

Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 11, 2016

OVERNIGHT LANE CLOSURES SCHEDULED THIS WEEKEND ON I-290 FOR ILLINOIS ROUTE 390 PROJECT

Closures and detours needed for sign installation for the I-290 Interchange

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Overnight lane closures on I-290, as well as closure of the ramp carrying Biesterfield Road traffic to eastbound I-290, is scheduled this weekend to install new roadway signage for the Illinois Route 390 Project. Electronic message signs will be in place in advance to alert drivers to the overnight closures and detour for ramp traffic.

Weather permitting, overnight work is scheduled to begin Saturday, March 12, with lane closures in both directions for roadway signage installation.

On eastbound I-290 between Higgins Road and Illinois Route 390, one lane is scheduled to close at 8 p.m., with a second lane closing at 10 p.m. followed by a third lane closing at midnight. Intermittent, full closures of the eastbound lanes are scheduled between 1 a.m. and 7 a.m. on Sunday, March 13. All lanes will reopen by 8 a.m. on Sunday, March 13.

On westbound I-290 between Irving Park Road and Biesterfield Road, one lane is scheduled to close at 11 p.m. All lanes will reopen by 8 a.m. on Sunday, March 13.

In addition, to accommodate work during the intermittent full eastbound I-290 roadway closures, the ramp carrying Biesterfield Road traffic to eastbound I-290 is scheduled also to close from 1 a.m. to 7 a.m. Detours will be posted. Biesterfield Road traffic traveling to eastbound I-290 will be detoured onto westbound I-290 and directed to exit at Higgins Road before reentering eastbound I-290.

Full closures on I-290 are being scheduled overnight to minimize the impact to daily commuters. Up to 240,000 vehicles a day travel through the Illinois Route 390/I-290 area. Work on the new I-290 Interchange and detours are being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County and the village of Itasca, along with local police and fire departments.



Illinois Route 390 Project

The first phase of the Elgin O'Hare Western Access (EOWA) Project includes building the new Illinois Route 390. The Illinois Route 390 Project scheduled to be complete by 2017 is improving the existing portion of Illinois Route 390, formerly known as the Elgin O'Hare Expressway, from Lake Street (U.S. Route 20) to I-290 and extending Illinois Route 390 east to Illinois Route 83 along the current Thorndale Avenue with bridges and frontage roads to accommodate local traffic.

The new Illinois Route 390 from Lake Street (U.S. Route 20) to Illinois Route 83, including a new interchange at I-290, is estimated at \$780 million. In 2015, the Illinois Tollway completed improvements to the western segment of Illinois Route 390 between Lake Street (U.S. Route 20) and Rohlwing Road.

In 2016, the project includes work to build the new Illinois Route 390 Tollway east from I-290 to Illinois Route 83, including construction of new bridges to carry Illinois Route 390 traffic over Hamilton Lakes Drive, Salt Creek, Mittel Boulevard and Lively Boulevard to accommodate local traffic. In addition, local interchange improvements, construction of new frontage roads, local roadway improvements and noisewalls will be built to accommodate the new Illinois Route 390. The new roadway between Rohlwing Road and Illinois Route 83 is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2017.

Maps and construction project information about the Illinois Route 390 Project are available in the "Projects by Roadway" section in the Construction/Planning section on the Tollway's website at <u>www.illinoistollway.com</u>.

These improvements are part of the \$3.4 billion Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project, which is included in the Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future.*

Work Zone Safety

A 55 mph speed limit is in effect 24/7 on I-290. 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:

- <u>www.illinoistollway.com</u> Construction/Planning section, Tollway Trip Calculator, live roadway images and real-time roadway incident information
- 1-800-TOLL-FYI Daily lane closure information
- <u>www.travelmidwest.com</u> Real-time travel times
- <u>www.twitter.com</u> 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).