



*Move Illinois:  
The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*

# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 30, 2016**

## **NEW EASTBOUND I-290 FLYOVER RAMP OPENS**

*Ramp will improve access and provide free-flow travel to new Illinois Route 390 Tollway*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The new flyover ramp bridge connecting eastbound I-290 to eastbound Illinois Route 390 is now open to traffic, creating a new free-flow movement within the I-290 Interchange, reducing travel times and improving access between I-290 and the Illinois Route 390 Tollway.

As part of the Illinois Tollway's I-290 Interchange Project, the Illinois Department of Transportation together with DuPage County is building the three-level, multi-span ramp structure that will provide two, 12-foot lanes with a 10-foot outside shoulder and a 12-foot inside shoulder.

The new free-flow ramp will eliminate bottlenecks and significantly reduce travel delays on Illinois Route 390 and through the interchange with the elimination of the last remaining traffic signal at the interchange controlling traffic flow between eastbound I-290 and eastbound Illinois Route 390.

At 1 a.m. on Wednesday, November 30, the right lane on the new ramp opened to traffic, but the left lane will remain closed until work on the interchange is complete in 2017. In conjunction with the ramp opening, the traffic signal at the existing intersection of the ramp from eastbound I-290 to eastbound Illinois Route 390 will be removed and a third lane on westbound Illinois Route 390 between Hamilton Lakes Drive and I-290 will open, helping to reduce congestion at the interchange.

The new flyover ramp is funded through the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program. DuPage County in collaboration with other area officials secured about 80 percent of the \$38.3 million cost through the CMAQ program with the remaining 20 percent funded by the Illinois Tollway.

When completed, the I-290 Interchange Project will create direct access with free-flow traffic movements to and from Illinois Route 390 in all directions and reduce travel times by up to 35 percent. As part of this project, three traffic signals have already been removed along Illinois Route 390 and Thorndale Avenue, including those at Rohlwing Road and at the eastbound I-290 and westbound I-290 ramps to Thorndale Avenue. Additional traffic signals are scheduled to be removed in 2017 between Park Boulevard and Illinois Route 83 when the Illinois Route 390 Tollway mainline is complete.

The public can follow the progress of the work on the I-290 Interchange via camera images offering bird's-eye-views on the Illinois Tollway's website, along with maps and construction project information available in the "Projects by Roadway" section in the Construction/Planning section on the Tollway's website at [illinoistollway.com](http://illinoistollway.com).

### **Work Zone Safety**

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Illinois Route 390 Tollway and other area roadways remain safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency's overall commitment to roadway safety.

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Construction zone speed limits are in effect in all construction zones 24/7 and drivers should continue to watch for changing traffic patterns and use caution, especially when workers are present. On Illinois Route 390 a 45 mph work zone speed limit is in effect throughout the construction season. Work zone speed limits are in place on other roads in the project area as well, including a 55 mph work zone speed limit on I-290.

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 a 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:

- [Illinoistollway.com](http://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
- [travelmidwest.com](http://travelmidwest.com) – Real-time travel times
- [twitter.com](http://twitter.com) – Real-time roadway incident information at Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355, Tollway Trip 94/294 and Tollway Trip 390.

### **I-290 Interchange Project**

As part of the new Illinois Route 390 Tollway, the I-290 Interchange is being constructed by the Illinois Tollway and the Illinois Department of Transportation to provide direct access to and from Illinois Route 390 in all directions. Currently, about 83,000 vehicles per day use ramps at the Illinois Route 390/I-290 Interchange; 127,000 vehicles per day are expected to use the new interchange ramps when it opens in 2017 – an increase of more than 53 percent. Today, about 240,000 vehicles a day travel through the Illinois Route 390/I-290 area. By 2030, that number is expected to increase to 340,000.

The I-290 Interchange Project is estimated at approximately \$440 million and will include 17 ramps and 15 new bridges in the interchange area between Meacham/Medinah Road and Prospect Avenue and will create direct access with a new fly-over ramp and free-flow traffic movements to and from Illinois Route 390 in all directions. The I-290 Interchange Project also includes construction of a new Rohlwing Road Bridge and access improvements along Illinois Route 390 between Meacham Road/Medinah Road and Prospect Avenue. The new I-290 Interchange Project is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2017.

The new Illinois Route 390 Tollway is part of the \$3.4 billion Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project included in the Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Moving the Future*.

### **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 throughout the 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 other 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 292 miles of roadways 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), the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) and the Illinois Route 390 Tollway.

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