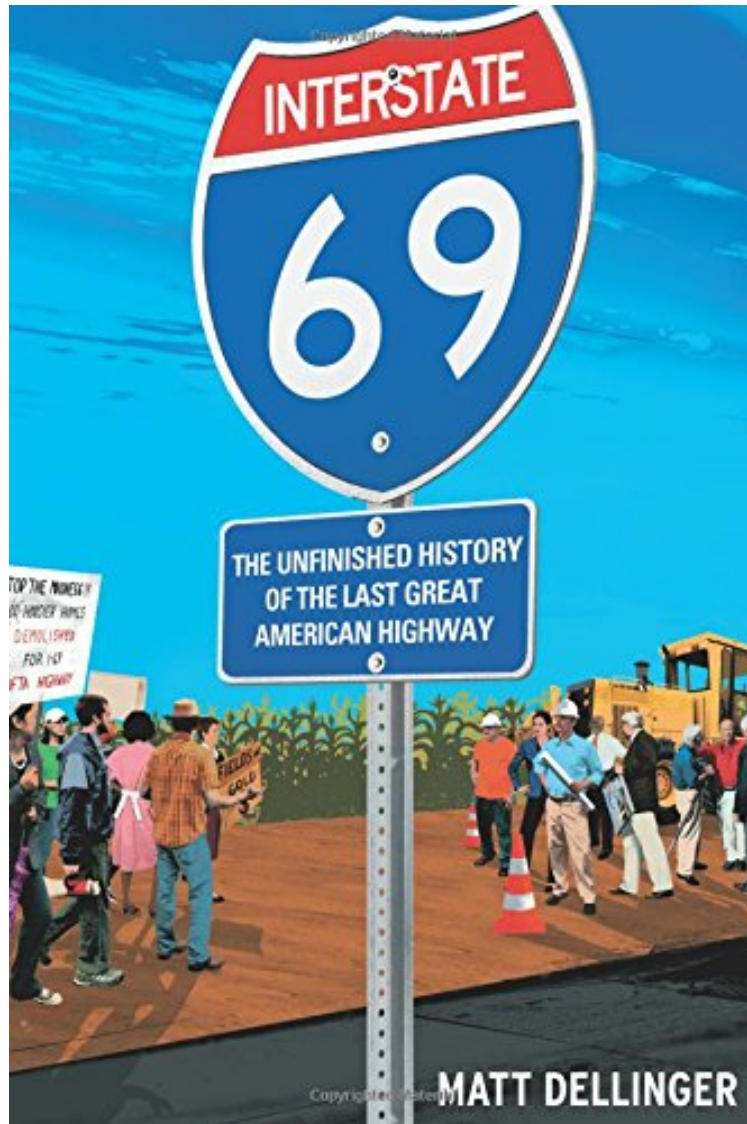


Interstate 69: The Unfinished History of the Last Great American Highway

Matt Dellinger

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#2366287 in Books Matt Dellinger 2013-05-04 2013-05-04 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .90 x 6.001, .0 #File Name: 1416542507352 pages Interstate 69 The Unfinished History of the Last Great American Highway | File size: 23.Mb

Matt Dellinger : Interstate 69: The Unfinished History of the Last Great American Highway before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Interstate 69: The Unfinished History of the Last Great American Highway:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. On the Road - Twenty-first century style! By Bruce D. Harrell This

book was recommended by a friend after I had mentioned traveling on a portion of I-69 in Kentucky. I had no idea about the politics involved. The stories of some of the people involved in both sides of this boondoggle were interesting to say the least. 14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. well written, unbiased, historically accurate

By lostintranslation Interstate 69 is one of the finest works of historical non-fiction that I have read in many years. Not only does Dellinger offer an accurate and unbiased account of the history of I-69, he also skillfully paints a larger picture of American politics, geography, anthropology. Dellinger captivates with his succinct, narrative style. I highly recommend this book as it is as educational as it is entertaining. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Unbiased Window into the Politics of Money

By bassrice The writer does a great job telling a story of people in this book. He does not lead the reader to any point of view or conclusion; rather, he presents the history of the project from all sides and demonizes no one. Using historical accounts of highway building across the effected states as well as concurrent projects that would help gain insight to the I-69 project and how communities are affected, how governments work, how private interests work, and how policy is made. If you have any interest in Urban Planning, land use, or Political Science, buy this book. If you are a closed-minded political extremist, you might not like how open minded this book is, however.

Interstate 69 is an enlightening journey through the heart of America. With this epic tale of one vast and controversial road project, Matt Dellinger brings to life the countrys complex political, social, and economic landscape. The 1,400-mile extension of I-69 south from Indianapolis, if completed, will connect Canada to Mexico through Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas. This so-called NAFTA highway has been in development for two decades, and while segments are under construction today, others may never be built. Eagerly anticipated by many as an economic godsend, I-69 has also been opposed by environmentalists, farmers, ranchers, anarchists, and others who question both the wisdom of building more highways and the merits of globalization. Part history, part travelogue, Interstate 69 reveals the surprising story of how this extraordinary undertaking began, introduces us to the array of individuals who have worked tirelessly for years to build the road and guides us through the many places the highway would transform forever: from sprawling cities like Indianapolis, Houston, and Memphis to the small rural towns of the Midwestern rust belt, the Mississippi Delta, and South Texas. In an era when bridges fall, levies fail, and states lease their toll roads to foreign-owned corporations, Americans are realizing the central importance of infrastructure, how it affects our standard of living and quality of life and how it determines which places prosper and which places fade. This book illustrates vividly that the story of transportation is indeed the story of America and that story continues. Matt Dellinger connects these dots with an absorbingly human, on-the-ground examination of our countrys struggle with development. Interstate 69 captures the hopes, dreams, and fears surrounding what we build and what we leave behind.

From Publishers Weekly The genesis and subsequent history of the controversial I-69 highway, still underway after 20 years and still being debated, makes for colorful, quirky reading. Already running through Michigan and parts of Indiana, I-69 may continue on through Indianapolis, Memphis, Shreveport, and a few Texas bergs. If completed, it will stretch from Canada to Mexico. Detractors of the undertaking, projected to cost over \$30 billion, describe it as a "NAFTA highway," an attempt to diminish U.S. economic primacy in favor of overall North American commerce. "Promoters speak as if their highway would be the mythical rainbow. Spanning the countryside, it would spin off glittering paths to fill pots of gold in every town and hamlet." Dellinger examines the many non-governmental options currently on the table, some involving the controversial practice of allowing foreign companies to lease roads long-term and charge escalating tolls. On the other side of the blacktop, anarchists have riled older, more conservative opponents of the interstate with disruptive and damaging acts. This well-researched book brings an engaging group of idealists, politicians, and observers to the middle of one of America's most famous stretches of road. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "From the first page Matt Dellinger draws a compellingly written narrative that is not only hard to put down but is sweeping in its context. America's history, and its future, breathes in these pages."--Ken Auletta, author "Googled: The End of the World as We Know It" "Interstate 69" is not just about highways. It's about Americans deciding on their future. The politics and arguments about this one proposed highway may or may not lead us somewhere--but like any great journey, it's the trip that's the thing."--Lawrence Wright, author of "The Looming Tower: Al-Qaeda and the Road to 9/11" "Whether I-69 is ever built or not, it has provided Matt Dellinger a good route into the middle of our country, a fascinating and often-neglected place. His story of an imagined road, its boosters and its discontents speaks eloquently of the deep changes shaking up America today. This is an affectionate, hard-won, and skillfully-made book, filled with the pleasures of original discovery."--Ian Frazier, author of "Great Plains" and "The Rez" "A rollicking dispatch from the heartland as great plans are laid for a mega-highway just at the moment when America runs out of gas. Matt Dellinger is a first-rate reporter and an agile portraitist who gives us a rare look at the loony shenanigans that shape our landscape and our society."--James Howard Kunstler, author of "The Geography of Nowhere" and "The Long Emergency" "A great journey, with sharp reporting and fine writing and a genuine feel for an America we don't often notice. With Dellinger at the wheel, the saga of the

unfinished interstate becomes a wonderful tale."--Susan Orlean, author of "The Orchid Thief""Interstate 69" is about a road that doesn't exist, and probably never will, and we learn anew about small town America whose fortunes ebbed and flowed with the advent of the superhighway. Dellinger has given us a new way to understand--and enjoy--our history." --Seymour Hersh, author of "Chain of Command: The Road from 9/11 to Abu Ghraib""Interstate 69 is an American-civics reality show, featuring pitched battles among special interests, grass-roots activists, environmentalists, politicians and Beltway bandits."--"Wall Street Journal""Dellinger's nimble book chronicles the history of a largely unbuilt highway--if completed, it would stretch from the Canadian to the Mexican border--and tells the stories of the communities that stand to profit or to be imperilled by it."--"The""New Yorker"About the AuthorMatt Dellinger has written forThe New Yorker, TheAtlantic,theOxford American, Smithsonian, TheWall Street Journalmagazine, andThe New York Timesand has reported on transportation and planning for the public radio programThe Takeaway. He worked for ten years on staff atThe New Yorkeras an illustrations editor, the magazines first-ever multimedia editor, and the producer and host ofThe New Yorker Out Loud, the magazines first weekly podcast. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.