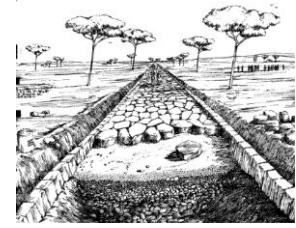


# MEETING JESUS ON THE WAY

The importance of highways in history, in the Bible, and in Indiana



Video #5:

*Indiana Highways are a Big Deal!*

In Indiana, we have the \_\_\_\_\_ to thank for our present highways.

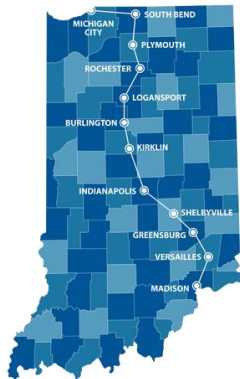
In pioneer days (and always), *the path of least resistance was always the line of travel.*

Buffalo traces > followed by Native Americans > followed by pioneers > followed by settlers

Animal trails > footpaths > bridle paths > sled and wagon roads > traders > armies > stagecoaches  
> *our modern roads and highways*

### Stories of some Indiana highways

The \_\_\_\_\_ Road:  
East – West  
Nation’s first federally funded highway  
Washington Street in Indy

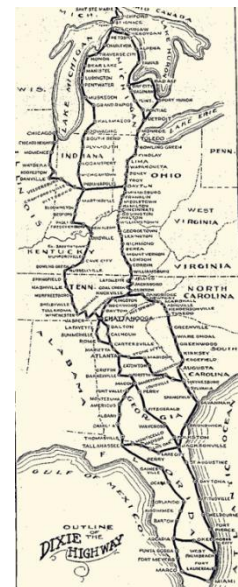


The \_\_\_\_\_ Road:  
North – South  
Connected the Ohio River to Lake Michigan

The \_\_\_\_\_ Highway:  
East – West  
Carl Fisher paved it for automobiles  
“Main Street Across America”



The \_\_\_\_\_ Highway:  
North – South  
Carl Fisher connected Miami Beach to Chicago  
The “Good Roads” movement



Today, Indiana is known for its highways.

- We have more miles of interstate highway per square mile than any other state
- More major highways intersect here than in any other state in the nation
- Our state motto, “The Crossroads of America,” is more than just a slogan

*Timeline of highways in Indiana*

1829	Construction of the National Road (U.S. 40) through Indiana begins
1830	Construction of the Michigan road (U.S. 421) begins
1852	Legislation encouraging private companies to build macadamized or gravel roads in Indiana is passed
1877	Indiana counties are authorized to construct roads with taxes on roadside property
1913	Construction of the Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30) begins
1919	The first state highway contracts are awarded by the Indiana State Highway Commission, the predecessor to INDOT
1952	The first interstate built in Indiana opens—the first section of State Road 420 (which later became I-80/I-94 in northern Indiana)
1956	The Indiana Toll Road finishes construction
1959	Construction of I-465 begins; it is completed in 1970 and circles Marion County in central Indiana
1967	I-74 becomes the first interstate to cross Indiana; the first section opens in 1960 and the final section in 1967
1976	The final sections of I-65 and I-70 through downtown Indianapolis are completed

*INDOT by the numbers*

29,800	Highway lane miles in Indiana maintained by INDOT
5,700	Bridges across the state maintained by INDOT
4,500	Rail miles supported by INDOT
510	Public and private access airports supported by INDOT
3,500	Workers employed by INDOT—one of the state's largest agencies
2.1 billion	INDOT's approximate annual capital expenditures budget (dollars)
528 million	INDOT's approximate annual operating budget (dollars)

*Indiana then and now:*

	<b>1919</b>	<b>2019</b>
Population	2.9 million	6.6 million
Median household income	\$2,933	\$46,242
Number of automobile registrations	227,255	5.6 million
Average price of a new car	\$295	\$37,577
Total miles of roads	73,347	97,553
Miles of paved state-managed roads	800	11,206
Annual state highway investment	\$400,691	\$1.5 billion

*Indiana highways are a big deal!*