



Fact Sheet

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The Recovery Act: A Report on the Path to Progress in Indiana Creating and Saving Jobs, Boosting Household Resources, Providing Assistance for the Vulnerable in Indiana

On February 13, 2009, the Senate approved the final version of the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* and sent the legislation to President Obama to be signed into law (**P.L. 111-5**). The *Recovery Act* is an extraordinary response by Democrats to an inherited economic crisis unlike any since the Great Depression. The legislation represents an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, create and save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can not only recover but prosper once again.

Nationwide, we have already seen companies rehiring laid-off workers, construction and renovation of facilities, and the re-starting of environmental remediation activities. And, just a few months into the two-year *Recovery Act* programs:

- **We have minimized and avoided reductions in essential services in Indiana** by providing aid to help stabilize state and local budgets, protected critical safety-net programs, and saved teaching and law enforcement jobs.
- **Plans for job-creating infrastructure projects in Indiana are already planned and underway** with the Department of Transportation allocation of \$405.9 million for highway infrastructure investments (through the Federal Highway Administration); \$4.1 billion for transit modernization, repair, and other capital needs (through the Federal Transit Authority); and \$7.7 million in airport grants for development projects that enhance safety, capacity and security and airport facilities and equipment upgrades (through the Federal Aviation Administration) (as of June 2, 2009). These *Recovery Act* projects deliver jobs and make important investments in the safety of our transportation systems. [DOT Allocation Report, 6/2/2009].
- **Families and communities in Indiana that have been hard-hit by the recession** can access increased unemployment benefits, assistance with health insurance premiums for those who have become unemployed, and food aid. And 2.4 million households in Indiana – approximately 95 percent of all families and individuals – have already begun seeing an increase in their take-home pay through the

landmark Making Work Pay tax credit. The typical family will have about \$800 extra cash delivered to them in their paychecks over the next year. [The White House, 4/2/2009]

Here is a sampling of projects in Indiana that have been covered by local media and press releases in the past several weeks, demonstrating the real-life impacts that the *Recovery Act* has already made for Indiana residents, only four months after the enactment of the *Recovery Act*:

- **Tippecanoe County will see \$57.3 million in *Recovery Act* funding for transportation due to abundance of shovel-ready projects.** “Tippecanoe County is earmarked to receive \$57.3 million of the state's stimulus funding for roads. That amount is far more than the spending planned for any other Hoosier county from the \$257 million that the Indiana Department of Transportation had committed through May.” [*Lafayette Journal and Courier*, 6/15/2009]
- **First-time homebuyer tax credit proving a helpful corrective in Indiana real estate market.** “With positive trends being reported in both the number of units sold and the median selling price based on information captured by the Greater Northwest Indiana Association of REALTORS, Inc. (GNIAR) Multiple Listing Service (MLS) for 2009 through the end of May, the local real estate market is definitely moving in the right direction, according to Pete Novak, chief executive officer of GNIAR and member of the Northwest Indiana Housing Alliance...”The government’s first-time homebuyer tax credit is a significant incentive and has contributed greatly to the market picking up.” [*Munster Times*, 6/13/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* will allow Anderson schools to create 33 new jobs.** After 36 teachers had to be laid off, new positions could be filled by laid off teachers. [*The Herald-Bulletin*, 6/9/2009]
- **Sanitary district director “ecstatic” that stimulus will pay for Anderson-based engineering company to work on Richmond sewer projects.** The sanitary district learned the city could use up to \$2.1 million in loans and grants of federal stimulus money through the Indiana Department of Environmental Management to replace equipment in the treatment building. [*Palladium-Item*, 6/9/2009]
- During a visit to Fort Wayne, Secretary of Energy Steven Chu announced approximately \$50 million apportionment of *Recovery Act* dollars for geothermal energy development, promoting renewable energy and creating jobs. [*Press Release – U.S. Department of Energy*, 6/4/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* funds will be used for levees and floodwalls near Terre-Haute, providing protection from a 100-year flood.** USDA Secretary: “This is a very, very important project for this area. It’s going to save money and protect property.” [*The Tribune-Star*, 6/3/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* funds will create or maintain 75,000 jobs in Indiana through alternative energy, broadband, and other infrastructure investments.** [*Indianapolis Star*, 6/3/2009]
- **Terre Haute flood control project to receive \$3.3 million allotment of *Recovery Act* funds, guaranteeing completion of levee.** [*Terre Haute Tribune-Star*, 6/2/2009]

- **Recovery Act will allow Allen County to perform ten times as much roadwork as usual.** Commissioner: “It’s going to benefit Allen County greatly to get roads paved sooner. [[Indiana’s News Center](#), 5/22/2009]
- **Purdue University will receive Recovery Act funds for four medical studies.** [[Journal and Courier](#), 5/22/2009]
- **Purdue University Airport will receive Recovery Act money to improve security and wildlife management.** Airport director: “This grant will allow us to increase our fence height by 2 feet and to install a skirt along the bottom of the fence to eliminate access by burrowing animals. Wildlife and aircraft don't mix well. We try to create an environment around the airport where conflicts between birds, animals and aircraft are minimized. This enhances safety for people and protects wildlife.” [[Journal and Courier](#), 5/20/2009]
- **Recovery Act will prevent education spending cuts in Indiana.** Secretary Arne Duncan: “Indiana can now utilize these funds to save jobs and lay the groundwork for a generation of education reform.” [[The Times \(Munster, IN\)](#) , 5/20/2009]
- **South Bend school system is set to receive more than \$14 million.** Recovery Act money is for programs to help schools with a large amount of low-income students meet academic standards and more than \$6.1-million to support special education services and training of teachers.” [[WNDU.com](#), 5/19/2009]
- **Recovery Act allows Indianapolis school district to rehire laid off teachers for new professional development cadre.** “A week after voting to lay off 300 teachers, the Indianapolis public school board quietly approved hiring back up to 197 of them.” [[Indianapolis Star](#), 5/9/2009]
- **Crown Point schools will receive “unprecedented” \$1.6 million in Recovery Act funding for special education programs.** [[Northwest Indiana Post-Tribune](#), 5/7/2009]