



## WHITE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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Hunter Haygood  
Tourism Director

March 3, 2026

Jim Baird  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2303 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

### **White County Economic Development Support Letter**

The White County Economic Development Organization, Inc. fully supports the County's application for Community Project Funding to reconstruct CR 300E from US 24 to SR 18.

This corridor is an essential economic artery that supports major employers, agricultural operations, and freight movement throughout the county. With high daily traffic counts and a substantial percentage of heavy trucks, the roadway requires modernization to improve safety, reliability, and long-term capacity.

Reconstruction of CR 300E will protect existing investment, attract new development, and reinforce White County's competitiveness in the regional economy. We strongly encourage approval of this funding request.

Thank you for your consideration of this important infrastructure investment in White County. Should you require any additional information regarding the economic impact of this project, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

*Randy Strasser*

Randy Strasser, President  
White County Economic Development

STATE OF INDIANA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

Kendell Culp  
200 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
www.in.gov/16  
h16@iga.in.gov  
317-232-9819

March 5, 2026

Jim Baird  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2303 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Baird,

On behalf of the constituents of White County and the State of Indiana, I am pleased to offer my strong support for White County's request for Community Project Funding through U.S. Representative Burton's office for the reconstruction of CR 300E from US 24 to SR 18.

This corridor carries significant daily traffic, including a high volume of heavy truck traffic that is essential to the county's agricultural and industrial economy. I frequent this stretch of road from time to time, and I can attest from personal experience that this road is busier than most state highways. With the road being in farm country, it receives a heavy amount of traffic from trucks carrying agricultural products.

As a result of this heavy traffic, the roadway's current condition presents safety concerns and limits efficiency for both residents and businesses. Reconstruction of this vital connector will improve safety, strengthen regional mobility, and support continued economic growth throughout White County.

As someone who personally drives on this road and a Representative of constituents that use it, I respectfully urge favorable consideration of this important infrastructure investment.

Sincerely,



Kendell Culp  
Indiana House of Representatives  
Indiana House District 16



Prairie Township Volunteer Fire Department  
109 S. South Street  
Mailing: PO Box 484  
Brookston, IN 47923

March 4, 2026

Dr. Mr. Baird,

On behalf of our public safety personnel and the residents we serve, we strongly support White County's request for Community Project Funding for the reconstruction of CR 300E from US 24 to SR 18. This corridor carries substantial daily traffic and heavy truck volumes, and current conditions create operational and safety challenges for emergency response vehicles. Roadway reconstruction and safety enhancements will improve response times, reduce accident risk, and enhance overall public safety. We respectfully request full support for this critical infrastructure improvement.

Thank you,

Jason Sanders  
Fire Chief  
Prairie Township Volunteer Fire Department  
chief@prairietownshipvfd.com  
765-490-9607





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March 4, 2026

The Honorable Jim Baird  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2303 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Baird:

I am writing to express my strong support for the White County Commissioners in their request for federal funding to improve County Road 300 East in White County, Indiana. This roadway is an important route for residents, local agriculture, and especially for the safe transportation of students who travel the road daily on school buses.

County Road 300 East is heavily used by school transportation routes, and its current condition presents ongoing safety concerns. The road's narrow surface, limited shoulder space, and drainage challenges create hazards for buses and other vehicles, particularly during inclement weather or when larger vehicles must pass each other. Ensuring that school buses can safely travel this route is essential for protecting the students who rely on it each day.

Federal support for this project would allow the county to make critical improvements, including widening the road surface, improving drainage infrastructure, and increasing the shoulder width along the roadway. These upgrades would significantly enhance safety, reduce the risk of accidents, and provide safer passage for school buses, farm equipment, emergency vehicles, and local residents.

Investing in this infrastructure is an investment in the safety of our students and the long-term reliability of a key transportation corridor in White County. I respectfully ask that you give strong consideration to supporting the Commissioners' request for federal funding to complete these much-needed improvements to County Road 300 East.

Thank you for your continued service and for your attention to the needs of our communities. Your support for projects like this makes a meaningful difference for the safety and well-being of the residents you represent.

Sincerely,

Fred Unsicker, Superintendent  
Frontier School Corporation

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**Frontier Junior-Senior High School**  
1 Falcon Drive  
Chalmers, IN 47929  
219-984-5437  
*Mr. Jeffrey Hettinger, Principal*  
*Mr. Mark Gretencord, Dean/AD*  
*Mrs. Kathy Bassett, Guidance*

**Corporation Office**  
126 East Main Street  
PO Box 809  
Chalmers, IN 47929  
219-984-5009  
*Mr. Fred Unsicker, Superintendent*

**Frontier Elementary School**  
811 South Railroad Street  
Brookston, IN 47923  
219-984-5438  
*Mrs. Jillian Layton, Principal*  
*Mrs. Erin Notary, Educational Dean*  
*Ms. Paula Bulla, Guidance*

March 5, 2026

Town of Chalmers  
PO Box 827  
205 E Walnut Street  
Chalmers, IN 47929  
(219) 984-5494

**Jim Baird**

U.S. House of Representatives  
2303 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Baird,

As a local government leader serving White County, I strongly support the County's application for Community Project Funding for the reconstruction of CR 300E between US 24 and SR 18.

This heavily traveled corridor is a key north-south connector that supports substantial truck traffic and serves as a critical link for commerce, agriculture, and daily commuters.

Due to increasing traffic volumes and roadway deterioration, significant safety improvements are needed. Federal participation is essential to completing this reconstruction in a timely and fiscally responsible manner. This project is vital to protecting residents and sustaining White County's economic vitality.

Respectfully,

Pamela S Brown, President  
Chalmers Town Council  
Town of Chalmers  
205 E Walnut Street  
Chalmers, IN 47929  
(765) 427-3407  
[pbrown@chalmers.in.gov](mailto:pbrown@chalmers.in.gov)



## White County Highway Department

371 E US HWY 24  
PO BOX 67  
Reynolds, IN 47980

Phone: 219-984-5851  
Fax: 219-984-5235

Jim Baird

U.S. House of Representatives

2303 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

As the White County Highway Assistant Superintendent, I fully support the County's application for Community Project Funding to reconstruct CR 300E from US 24 to SR 18.

This corridor is a major artery that supports the county public transportation system, agricultural, and freight movement throughout the county. With high daily traffic counts as high as neighboring state and US roads (US24 and SR43) and a substantial percentage of heavy trucks, the roadway requires modernization to improve safety, reliability, and long-term capacity.

Reconstruction of CR 300E will make the road safer for the public as we have a large number of crashes per the LTAP crash data report, with this being said I strongly encourage approval of this funding request.

Thank you for your consideration of this important infrastructure, and safe travel for all investment in White County. Feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Chris Alma

Assistant County Highway Superintendent