



*Move Illinois:
The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 9, 2018

ACEC-ILLINOIS 2018 BEST IN TRANSPORTATION AWARDED TO JANE ADDAMS MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-90) REBUILDING AND WIDENING PROJECT

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois (ACEC-Illinois) presented the Illinois Tollway with a 2018 Engineering Excellence Honor Award and named the \$2.5 billion Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Rebuilding and Widening Project Best in Transportation.

The ACEC-Illinois Engineering Excellence Awards were presented yesterday at the annual Engineering Excellence Awards gala in Chicago. Entries are judged on the basis of engineering excellence, the degree to which the client's needs are met and the benefits to the public welfare and private practice of engineering. The I-90 Project was selected for its extensive teamwork and positive impact on Tollway customers and communities throughout the corridor.

"It takes a great project team to build a great roadway and we're honored that the I-90 project is recognized as Best in Transportation," said Illinois Tollway Board Chairman Bob Schillerstrom. "This new roadway reflects our investment in the regional transportation system and is delivering the benefits we promised to our customers – making travel faster, safer and more efficient."

The I-90 Rebuilding and Widening Project completed the rebuilding and widening of 62 miles of roadway in each direction between the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) near O'Hare International Airport and I-39 in Rockford in 2016, as well as improvements to 16 interchanges and more than 100 bridges.

In addition, to delivering a new roadway, the new I-90 features flexible infrastructure and technology to enable the Tollway to add new "smart" features as needed and introduced the region's first SmartRoad in 2017, communicating real-time roadway and traffic information to drivers and delivering a 21st century corridor. Additionally, the project accommodates Flex Lanes for transit and direct access for the public to Pace Bus service for the first time in the agency's history.

"The Tollway's I-90 Rebuilding Project was a perfect example of teamwork," said ACEC-Illinois Executive Director Dave Bender. "Engineers, contractors, labor and, of course, Tollway staff worked very hard to pull off this mega project. To win the Best in Transportation Category in the ACEC-Illinois Engineering Excellence Awards is quite special, since nearly half of the entries involve transportation. This creative and innovative project will serve millions of drivers each year to arrive safely at their destination while benefitting dozens of communities for decades to come."

The four-year project involved more than 540 firms, including 415 construction companies and 125 professional services firms, with more than 200 firms identified as disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise firms and veteran-owned businesses. The project employed approximately 650 construction workers.

The I-90 Rebuilding and Widening Project is part of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*. The I-90 corridor serves nearly 1 million travelers per day between Rockford and downtown Chicago via roadway travel and public transit, including CTA and Pace service.

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Improvements are projected to save drivers up to 30 minutes on the average trip from Rockford to O'Hare Airport, save drivers 27 minutes on the average trip from Elgin to the Kennedy Expressway and save drivers \$440 million annually in fuel and productivity costs.

About Move Illinois

The Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, is improving mobility, relieving congestion, reducing pollution, creating as many as 120,000 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. The first six years of *Move Illinois* are on schedule and within budget, delivering the new Illinois Route 390 Tollway and a rebuilt and widened Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) with its new SmartRoad corridor, as well as opening a new interchange connecting the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to I-57. Progress continues on projects addressing the remaining needs of the existing Tollway system, delivering the new I-490 Tollway Project and reconstruction of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and planning 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 294 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), the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) and the Illinois Route 390 Tollway.

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