



SmartRoad

OVERVIEW

The Illinois Tollway SmartRoad is designed to deliver real-time information to drivers to provide safer, more efficient travel. The Tollway's investment in the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) corridor will serve customers today and enable flexibility for the future.

On I-294, over-the-road gantries will be installed every half mile between 95th Street and Balmoral Avenue with new digital message signs to allow the Illinois Tollway to communicate travel times, traffic incident information and redirect traffic to safely accommodate emergency lane closures and traffic pattern changes.

The Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project also provides for the installation of new conduit, wireless traffic sensors and weather stations, and roadway camera coverage will be increased to provide for viewing along the full length of the I-294 corridor from 95th Street to Balmoral Avenue.

Data collected by the Tollway from the corridor will be shared with navigation apps such as Waze, MapQuest and Google Maps allowing drivers to choose their preferred access to real-time travel information to better plan for travel.

WHAT MAKES A ROAD A SMARTROAD?

- **Active Traffic Management (ATM)**
ATM uses data and video collected by the Tollway's Traffic and Incident Management System to provide real-time information to drivers including travel times, traffic incident advisories, lane closure and traffic pattern changes. SmartRoad high-tech gantries are located every half mile to communicate the real-time information with drivers.
- **Digital Message Signs**
Over-the-road digital message signs feature high-resolution, full-color graphic capability to enhance communication throughout the corridor. In addition, the SmartRoad gantries feature smaller, four-color digital message signs to direct and inform drivers.
- **State-of-the-Art Wireless Traffic Sensors**
Traffic sensors installed along the roadway help provide more comprehensive travel time information. In addition, sensors added to ramps along the corridor, will enable the Tollway to monitor and alert drivers of potential backups. These systems will be available for integration with communities along the Tollway and communication with local traffic signal systems.

BY THE NUMBERS

50	144	83	2	541	2	Up to
Dynamic Message Signs	Traffic Sensors	Roadway Cameras	Weather Stations	Lane Control Signs	Weigh In Motion	528 miles Conduit



For more information,
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- **Camera System**

Digital high-definition roadway cameras on the roadway provide the Tollway's Traffic Operations Center with the ability to pan and zoom in and out to better monitor and respond to roadway incidents.

- **Weather Stations**

Weather stations offer state-of-the-art technology capable of providing pavement monitoring and weather condition information at critical locations, including bridges on the system, to monitor and report on snow and icing conditions.

- **Flex Lanes**

Flex Lanes — wider inside shoulders — can be used as an additional lane to direct traffic around an incident to keep traffic flowing and reduce backups. All vehicles using the Flex Lane will be safely directed in coordination with the Tollway's traffic operations center. Flex Lanes can still be used in an emergency as any other roadway shoulder. Flex Lanes also provide the opportunity for coordination with transit service.

- **Managing 24/7**

Tollway Traffic Operations Center manages the SmartRoad 24/7 to provide a safer, more efficient roadway.

FLEXIBILITY FOR THE FUTURE

The Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) reconstruction will provide flexible infrastructure that will enable the Tollway to add new “smart” features as needed or as they become available in the years to come.

- **Pace Transit**

If needed, Pace Suburban Bus buses will have the ability to travel on inside shoulder Flex Lane on the roadway in times of congestion to provide reliable transit service in coordination with the Tollway's traffic operations center.

- **Vehicle-to-Infrastructure Communication**

This feature could allow our infrastructure to communicate with cars over a wireless network, exchanging data about each vehicle's speed, location and direction of travel and providing feedback to drivers to react to developing situations. The roadway will include infrastructure elements that will accommodate the equipment needed to communicate with vehicles in the future.