



Move Illinois:
The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 26, 2016

OVERNIGHT LANE CLOSURES SCHEDULED NEXT WEEK ON JANE ADDAMS MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-90) FOR ELMHURST ROAD INTERCHANGE PROJECT

Lane closures planned for bridge beam installation for new diverging diamond interchange

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Temporary, overnight lane closures are scheduled next week on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) for construction of the new Elmhurst Road Bridge over I-90. The work is part of the \$54 million Elmhurst Road Interchange Project.

Weather permitting, beginning Monday, February 29, overnight lane closures will be scheduled over three nights on I-90 in both directions to install new bridge beams. Bridge beam installation will be done during overnight hours to minimize the impact on traffic. Electronic message signs will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the overnight closures.

On I-90, overnight closures will require one lane in both directions to close after 8 p.m. with a second lane scheduled to close at midnight. Intermittent, full closures of the roadway, each lasting 15 minutes, are scheduled between midnight and 5 a.m. All lanes will reopen by 5 a.m. on Tuesday, March 1. Similar closures are scheduled overnight Tuesday, March 1 and Wednesday, March 2.

In addition, on Elmhurst Road a traffic shift will be scheduled in early March as part of ongoing work. Between Touhy Avenue and I-90, southbound Elmhurst Road traffic will be shifted to the right onto temporary pavement and northbound Elmhurst Road traffic will be shifted to the left. Between I-90 and Oakton Street, both directions of traffic will remain on the northbound side of the roadway.

The Illinois Tollway is rebuilding the interchange ramps along with the Elmhurst Road Bridge to accommodate a new, full-access diverging diamond interchange at I-90 and Elmhurst Road as part of the \$3.4 billion Elgin O'Hare Western Access (EOWA) Project. 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.

More than 20,000 vehicles a day travel through the Elmhurst Road Interchange. Work on the new interchange and traffic configuration is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation and Cook County, as well as local municipalities and fire and police departments.

Construction information about the Elmhurst Road Interchange Project is available in the "Projects by Roadway" section in the Construction/Planning section on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com. The public can follow the progress of the work on the Elmhurst Road Interchange and other work on the EOWA Project via camera images offering bird's-eye-views on the Illinois Tollway's website www.illinoistollway.com. Views of ongoing work along Illinois Route 390 are updated every 15 minutes and available online.

Currently, the Elmhurst Road Interchange on I-90 is a partial interchange providing access to and from the east. These ramps were constructed in 1958 with the original construction of I-90. The Elmhurst Road Interchange Project will reconstruct the interchange and include new ramps to and from the west

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to provide full access. Existing ramp movements to and from the east will remain open throughout the project.

The \$54 million Elmhurst Interchange Project is scheduled for completion in 2016 and is part of the \$3.4 billion Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project (EOWA), which is included in the Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Moving the Future*.

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Work Zone Safety

A 45 mph speed limit will be in effect 24/7 on Elmhurst Road. Construction zone speed limits are in effect in all construction zones 24/7 and drivers should slow down in construction zones, whether or not workers are present, watch for changing traffic patterns and use caution at all times.

Illinois State Police have zero tolerance for drivers speeding in work zones. The minimum penalty for speeding in a work zone is \$375. Posted signs advise drivers of a \$10,000 fine and 14-year jail sentence for hitting a roadway worker.

Getting Tollway Construction Information

The Illinois Tollway has a variety of ways customers can get the latest travel information, including:

- www.illinoistollway.com – Construction/Planning section, Tollway Trip Calculator, live roadway images and real-time roadway incident information
- 1-800-TOLL-FYI – Daily lane closure information
- www.travelmidwest.com – Real-time travel times
- www.twitter.com – Real-time roadway incident information at Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355 and Tollway Trip 94/294

About Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project

Considered a Project of National and Regional Significance by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the \$3.4 billion Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project represents a fiscally responsible approach to address the area's diverse travel needs – improving travel efficiency, providing western access to O'Hare International Airport, creating opportunities for jobs and economic development, enhancing multi-modal connections and reducing congestion. The project includes 17 miles of new roads with 15 new or improved interchanges as part of a new, all-electronic toll road that includes rehabilitating and widening Illinois Route 390, formerly known as the Elgin O'Hare Expressway, and extending it east along Thorndale Avenue to O'Hare and building a new roadway around the western border of O'Hare linking the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) and the Tri-State Tollway (I-294). Broadly supported by local governments, the project is the result of bipartisan consensus reached by the Elgin O'Hare Advisory Council in 2011, which brought together local communities, business, labor, public finance and regional planning and transportation experts.

About Move Illinois

The Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, will improve mobility, relieve congestion, reduce pollution, create as many as 120,000 jobs and link economies across the Midwest region. *Move Illinois* will address the remaining needs of the existing Tollway system; rebuild and widen the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) as a state-of-the-art, 21st century corridor; construct a new interchange to connect the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to I-57; build a new, all-electronic Elgin O'Hare Western Access and fund planning studies for emerging projects.

About the Illinois Tollway

The Illinois Tollway is a user-fee system that receives no state or federal funds for maintenance and operations. The agency maintains and operates 286 miles of interstate tollways in 12 counties in Northern Illinois, including the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88), the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355), the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) and the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80).

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