waterville, Ohio, along the Maumee River, close to Toledo, Ohio. Governor Mitch Daniels and INDOT Commissioner Michael B. Cline, along with other officials and stakeholders, participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the opening of this important east-west corridor.

"There are some active things that government must do, and the best example is to develop infrastructure," said Daniels. "Only government can build roads like U.S. 24, the Hoosier Heartland and all the rest."

State Senate Pro Tem David Long, in his remarks, talked about how this new expressway had been a dream for many years.

“It is one of the great legacies of the Daniels administration,” said Long. “And it never would have occurred without the funding created by leasing the Toll Road. For that alone, we here in northeast Indiana are deeply and eternally grateful to the strong, visionary leadership of Governor Mitch Daniels.”



Future motorists Jacob Stir, and twins Emma Stir and Caitlyn Stir, proudly hold the Major Moves ribbon, signed by their new friend, Governor Mitch Daniels.

This project improves access and safety, and promotes economic development across northeastern Indiana and northern Ohio. It also provides direct connections to I-80/I-90, I-75, and I-69/I-469. U.S. 24 joins the State Road 25 Hoosier Heartland corridor, connecting I-69 in Fort Wayne to I-65 in Lafayette. This roadway enables the motoring public to reach destinations northward into the Great Lakes Region and Canada and other large cities on the eastern seaboard.