

ELGIN O'HARE WESTERN ACCESS PROJECT



Elmhurst Road Diverging Diamond Interchange

The Elmhurst Road Interchange Project, is constructing a new, diverging diamond interchange on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway at Elmhurst Road. The \$54 million project will complete the existing partial interchange that currently only provides access to and from the east. Tollway and local improvements are scheduled to be completed in 2017.



New, full-access diverging diamond interchange at Elmhurst Road and I-90

DIVERGING DIAMOND INTERCHANGE BENEFITS

Diverging diamond interchanges are designed to eliminate left turns in front of oncoming traffic, smooth traffic flow and reduce congestion. Right turns work the same as they do at conventional interchanges, and traffic is controlled by signals.

Although speeds are lower, traffic flow through the interchange is more efficient resulting in reduced travel times. Vehicles can enter the interstate highway through free-flow turns unimpeded by traffic from the opposite direction.

INNOVATIVE DESIGN IMPROVES SAFETY AND ACCESS TO TOLLWAY

- Fewer traffic signal phases result in shorter wait times at traffic lights
- Free-flow turning improves travel in all directions
- Bicycle/pedestrian access provided by designated, enclosed shared-use paths built in the middle of the diverging diamond interchange

DRIVING THE DIVERGING DIAMOND INTERCHANGE

On Elmhurst Road

- 1 Advance signage directs drivers approaching the interchange.
- 2 Approaching the first traffic signal, drivers will curve slightly to the left. Drivers will notice traffic on the right.

Traveling through the first traffic signal, drivers will cross in front of traffic stopped on the right. At this point, drivers will be on the left side of the bridge, with opposing traffic on the right separated by concrete barriers.

- 3 Drivers entering I-90 will turn left from the outside lane using a free-flow ramp – there will be no need for the driver to stop or yield.

Elmhurst Road drivers will proceed through the second traffic signal.

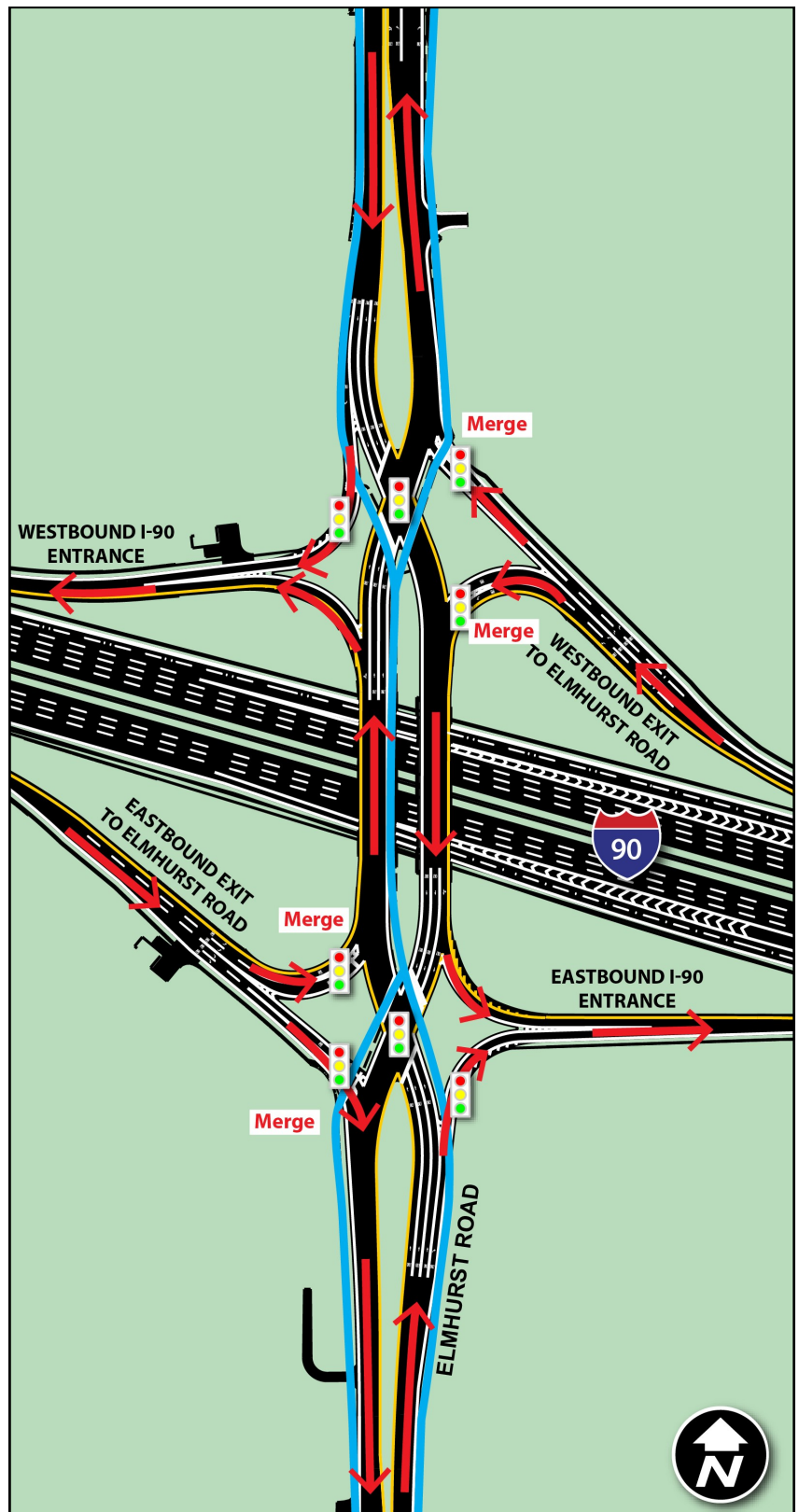
- 4 Once through the second traffic signal on the opposite side of the bridge, drivers will shift back to the right side of Elmhurst Road.

Accessing Elmhurst Road from I-90

- 5 Exiting I-90, left-turning vehicles will merge into the left lane of Elmhurst Road and right-turning vehicles will turn right at the traffic signal.

Bicycles/Pedestrians

- Bicycle/pedestrian enclosed shared-use path located in the median of the interchange. At each crossing, pedestrians will only need to check traffic coming from one direction at a time.



Driving the new diverging diamond interchange at Elmhurst Road and I-90