



**For Immediate Release**  
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**Media Contact:**  
Jenny Brown  
jbrown@indygo.net, 317.614.9266

### **IndyGo facility upgrade project begins today with ARRA stimulus funds**

Indianapolis – Thanks in part to the \$16.1 million that was awarded to IndyGo through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), the historic downtown building that houses the Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation (IndyGo) will finally begin to undergo long-overdue repairs and upgrades. The Act was signed into law by the President on February 17, 2009, and includes \$8.4 billion for nationwide capital improvements for public transit.

The IndyGo facility upgrades are expected to yield \$400,000 in annual operational savings and reduce IndyGo's overall energy utilization and impact on the environment. In addition, the nine-month project will require the employment of numerous local trades, including jobs in the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, equipment, glazing, and concrete, industries.

The building that houses the IndyGo headquarters was formerly the Duesenberg Motor Car Company at 1501 West Washington Street. It stretches across approximately nine acres and received its last major updates in the 1980s.

"We've noticed a dramatic increase in maintenance issues over the past several years," says Michael Terry, President and CEO of IndyGo. "And it prompted us to launch a comprehensive facility assessment in 2005, when an opportunity became available to acquire sufficient capital funds through the ARRA. We identified more than \$40 million of qualified infrastructure-improvement needs for our transit service."

With help from its Board and City planners, IndyGo prioritized its capital needs and agreed to allocate its ARRA grant money—along with other funding—as follows:

#### **Facility Upgrade**

Approximately \$10 million of the ARRA grant is being allocated to repairing/ replacing major facility infrastructure systems, including HVAC, lighting and ventilation. These projects have been designed in conjunction with a long-overdue roof replacement (a project previously approved and funded); the work will extend the useful life of IndyGo's historic building, as existing systems are at the end of their useful life.

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“The improvements will reduce mechanical and lighting utility costs by approximately 20% and reduce ongoing maintenance costs by at least 50%,” explained Trevor Ocock, VP and Chief Operating Officer.

Messer Construction was awarded the project as general contractor. The company, along with 13 firms that were invited to bid on the project, was pre-qualified. Pre-qualification was based on quality of previous work and reputation. Messer is headquartered in Cincinnati and has an office in Indianapolis. Work will extend through spring 2010.

For the remaining projects not addressed in this facility upgrade project, IndyGo will continue to research and identify other funding sources as they become available.

### **Partial Fleet Replacement**

Nearly \$7 million of the ARRA grant has been applied to the procurement of 22 new buses. These vehicles will replace vehicles in the IndyGo fleet that have reached their maximum useful life per FTA replacement guidelines.

The new vehicles will improve operational efficiency, reduce maintenance costs and lessen the impact on the environment. Many of the bus components, including engines and transmissions, are manufactured in the State of Indiana.

The new buses are expected to be operable as part of the IndyGo fleet in 2011—approximately 20 months from order placement. This purchase supports IndyGo’s commitment to providing safe, cost-efficient and reliable transit service.

### **Transit Safety and Enhancement Projects**

One percent of ARRA funds are to be allocated each to transit safety and enhancement projects. IndyGo identified two areas in primary need of these resources:

- Camera on Buses will be upgraded to enable IndyGo to store more data and for longer periods of time.
- Transit Stop Amenities will enhance access and usability to existing stop locations.

For information about IndyGo services, call the Customer Service Center at (317) 635-3344 or visit [www.IndyGo.net](http://www.IndyGo.net). For additional information about the benefits of public transportation, visit the American Public Transportation Association website at [www.apta.com](http://www.apta.com). Visit the Indiana Citizens’ Alliance for Transit on the web at [www.indianacat.org](http://www.indianacat.org) to find out how you can help promote transit options statewide.

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