

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**US 31 Hamilton County Project Moving Forward**

*Surveying to begin next week to update data*

Indianapolis – Small orange flags will reappear along US 31 in Hamilton County as the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is updating survey data to move forward with the corridor upgrade.

Surveying over the next few months will include contractors walking the area, recording traffic volume on hand-held devices, taking photographs of the corridor and buildings along it, digging holes for soil samples and delineating wetlands.

INDOT has launched a new Web site for the US 31 project in Hamilton County. The site – [www.US31HamiltonCounty.com](http://www.US31HamiltonCounty.com) – has updated maps and schedules for the project that will upgrade to freeway standards US 31 from I-465, at the Marion-Hamilton county line, through Carmel, to 216<sup>th</sup> St. in Westfield.

“We are pleased this project – one of the governor’s Major Moves initiatives – is moving forward,” INDOT Commissioner Karl Browning said. “This project will reduce congestion, improve safety, align with state and local transportation plans, and provide an economic boon for central Indiana.”

INDOT will complete the environmental studies for the corridor in 2008, design and make final decisions regarding interchanges along the corridor in 2009, and begin construction in 2010.

Governor Mitch Daniels’ Major Moves highway program will invest more than \$1 billion to upgrade US 31 between Indianapolis and South Bend, with new construction in Hamilton, Howard, Marshall and St. Joseph counties. It represents the largest investment of Major Moves funds in the entire road construction program. The second largest, the I-69 extension between Evansville and Indianapolis, is receiving \$700 million in Major Moves funding.

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