

From: Lahr, Matt (Young)
Sent: Fri, 23 May 2025 23:04:46 +0000
To: Hacker, Austin; O'Brien, Lauren (Young)
Cc: Andrea Zimmerman; Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST); Wetherington, Austin; Johnson, Stacy CTR (OST); Gonzalez, Josh; Selk, Leah (Young); LaRotonda, Nick (OST); Mindy.peterson@parsons.com; Natalie R Garrett; Molly Craft; Griffin Reid
Subject: Re: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy
Attachments: DRAFT Media Advisory - DOT Visit FINAL.docx

You don't often get email from matt_lahr@young.senate.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I added in Governor Braun. Let us know if this looks good.

From: "Hacker, Austin" <Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov>
Date: Friday, May 23, 2025 at 6:54 PM
To: Lauren O'Brien <Lauren_OBrien@young.senate.gov>
Cc: Andrea Zimmerman <AZimmerman@gov.in.gov>, Nathaniel Sizemore <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>, Matt Lahr <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>, "Wetherington, Austin" <Austin.Wetherington@mail.house.gov>, Johnson Stacy CTR <stacy.johnson.ctr@dot.gov>, "Gonzalez, Josh" <josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov>, Leah Selk <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>, Nick LaRotonda <nicholas.larotonda@dot.gov>, "Mindy.peterson@parsons.com" <Mindy.peterson@parsons.com>, Natalie R Garrett <NaGarrett@indot.in.gov>, Molly Craft <MCraft@gov.in.gov>, Griffin Reid <GReid@gov.in.gov>
Subject: Re: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

Hi all,

I'm attaching a draft advisory press release.

(b)(6)

If your teams want to make any changes, please feel free to do so! We look forward to seeing everyone.

Austin

On May 23, 2025, at 5:15 PM, O'Brien, Lauren (Young) <Lauren_OBrien@young.senate.gov> wrote:

Austin, can you send an updated draft to this thread for Gov. Braun's team's review when you get a chance? Thanks!

From: "Zimmerman, Andrea" <AZimmerman@gov.IN.gov>
Date: Friday, May 23, 2025 at 4:14 PM
To: "Hacker, Austin" <Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov>, Lauren O'Brien <Lauren_OBrien@young.senate.gov>
Cc: Nathaniel Sizemore <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>, Matt Lahr <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>, "Wetherington, Austin" <Austin.Wetherington@mail.house.gov>, Johnson Stacy CTR <stacy.johnson.ctr@dot.gov>, "Gonzalez, Josh" <josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov>, Leah Selk <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>, Nick LaRotonda <nicholas.larotonda@dot.gov>, "Mindy.peterson@parsons.com" <Mindy.peterson@parsons.com>, "Garrett, Natalie R" <NaGarrett@indot.IN.gov>, "Craft, Molly" <MCraft@gov.IN.gov>, "Reid, Griffin" <GReid@gov.IN.gov>
Subject: Re: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

Looping in Gov.'s comms. to this thread.

Andrea Zimmerman, MPA
Chief of Staff
Transportation & Infrastructure
Office of Governor Mike Braun
(b)(6)
azimmerman@gov.in.gov

From: Hacker, Austin <Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 23, 2025 4:08 PM
To: Lauren O'Brien <Lauren_OBrien@young.senate.gov>
Cc: Nathaniel Sizemore <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>; Matt Lahr <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>; Wetherington, Austin <Austin.Wetherington@mail.house.gov>; Johnson Stacy CTR <stacy.johnson.ctr@dot.gov>; Gonzalez, Josh <josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov>; Leah Selk <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>; Nick LaRotonda <nicholas.larotonda@dot.gov>; Zimmerman, Andrea <AZimmerman@gov.IN.gov>; Mindy.peterson@parsons.com <Mindy.peterson@parsons.com>
Subject: Re: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

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Not an issue at all, we will hold!

Austin

On May 23, 2025, at 3:07 PM, O'Brien, Lauren (Young) <Lauren_OBrien@young.senate.gov> wrote:

Gov. Braun might now be attending. Can we hold on sending this for a bit? Thanks!

From: "Hacker, Austin" <Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov>
Date: Friday, May 23, 2025 at 3:59 PM
To: Nathaniel Sizemore <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>
Cc: Matt Lahr <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>, "Wetherington, Austin" <Austin.Wetherington@mail.house.gov>, Johnson Stacy CTR <stacy.johnson.ctr@dot.gov>, "Gonzalez, Josh" <josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov>, Lauren O'Brien <Lauren_O'Brien@young.senate.gov>, Leah Selk <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>, Nick LaRotonda <nicholas.larotonda@dot.gov>, "AZimmerman@gov.in.gov" <AZimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Mindy.peterson@parsons.com" <Mindy.peterson@parsons.com>
Subject: Re: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

Amazing, thanks all.

Austin

On May 23, 2025, at 2:58 PM, Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST) <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov> wrote:

Good on DOT's end! If you all could just bcc myself or forward to me when it goes we can help amplify.

From: Lahr, Matt (Young) <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 23, 2025 3:34 PM
To: Wetherington, Austin <Austin.Wetherington@mail.house.gov>; Hacker, Austin <Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov>; Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST) <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>; Johnson, Stacy CTR (OST) <stacy.johnson.ctr@dot.gov>
Cc: Gonzalez, Josh <josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov>; O'Brien, Lauren (Young) <Lauren_O'Brien@young.senate.gov>; Selk, Leah (Young) <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>; LaRotonda, Nick (OST) <nicholas.larotonda@dot.gov>; AZimmerman@gov.IN.gov; Mindy.peterson@parsons.com
Subject: Re: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

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Got it
We can go back to your time, thanks!

From: "Wetherington, Austin" <Austin.Wetherington@mail.house.gov>
Date: Friday, May 23, 2025 at 3:33 PM
To: Matt Lahr <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>, "Hacker, Austin" <Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov>, "Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST)" <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>, "Johnson, Stacy CTR (OST)" <stacy.johnson.ctr@dot.gov>
Cc: "Gonzalez, Josh" <josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov>, Lauren O'Brien <Lauren_O'Brien@young.senate.gov>, Leah Selk <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>, "LaRotonda,

Nick (OST)" <nicholas.larotonda@dot.gov>, "AZimmerman@gov.IN.gov"
<AZimmerman@gov.IN.gov>, "Mindy.peterson@parsons.com"
<Mindy.peterson@parsons.com>

Subject: RE: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

Matt-

Just wanting timing clarification. Just to note we put 12pm CST initially to ensure media arrives with enough time to be escorted to the location where the members land which is at 12:55CST.

From: Lahr, Matt (Young) <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 23, 2025 2:20 PM
To: Hacker, Austin <Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov>; Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST) <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>; Wetherington, Austin <Austin.Wetherington@mail.house.gov>; Johnson, Stacy CTR (OST) <stacy.johnson.ctr@dot.gov>
Cc: Gonzalez, Josh <josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov>; O'Brien, Lauren (Young) <Lauren_O'Brien@young.senate.gov>; Selk, Leah (Young) <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>; LaRotonda, Nick (OST) <nicholas.larotonda@dot.gov>; AZimmerman@gov.IN.gov; Mindy.peterson@parsons.com
Subject: Re: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

Austin – thank you for pulling this together. Our suggested edits are attached.

Can DOT and Mindy review as well?

From: "Hacker, Austin" <Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov>
Date: Friday, May 23, 2025 at 11:21 AM
To: "Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST)" <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>, "Wetherington, Austin" <Austin.Wetherington@mail.house.gov>, "Johnson, Stacy CTR (OST)" <stacy.johnson.ctr@dot.gov>
Cc: "Gonzalez, Josh" <josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov>, Matt Lahr <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>, Lauren O'Brien <Lauren_O'Brien@young.senate.gov>, Leah Selk <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>, "LaRotonda, Nick (OST)" <nicholas.larotonda@dot.gov>
Subject: Re: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

Hi all,

We received word that the landing location we planned for has been approved! Attached here is an initial media advisory press release that our team intends to send to KY press today. Please make any edits or changes you wish too.

For your awareness, our team chose the address here because it is conveniently located near the location of the press conference. We will have staff on the ground to escort media to the exact spot of the media availability.

Austin Wetherington on our team here can go into further details if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Austin

From: Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST) <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>
Date: Thursday, May 22, 2025 at 4:45 PM
To: Wetherington, Austin <Austin.Wetherington@mail.house.gov>, Johnson, Stacy CTR (OST) <stacy.johnson.ctr@dot.gov>, Hacker, Austin <Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov>
Cc: Gonzalez, Josh <josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov>, Matt Lahr <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>, Lauren O'Brien <Lauren_O'Brien@young.senate.gov>, Leah Selk <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>, LaRotonda, Nick (OST) <nicholas.larotonda@dot.gov>
Subject: RE: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

Adding Nick from our team

From: Wetherington, Austin <Austin.Wetherington@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2025 3:31 PM
To: Johnson, Stacy CTR (OST) <stacy.johnson.ctr@dot.gov>; Hacker, Austin <Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov>; Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST) <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>
Cc: Gonzalez, Josh <josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov>; Matt Lahr <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>; Lauren O'Brien <Lauren_O'Brien@young.senate.gov>; Leah Selk <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

You don't often get email from austin.wetherington@mail.house.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Received. Thank you.

Austin Wetherington

Field Representative

Tel: (b)(6)

<image001.png>

From: Johnson, Stacy CTR (OST) <stacy.johnson.ctr@dot.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2025 3:29 PM
To: Hacker, Austin <Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov>; Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST) <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>; Wetherington, Austin <Austin.Wetherington@mail.house.gov>
Cc: Gonzalez, Josh <josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov>; Matt Lahr <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>; Lauren

O'Brien <Lauren_O'Brien@young.senate.gov>; Leah Selk <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>

Subject: RE: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

He has been added and should have received the calendar invite.

Stacy Johnson, Jr. Executive Assistant
Chenega Enterprise Systems & Solutions, LLC (ChESS) Contractor on Assignment to
Office of Public Affairs
Office of the Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590
Tel: OFC : (b)(6) CELL: (b)(6)
Email: Stacy.Johnson.ctr@dot.gov
Location: W93-482

From: Hacker, Austin <Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2025 3:25 PM

To: Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST) <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>; Wetherington, Austin <Austin.Wetherington@mail.house.gov>

Cc: Gonzalez, Josh <josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov>; Matt Lahr <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>; Johnson, Stacy CTR (OST) <stacy.johnson.ctr@dot.gov>; Lauren O'Brien <Lauren_O'Brien@young.senate.gov>; Leah Selk <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>

Subject: Re: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

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Thank you all so much. Would it be possible to add Austin Wetherington (added to this chain) to this scheduled phone call today?

Austin

On May 22, 2025, at 1:45 PM, Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST) <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov> wrote:

Great – adding Stacy to send around a calendar invite.

From: Gonzalez, Josh <josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2025 1:57 PM

To: Matt Lahr <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>

Cc: Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST) <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>; Lauren O'Brien <Lauren_O'Brien@young.senate.gov>; Hacker, Austin <Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov>; Leah Selk <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>

Subject: Re: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

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5:30 is good for us!

On May 22, 2025, at 1:52 PM, Lahr, Matt (Young) <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov> wrote:

That works for us

Matt Lahr

Communications Director
Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.)

(b)(6)

<image001.png>

<image002.png>

<image003.png>

<image004.png>

[Sign up for updates from Senator Young.](#)

From: Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST) <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2025 1:49 PM
To: Lahr, Matt (Young) <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>; O'Brien, Lauren (Young) <Lauren_OBrien@young.senate.gov>
Cc: austin.hacker@mail.house.gov; josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov; Selk, Leah (Young) <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

Thanks all! We'll be doing a press interview with the Sec the. Could we do 5:30pm?

From: Lahr, Matt (Young) <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2025 1:48 PM
To: O'Brien, Lauren (Young) <Lauren_OBrien@young.senate.gov>; Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST) <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>
Cc: austin.hacker@mail.house.gov; josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov; Selk, Leah (Young) <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

You don't often get email from matt_lahr@young.senate.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi all – can you hop on a call around 4 PM today?

Thanks!

Matt Lahr

Communications Director
Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.)

(b)(6)

<image009.png>

<image010.png>

<image011.png>

<image012.png>

[Sign up for updates from Senator Young.](#)

From: O'Brien, Lauren (Young) <Lauren_OBrien@young.senate.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2025 10:51 AM

To: Sizemore, Nathaniel (OST) <nathaniel.sizemore@dot.gov>

Cc: Lahr, Matt (Young) <Matt_Lahr@young.senate.gov>; austin.hacker@mail.house.gov;
josh.gonzalez@mail.house.gov; Selk, Leah (Young) <Leah_Selk@young.senate.gov>

Subject: Comms thread: ORX Visit with Secretary Duffy

Nate,

I'm looping you in with congressional comms contacts for Secretary Duffy's visit to Indiana and Kentucky on Tuesday, May 27 – Matt and Leah (Young), Austin (Comer), Josh (Messmer).

I know we're still trying to pin down exact timing and location for a press availability and photo opps, but it probably would be good to touch base at some point today to discuss media invites, format, any approval processes, etc. Matt and Leah will follow up to coordinate that amongst the group. Thanks!

Lauren O'Brien
Legislative Director
Office of Senator Todd Young

(b)(6) (direct)
(b)(6) (cell)

ADVISORY: Congressman Comer, Senator Young, Congressman Messmer, and Local Officials to Hold Press Conference with DOT Secretary Sean Duffy Following Tour of I-69 Bridge Project

WASHINGTON—On Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 12:00 PM CST, Congressman James Comer (R-Ky.), Indiana Governor Mike Braun (R-Ind.), U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.), Congressman Mark Messmer (R-Ind.), Kentucky Secretary of Transportation Jim Gray, Indiana Secretary of Transportation Matthew Ubelhor, Kentucky State Senator Jimmy Higdon, Kentucky State Senator Robby Mills, and Kentucky State Representative JT Payne will join U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Secretary Sean Duffy for a press conference to provide an update on the progress of the I-69 Ohio River Crossing bridge project.

WHO: U.S. DOT Secretary Sean Duffy, Congressman James Comer (R-Ky.), Indiana Governor Mike Braun (R-Ind.), U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.), Congressman Mark Messmer (R-Ind.), Kentucky Secretary of Transportation James Gray, Indiana Secretary of Transportation Matthew Ubelhor, Kentucky State Senator Jimmy Higdon, Kentucky State Senator Robby Mills, and Kentucky State Representative JT Payne,

WHEN: Tuesday, May 27, 2025 @ 12:00PM CST

WHAT: Press conference will be held following an aerial tour of active construction and progress on the I-69 Ohio River Crossing bridge project

WHERE: Henderson, Kentucky

RSVP: Please RSVP with Austin.Hacker@mail.house.gov for additional address information.