



Indiana Mineral Aggregates Association

The Source Report

Volume XVIII, Issue 2

April 2008



Presidential Overburden Doug Layman, IMAA President

OFFICERS

Doug Layman, President
Jeff Mellen, President-Elect
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Cac Diehr, Treasurer
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Immediate Past President

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Doug Lacke
Tim Mulzer
Charlie Robertson
Kevin Sheehan
Andy Williams

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Gus Diehr
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IMA Website

www.indmaa.org

Aqlime Council Website

www.aqlime.org

I consider it a great privilege to be the 2008 IMAA president. First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Randy Wanstrath for doing a great job as our 2007 IMAA president.

For those of you who may not know me, I am an area manager for Irving Materials, Inc. taking care of two quarries and two sand and gravel operations in Madison and Hamilton counties. I have been involved in IMAA activities and functions for several years. I will never forget the day Ron Gerow called and asked me to chair the Plant Operator's committee. Chairing this committee introduced me to many great people in our industry. I really want to thank the IMAA staff and all of the committee members for making IMAA a successful and effective organization.

We may be in tough economic times with rising energy and fuel costs and we are all looking for ways to cut these costs, but I believe one area we cannot cut cost in is safety. Our industry is filled with many dangerous tasks and everyone deserves to get home safely.

In closing, I would like to say thanks to all the members and their companies for their participation in the Association. If you have not been involved, but have thought about it, now is the time. No matter what your expertise, with all the different committees and activities in the organization, there is a place for you. The staff at IMAA makes it a truly painless and enjoyable experience. **Doug**



Washington DC Fly-In "Grass Roots Trip" ~ June 4 - 6, 2008

You are invited to visit with the Indiana Congressional Delegation

The Indiana Mineral Aggregates Association is planning our 16th annual trip to Washington D.C. This trip is planned to give our members an opportunity to visit one-on-one with our Congressmen and Senators. While it is early to clearly state the focus of the trip this year, there will be numerous important agenda items to discuss with them by June.

This activity is a very effective method of communicating our concerns to our elected officials. Take the time to be a part of this trip. Appointments will be scheduled with all Congressmen and Senators. We need representatives from IMAA producer and associate members in each district to attend. *Spouses and children are encouraged to participate.* [Fly-In Info](#)



Meetings, Meetings, Meetings.....

The Safety, Environmental, TAC, ESC, Board of Directors, and Committee Chair Planning Meetings are all coming up just prior to the Joint Summer Meeting with APAL. These meetings will all take place at the Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, OH (Kings Island). See page 3 for a detailed schedule.

Complete registration for the Summer Meeting will be out later this month. There will be no registration for the various committee and board meetings, but you will want to note that the **room cutoff will be June 9th**. This date will have little or no flexibility as they will sell all our unused rooms after the cutoff very quickly. This is the "high season" for them and we have a discounted room rate that they won't want to carry over past the cutoff.

You may make room reservations at **1-800-913-WOLF (9653)** or make them online at <http://www.greatwolf.com/Locations/Mason/directionsandmaps/index.aspx> **The room block code is: 0807ASPH** Use this code on the phone with reservations and with an online reservation. The room block is for Family Suites at \$199 plus tax per night. At the time you make a reservation, one night's room and tax will be charged to your credit card.

Don't delay in making your room reservations!

Membership Spotlight

PRAIRIE MATERIAL BOUGHT BY BRAZILIAN GROUP

Brazilian-owned Votorantim Cimentos North America announced the acquisition of Prairie Material Sales, Inc., Bridgeview, Ill., and certain affiliated businesses including ready-mix concrete operations for \$450 million.

Prairie has been wholly owned and operated by the Oremus family for more than 60 years and operates 17 aggregates operations in Illinois and Indiana and 81 ready-mix concrete plants in four states.

Prairie's operations will be merged into Votorantim's North American subsidiary, Votorantim Cement North America (VCNA) and will be operated jointly with St Mary's Cement headquartered in Toronto, Canada. VCNA retained Prairie's management team, including President Will Glusac. The company will operate as Prairie Material Sales in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana and Michigan.

VCNA is the North-American subsidiary of Votorantim Cimentos, an international cement manufacturer and part of the Votorantim Group of companies, one of Brazil's largest industrial conglomerates with sales of \$17 billion.

Brandeis Appoints Indiana Branch Manager

Michael Meehan has accepted the position of Branch Manager at the Brandeis Fort Wayne, Indiana Facility. Michael has more than ten years experience in the construction and manufacturing industries. He is an active member of many professional and community activities in and around Fort Wayne and the Midwest.

NEW!

2008 AGGREGATE SOURCE MAP ON IMAA WEBSITE

For the convenience of our IMAA Members, the 2008 INDOT Approved Aggregate Source Map is now available in the **Member Log In** section on:

www.indmaa.org

A 2' X 3' copy of the map was mailed to each IMAA Member Company. For additional copies, download the information and have copies made to the size that you desire.

INDUSTRY NEWS

HOUSE AND SENATE TO CONSIDER BUDGETS

Both the House and Senate Budget committees approved their versions of a budget for the coming fiscal year, allowing leaders to bring the bills before the full House and Senate. Importantly, both chambers fully funded the highway program at the SAFETEA-LU authorized amount of \$41.2 billion, compared with the administration's request for \$39.4 billion.

Also included in the Budget Resolutions are a reserve fund that "can facilitate priority new initiatives in a deficit neutral manner," according to House Budget Committee chairman, Rep. John Spratt (D-S.C.). In plain English, this means that additional transportation spending can be done as long as it is paid for. The Senate bill also provides \$3.5 billion for "ready-to-go" infrastructure projects in an effort to stimulate the economy and allow for an accounting change to shore up the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) before it goes into deficit. NSSGA, and its Transportation Construction Coalition partners, will continue to push for inclusion of the Baucus / Grassley language in another bill, named for the senators who introduced it, that would shore up the HTF. While it must be noted that the budget is non-binding because at the end of the process it is actually the Appropriations Committees that determine how much money programs will receive, it does set total the amount that can be spent and the tone of the debate.

MSHA REVISES CIVIL PENALTY ASSESSMENTS

The U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) published a final rule on Feb. 7 that revises maximum penalties for assessment amounts to adjust for inflation. The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (DCIA) requires MSHA to adjust civil penalties for inflation at least once every four years using a formula found in the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990. The rule is effective on March 10 and applies to all penalties for citations and orders issued after that date.

The rule increases the maximum fine for non-flagrant violations to \$70,000 (from \$60,000); increases fines for failure to correct a violation to \$7,500 per day (from \$6,500); and also increases the penalty for smoking. MSHA raised the penalty structure table to 144 points from 140 points to account for the penalty increase to \$70,000, meaning that a producer or contractor can now be assessed such a penalty if the higher threshold is met. Based on historical data, MSHA estimates that the increase will add more than \$257,000 per year in fines issued to all MSHA-regulated entities.

This action adds insult to injury, as the industry is still in the process of absorbing the revised penalty structure finalized in 2007. While MSHA says that based on historical data, and presumably 2006 data, fines will increase more than \$257,000, although realistically the penalties should be expected to be higher for the combined regulated sectors.

USGS REPORTS 2006 PRODUCER RANKINGS

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has released its annual ranking of the nation's top producers of construction aggregates for 2006 (the most recent year for which USGS has statistics), and Vulcan Materials Co. topped the list. Tied in second place were Martin Marietta Materials and Oldcastle Materials. In order, the following seven were Hanson (now Heidelberg's Lehigh-Hanson); Rinker Materials Corp. (now Cemex Inc.); Lafarge; Cemex, Inc.; Holcim/Aggregate Industries; MDU Resources Group Inc. and Florida Rock Industries, Inc. (now Vulcan Materials Co.) The largest volume quarry in the U.S. in 2006 was Vecellio & Grogan, Inc.'s White Rock in Dade County, Fla. The top producing sand plant was A. Teichert & Son Inc.'s Perkins Plant in Sacramento County, Calif.

USGS reported that a total of 3.04 billion metric tons of construction aggregates valued at \$22.4 billion were reported produced in the U.S. in 2006 by 4,895 companies with 9,522 operations, 3,379 active quarries, and 8,205 active pits. A total of 283 sales yards were operated by 86 companies. The 10 leading producing states were, in descending order of tonnage, Texas, California, Florida, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Arizona, Georgia, Missouri and North Carolina, which accounted for 45 percent of the total output of construction aggregates.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Provideum Insurance

Jill Curtis, Account Manager
317-805-4965

Walding Pumps, LLC

John Walding, Owner
205-913-8696

Synergy Management, LLC

Rob Bult, Manager
219-201-0411



IMAA Public Works Council

Jim Fehsenfeld
Chairman

Our support of **Build Indiana Council** is extremely important during the 2008 legislative session. With the start of the session the legislators were looking at ways to fix property taxes and transit districts. **BIC** was there to make sure that the Major Moves Funds were not used. It's going to be a long year but so far we have passed the first hurdle.



ESC

Ken Rush, Chairman

Doesn't it seem that the winters last longer than they used to? Even in the Sunny Southern part of our state we had our fair share of ice, sleet, snow and cold winds that made Spring seem a long way off. What better time to put our thoughts toward a landscape project at your entrance to enhance what your neighbors look at as they drive past your operations everyday. Remember, this year we will be giving special recognition to members who go the extra mile in these areas. Later this year we will mail out the details of the program. Meanwhile, keep the faith. It will warm up eventually!



Tax Reminder!

Don't forget that the Indiana State Sales Tax changes from 6% to 7% effective April 1, 2008.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

May 8
IMAA Board of Directors Meeting
10:00 am Association Office, Carmel, IN

June 4-6
IMAA Grassroots Fly In
Residence Inn Capital, Washington, DC

June 9-10
4 State Golf Challenge
Franklin, TN

June 17-19
IMAA Teachers' Workshop
Conner Prairie, Fishers, IN

July 9-13
**Board/Committee Meetings
Joint Summer Meeting**
Great Wolf Lodge (King's Island)
Mason, OH

Wed 7/9

1:00 Safety Committee
3:00 Environmental Committee
6:00 Reception (for all IMAA members)

Thu 7/10

9:00 Committee/Council Chair Planning
1:00 TAC Meeting
3:00 ESC Board Meeting
6:00 Reception (for all IMAA members)

Fri 7/11

8:00 IMAA Executive Committee Meeting
9:00 IMAA Board of Directors Meeting
6:00 Welcome Reception with APAI
(Summer Meeting begins)

Sat 7/12

8:00 Breakfast Buffet
9:00 Business Meeting
Noon Golf Outing
7:00 Reception
7:30 Banquet & Entertainment

Sun 7/13

8:00 Breakfast
9:00 Business Meeting

PIE Committee

Sonya Cowles, Chairman

I would like to remind everyone to keep in mind the new Community Connection Award. We need to take pictures and save thank-you notes, newspaper clippings, etc...

Another reminder: The 2008 Teachers' Workshop is **June 17-19!** We need to be contacting teachers now! The BBQ has been changed from the usual Wednesday to Tuesday, June 17.



Tom Busch
Chairman



The Aglime Council attended the first annual Farm and Ranch Expo in Cloverdale, Indiana on March 17, 2008. The Council gave a talk and Power Point presentation on the benefits of Aglime.

Please plan to attend the upcoming meeting on April 10, 2008 at the Association office. The Council will be making plans for the Spring (late May) sampling program.

GOLF COMMITTEE

Ken Rush, Chairman

Our Golf Team is preparing to defend our title of Four-State champions this June 9-10 at the Nashville Golf and Athletic Club in Franklin, Tennessee. We are anticipating that our competitors are trying to come up with strategies that neutralize our talent and skills. We certainly hope that they put on a better showing than was displayed in our lopsided victory last June at the Bridgewater Club. At our winter meetings this past January, I thought I overheard "Larry the Legend" mention "a dynasty in the making!"

Any members interested in playing should contact Robert Jones at the Association office soon.

WiFi in our office!

We are pleased to tell you that you can now bring your wireless laptops with you to the IMAA office and can log onto a wireless network. There is no cost to our members, nor is there any additional cost to the Association. We have been hooked up through our DSL provider. When you are in the office we will supply you with the necessary logon information.

Indiana Construction Industry Convention



Bonita Springs, Florida

February 22 - 29



2008 TCC SPRING FLY-IN ~ MAY 20-21

The Transportation Construction Coalition (TCC) will hold its annual spring TCC Fly-In, May 20-21, at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. The theme this year is "Transportation at the Cross Roads." On May 20, NSSGA will hold a Government Affairs Committee meeting (details are forthcoming). Later that day, a legislative briefing will be held from 2:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. to update attendees on the latest developments of importance to the coalition. That evening, there will be a TCC Congressional reception beginning at 6 p.m. followed by a full day of lobbying on the Hill on May 21, starting with a breakfast program at 7 a.m.

Hotel reservations are now being accepted by the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill by calling 800-233-1234 or 202-737-1234.



National
Aggregate
Base
Conference

Co-Sponsored by
IMAA

May 14

Austin, TX

Aggregate materials provide an economic, high performing alternative as the support base for roadways. Aggregate base courses have been used for a long time, but recent advances in technology have changed the way base materials can and should be used. The goal of this conference is present the latest research on aggregate base materials to help those who design and build roadways to maximize their resources. Held in conjunction with the [16th Annual ICAR Symposium](#)

16th Annual ICAR Symposium ~ May 12 - 14, 2008 ~ Austin, Texas Aggregates: Asphalt Concrete, Portland Cement Concrete, Bases and Fines



ICAR
INTERNATIONAL

The 16th ICAR Symposium updates state materials engineers, aggregate producer companies and materials researchers on the latest technical research on aggregates. The event covers a wide range of research activities focusing primarily on materials characteristics of aggregates, testing and the use of aggregates in hot mix asphalt, concrete and base products. The event also includes a small exhibit area focused on materials testing. Please call 703-526-1075 if you have any questions about this event or email to slenker@nssga.org.

Held in conjunction with the [National Aggregate Base Conference](#)

ADVERTISING SCHEDULE

Advertising in The Source Report is available in the following **2009** issues:

Feb ~ April ~ June ~ Aug ~ Oct ~ Dec

The guidelines are:

- One 8½ x 11 page of your advertising (Double-sided ok)
- Call the IMAA Office to secure your month on the advertising schedule.
- Provide 500 advertising inserts to the IMAA Office by the first day of scheduled month.
- Cost: \$500 (To help defray the newsletter cost and postage)



2008 IMAA Officers and Board of Directors

New Term	President	Doug Layman	Irving Materials, Inc.
New Term	President Elect	Jeff Mellen	The Levy Company
New Term	Vice President	Ed Gehr	Martin Marietta Aggregates
New Term	Secretary	Tom Nugent III	Nugent Sand Company
	Treasurer	Catharine Diehr	General Drilling, Inc.
New Term	Immediate Past President	Randy Wanstrath	New Point Stone Co., Inc.
New Term	Director	Chuck Fewell	U.S. Aggregates, Inc.
New Term	Director	Charlie Robertson	Robertson Crushed Stone
New Term	Director	Andy Williams	Rogers Group, Inc.
	Director	Tim Mulzer	Mulzer Crushed Stone, Inc.
	Director	Doug Lacke	Vulcan Materials Company
	Director	Kevin Sheehan	Hilltop Basic Resources, Inc.
	Director	Gus Diehr	General Drilling, Inc.
New Term	Director	John Newman	Brandeis Machinery & Supply Co.

2008 IMAA Committee Chairs

	Aglime Council	Tom Busch	Engineering Aggregates Corp.
	Associates	Gus Diehr	General Drilling, Inc.
New Term	Environmental	Ed Clements	Rieth-Riley Materials
	Golf	Ken Rush	Sellersburg Stone Company
	Legislative	Chuck Fewell	U.S. Aggregates, Inc.
New Term	Meetings	Randy Wanstrath	New Point Stone Co., Inc.
	PIE	Sonya Cowles	Irving Materials, Inc.
	Plant Operators	Craig Huffine	Rogers Group, Inc.
	Public Works Council	Jim Fehsenfeld	U.S. Aggregates, Inc.
New Term	Safety	Matt Bunner	Mulzer Crushed Stone
New Term	Technical	George Williams	Rogers Group, Inc.

2008 ESC Board (Environmental Stewardship Council)

	Chairman (ESC Board)	Ken Rush	Sellersburg Stone Company
	Chairman (TAC Committee)	Jim Smith	Hanson Aggregates
	Director	John Lawson	Hanson Aggregates
	Director	Jim Plew	Engineering Aggregates Corp.
	Director	Ken Mulzer, Sr.	Mulzer Crushed Stone, Inc.
	Director	Jeff Knies	Cave Quarries, Inc.
	Director	Max Williams	Martin Marietta Aggregates
	Director	Brian Anderson	Purdy Materials, Inc.
	Director	Mike Maggart	Niblock Excavating
	Director	Jerry Irving	Irving Gravel Co., Inc.
New Term	Director	Doug Lozier	U.S. Aggregates, Inc.
New Term	Director	Ryan Beer	Elkhart County Gravel
New Term	Director	John Schuler	Eagle Materials, LLC
New Term	Director	Dennis Garrison	Rush County Stone

2008 TAC (Technical Advisory Committee)

	Chairman	Jim Smith	Hanson Aggregates
		Jim Bastian	Hanson Aggregates
		Andy Haumesser	Jurgensen Aggregates Group
		Gregg Hebbe	Shelby Materials
		Craig Huffine,	Rogers Group, Inc.
		Kelley VanKovering	Vulcan Materials Company
		Richard Martin	Bowser Morner, Inc.
		Tim Mulzer	Mulzer Crushed Stone, Inc.
		Eric Reynolds	Meshberger Bros. Stone Corp.
		Walt Tharp	Irving Materials, Inc.
		Reggie Timberlake	Timberlake Engineering
		George Williams	Rogers Group, Inc.



DATE: March 20, 2008

SUBJECT: 2008 General Assembly Review

Protection of Major Moves While there was considerable discussion prior to the start of the 2008 legislative session of the need for funding for various initiatives (property tax relief, transit districts), the use of Major Moves funds was not, in the end, considered as a revenue source for these programs.

As the session progressed, the biggest danger to the funding came from an attempt to allow the investment of Local Major Moves Construction funds into endowed and non-endowed community foundations. The proposal, written into SB 121 and eventually in HB 1001, would give the seven toll road counties and their cities and towns the option to put their lump sum money (\$40m for the majority of the counties) into endowed or non-endowed foundations for a better interest rate than could be found in more typical investment vehicles. However, the allowance of the investment into endowed funds was particularly troubling, since the principal could never be withdrawn once deposited.

The Build Indiana Council was able to change the language concerning the non-endowed funding to direct that any withdraws or interest from the fund could only be used as originally intended (i.e. for the original Major Moves purposes). However, the legislation was not heard in the House, so that there was not a chance to remove the endowed language. During the last weeks of session, the legislation, with the endowed foundation authority, appeared in HB1001 (the property tax reform legislation) and then later in HB1125 (where remaining miscellaneous bills were placed). After several conversations, the language concerning foundation investment was completely removed, taking away the danger of locking up the road funding.

Mitigation of Property Tax Reform Measures There were several components of the property tax reform measures that the Build Indiana Council was watching closely to minimize impacts to the highway industry. They included: spending limits on transportation related funding, the use of referendums for highway projects, and any restrictions placed on tax increment financing ("TIF") districts related to highway funding.

After many versions, the House and Senate approved HB1001 on the final day of the session in an attempt to mitigate the significant property tax increases seen by Hoosiers. One of the main concerns the Build Indiana Council had was related to the restrictions placed on local government spending, since local road funding comes from dedicated funds. In fact, one version of the reform legislation included the wheel tax specifically in the caps. With the efforts of the Build Indiana Council, this was removed, and elected local government bodies are no longer tied to specific spending caps in their road funding. Further, the cumulative bridge fund percentage was adjusted to put it in compliance with the new property tax structure, expecting to result in no appreciable change.

The final version did include some referendum provisions, but none related specifically to road projects. Various versions of the legislation had more restrictive referendum language applied to most capital projects. In the final version, referendums will now be required for elementary school facilities construction over \$10m, high school class facilities over \$20m, and other property tax based projects greater than \$12m or 1% of assessed value.

The final version also repealed county project review boards, a concept that provided an additional layer of approvals for capital projects, and one that BIC did not support. Our goal was to include county council review instead, which was included in the final version.

The TIF provisions have been reformed to tighten the eligible uses of the mechanism, in order to minimize the TIF impact on property tax bills. Under HB1001, TIFs may only be used as a financing mechanism for projects in or adjacent to a TIF district, instead of the previously allowed "serving a district". Any savings from refinancing a bond issue must be used to reduce outstanding debt or reduce levies (whereas before, the savings could be used on another project). The TIF bonds are now limited to a 25 year payback life, which could adjust the total amount available. Finally, a TIF district may not be enlarged to include additional projects unless the IEDC gives a waiver for such enlargement. Despite these restrictions, the TIF mechanism will likely still prove a valuable resource for local governments. Overall, road projects fared well in the property tax package. The only real limitation that local governments will face in their road building is when they use TIF refinancing or property tax bonding, both very rarely used, and when over \$12m.

Local Road Funding Upstaged by the property tax reform issue this session, legislation to pursue additional local road funding remained stagnant this year. Rep. Austin filed HB 1247, which removed the sales tax currently collected on the sale of gasoline (which is currently equivalent to about 18 cents per gallon), and instead implement a 7 cent gas tax. The concept was to provide drivers an 11 cent tax benefit in their gasoline purchase price, providing a saleable message to the public. Of those 7 cents per gallon new gas tax, the full amount would be directed to the Local Road and Street Account (which now gets about 47% of every 1 cent of gas tax). The local governments would be allowed to use up to 10% of the new tax on any type of transportation project (including roads, transit or rail).

The Build Indiana Council worked closely with the local government associations and Rep. Austin on this proposal, but in the end, the institution of a tax increase did not gain any support among members. Most everyone we worked with agreed with the idea of a transfer of a portion of the sales tax to the Local Road and Street Fund, but ultimately, the gas tax legislation did not receive a hearing.

INDOT Estimates SB175, the engineer's estimate legislation, passed resoundingly out of the House and Senate. Initiated by IN-DOT, the bill allows INDOT to award contracts at their discretion if one of three factors is present: the award is under \$1m, there are four or more bids, or the bid falls within 115% of the engineers estimate. The bill was also amended so that INDOT cannot require contractors (in this context "contractor" refers to a person who provides professional services under contract with the department, and "professional services" refers to engineering, architectural, or surveying services) to assume any liability or indemnify the state for any amount greater than the degree of fault of the contractor. After passage of 93-2 (House) and 47-0 (Senate), the Governor signed the legislation into law on March 12.

Silicosis Sen. Steele introduced SB256 this year to clarify that silicosis lawsuits may not be filed in Indiana unless the person bringing the lawsuit has a physical claim related to their exposure to silica or mixed dust. After determining that the bill would not survive in the House, Sen. Steele hoped to have an information hearing on the bill during the session in order to have a public discussion of how important the legislation is. However, with the time constraints of a short session and the tight deadlines for hearings, there was not time to hold the hearing before the committee report deadline in the Senate. With the time allowed for the long session next year, the opportunity to hold such a hearing and move the bill holds greater promise.

Local Public Works Contracting Sen. Charbonneau introduced SB35 this year that would allow local governments to perform their own work up to a limit of \$200,000, increased from the current \$100,000. This bill was a repeat of similar language introduced last year that did not pass, and this year met with the same fate. In fact, the bill was never given a committee hearing. Though we were told that there would be a companion house version, it was never introduced.

Corridor Protection Sen. Zakas and Rep. Dembowski carried SB 31 which gives INDOT the authority to establish road corridors for future construction, in an attempt to keep land acquisition costs to a reasonable level. As INDOT has seen on several recent highway projects, the rapid escalation of right of way costs can delay, reduce or even cancel a construction contract. Further still, the percentage of the total budget going to land acquisition is significantly increasing. This legislation will allow INDOT to purchase land before development takes place on it, often a concept that is difficult to implement.

Next Generation Trust Fund Sen. Delph again introduced his constitutional amendment to further protect the Next Generation Trust Fund, the \$500m pot of money set aside from Major Moves to generate interest income for the Major Moves Construction Fund. SJR05 passed out of the Senate with a vote of 45 to 3, but never received a hearing in the House. Again, with the discussion of constitutional amendments to protect homeowners (SJR01), there was little interest this year to pursue another constitutional amendment.

Transit Funding This year's legislative session had two transit-oriented pieces of legislation. The first, embodied in HB1220 authored by Rep. Dobis, was closely watched by the Build Indiana Council. Before the legislative session began this year, we learned that Rep. Dobis and others from Northwest Indiana were seriously considering a local option gas tax to pay for the West Lake expansion of the NICTD/South Shore train to Valparaiso. After multiple conversations with those involved, it was decided that Rep. Dobis would instead file legislation to capture the portion of state sales tax paid by the citizens of Lake and Porter counties. The legislation would capture a total of \$350m of these state taxes to provide matching funds for the \$1b project. When introduced, there was significant controversy over the use of the sales tax, and many in the legislature asked that only a portion of \$350m come from sales tax, and the remainder come from a local tax. There was little interest in passing a local tax for the project when the local governments were anticipating a loss of revenue from the property tax reform, and the legislation was converted to a study committee.

The second piece of transit legislation dealt with the Central Indiana Regional Transit Authority, and was authored by Rep. Austin. From the introduction, this legislation captured a portion of the increase in sales tax resulting from economic development in transit districts (a concept similar to the property tax based TIF district currently used by local governments). This bill had popular support in the House, passing by a vote of 90-7, but did not receive a committee vote in the Senate. In all likelihood, the use of sales tax at a time when the Office of Management and Budget is predicting revenue shortfalls may have caused the concept's lack of approval, especially given the considerable support the legislation received in the House.

If you have any questions about this report, please contact BIC at vkitchin@buildindianacouncil.org or call 317.634.4774.

This report was submitted by Dennis Faulkenberg and Laurie Maudlin of APPIAN.



2008 IMAA Calendar

April 3	IMAA Plant Operators Meeting	10:00 am Association Office
April 8	IMAA PIE Committee Meeting	10:00 am Association Office
April 10	IMAA Aglime Council	10:00 am Association Office
April 17	IMAA Safety Committee	8:00 am Association Office
April 17	IMAA Environmental Committee	10:00 am Association Office
May 6	IMAA PIE Committee	10:00 am Association Office
May 8	IMAA Board of Directors Meeting	10:00 am Association Office
May 12-14	ICAR Annual Symposium	Omni Hotel at Southpark, Austin, TX
May 14-15	National Aggregate Base Conference	Omni Hotel at Southpark, Austin, TX
May 20-21	TCC Fly In	Hyatt Regency, Capitol Hill, Washington, DC
May 22	IMAA Technical Committee	10:00 am Indiana Wesleyan University
May 22	CAPP Instructors Review Meeting	1:00 pm Indiana Wesleyan University
June 4-6	IMAA Grassroots Fly In	Residence Inn Capital, Washington, DC
June 9-10	4 State Golf Challenge	Franklin, TN
June 12	IMAA Plant Operators Meeting	10:00 am Association Office
June 15-18	National Minerals Education Conference	OAIMA – Columbus, OH
June 17-19	IMAA Teacher's Workshop	Conner Prairie, Fishers, IN
June 24	IMAA Aglime Council	10:00 am Association Office
July 9	IMAA Safety Committee	1:00 pm Great Wolf Lodge, Mason, OH
July 9	IMAA Environmental Committee	3:00 pm Great Wolf Lodge, Mason, OH
July 10	IMAA Committee Chair Meeting	9:00 Great Wolf Lodge, Mason, OH
July 10	IMAA TAC Meeting	1:00 pm Great Wolf Lodge, Mason, OH
July 10	IMAA ESC Board Meeting	3:00 pm Great Wolf Lodge, Mason, OH
July 11	IMAA Board of Directors Meeting	9:00 am Great Wolf Lodge, Mason, OH
July 11-13	IMAA –APAI Joint Summer Meeting	Great Wolf Lodge, Mason, OH
July 19-22	NSSGA Summer Board Meeting	Sun Valley, ID
August 6	IMAA Technical Committee Meeting	Indiana Wesleyan University
August 7	IMAA Plant Operators Meeting	10:00 am Association Office
August 14	IMAA Aglime Council	10:00 am Association Office
August 19	IMAA PIE Committee Work Day	Koinonia Rocks Trail, Manchester, IN
September 10	IMAA PIE Golf Fundraiser	Eagle Creek Golf Course, Indianapolis, IN