



Illinois Tollway News You Can Use

Open Roads Ahead

December 2008

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Board Approves \$1.8 Billion Capital Improvement Plan

Congestion-Relief Program Phase Two Planning Begins

In an effort to maintain congestion relief, reduce emissions and invest in Illinois jobs, the Illinois Tollway has approved a \$1.8 billion capital improvement plan – *Tomorrow's Transportation Today* endorsed by Governor Rod R. Blagojevich. This plan represents Phase Two of the Congestion-Relief Program, and includes a \$1.4 billion Interchange Improvement Program and \$400 million to develop a Green Lane Plan.



"These Green Lanes and new interchanges will not only help commuters, but will also pay real dividends

to Illinois' communities and businesses through massive new business development," said Governor Blagojevich.

The plan includes the creation of dedicated Green Lanes offering access to ride-sharing commuters at regular I-PASS rates and critical Interstate-to-Interstate interchange improvements to the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90)/I-290-IL Route 53 interchange, the Tri-State Tollway (I-294)/I-57 Interchange along with systemwide local interchange projects.

More information regarding Tollway congestion efforts and other Illinois programs can be found by clicking [here to read the most recent version of the Governor's Gazette](#).

[Learn more about the Congestion-Relief Program Phase Two-*Tomorrow's Transportation Today*](#)

Roadway Rebuilding & Widening Projects on Schedule

Pothole-Free Travel as Construction Nears the Half-Way Point



As we approach the end of 2008, the Illinois Tollway's \$6.3 billion Congestion-Relief Program – *Open Roads for a Faster Future* – is on schedule and bringing benefits to drivers throughout the 286-mile system.

Good news for drivers is that roadway work is nearing the half-way point and is on schedule for completion systemwide by the end of 2009. The Tollway has already delivered Open Road Tolling and the south extension of the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) on time and on budget, construction over the past year has focused on roadway Rebuild & Widen projects systemwide.

As construction winds down for the season the majority of drivers are already traveling on new pavement in construction zones on the Tollway – systemwide, which means pothole-free travel on new pavement this winter.

Additionally, the Rebuild & Widen Projects between Washington Street and Finley Road on I-88 as well

as between Grand Avenue and IL Route 173 on I-94 will be completed this season, providing four new lanes of pavement in both directions to relieve congestion (and offer some relief from construction).

As always, we thank our customers for their patience and are asking them to bear with us just a while longer. But the good news is ... the end is in sight.

[Read more construction details about the roadways that you drive](#)

Have You Recently Purchased A Vehicle?

Be Sure that Your License Plate is Correctly Registered to Your I-PASS Account

Your I-PASS account should reflect your current vehicle information including:



- License plate
- Plate type
- Vehicle make and model

If your plate is not registered and your transponder malfunctions, is incorrectly mounted or is not in the vehicle, you are at risk for a violation. Violations carry fines starting at \$20 per occurrence.

Keep your account Violation-free! [Register each plate today](#)

Learn to Travel Smarter

Where to Go When You Need to Know



Whatever your travel plans are – daily commute, yearly shopping extravaganza, or even a visit with loved ones – take the stress out of travel with a few simple tips.

Find construction information – Visit the [Projects by Roadway](#) page on the Tollway's Web site to

check out updated construction information along your route.

Get travel alerts sent to you automatically – Set up [traffic alerts](#) for your travel route provided by [NBC Chicago](#).

Dial *999 for non-emergency motorist assistance in case of trouble along the Tollway – Be sure to note your location by milepost or nearest ramp.

Leave Early and Stay Late – Travel off peak for lighter traffic and less time on the road – which means less stress and more time to spend enjoying life outside your vehicle.

I-PASS is accepted at a number of states from Illinois to the East Coast – Follow this link directly to the [E-ZPASS](#) Web site for more details and a complete list of participating states.

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