



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DECLARING AN EMERGENCY due to the MSE (Mechanically Stabilized Earth) wall and concrete pavement dropping and failing on I-65 south bound ramp to west bound I-80/94 in Lake County, and the imminent risk of potential damage to the traveling public if the pavement is not fixed immediately.

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 8-23-11-1 provides that the Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Transportation shall declare a roadway disaster emergency involving widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property has occurred or that the occurrence or threat of disaster is imminent.

WHEREAS, beginning on August 24th, 2023, INDOT staff inspected the pavement in this area and found the MSE wall and pavement issue that is causing the pavement to be undermined and putting the pavement at risk of failing on the I-65 south bound ramp to west bound I-80/94 in Lake County, Indiana (hereinafter, the "Event").

WHEREAS, the Event presents an imminent risk of significant damage to the traveling public on I-65.

WHEREAS, if conditions are not immediately remedied, the imminent potential damage that may be caused by the Event could require additional restriction or closure of the Highway to ensure the safety of the traveling public.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael Smith, by virtue of my authority as Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Transportation, do hereby declare that an emergency exists due to the Event described above in Clark County, Indiana. This declaration of emergency shall be effective immediately and shall continue until the Highways are repaired and reopened to the traveling public.

FURTHER, I HEREBY ORDER the Department of Transportation to proceed with due diligence in accordance with Indiana Code 8-23-11-1 and all other applicable laws to ensure that the I-65 to reopen as soon as possible to traffic and safe for use by the traveling public.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 24th day of August 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael Smith'.

Michael Smith
Commissioner
Indiana Department of Transportation