



*Move Illinois:
The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*

NEWS

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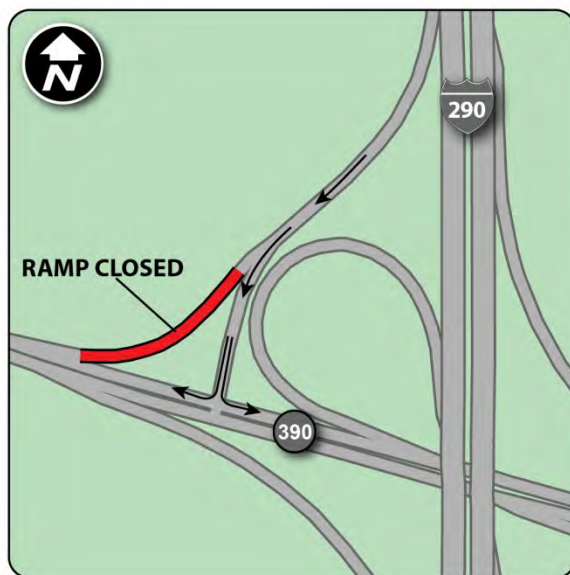
**TEMPORARY LANE REDUCTION ON THORNDALE AVENUE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN
THIS WEEK FOR ELGIN O'HARE WESTERN ACCESS PROJECT**

All traffic exiting from eastbound I-290 will move onto one ramp

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway is scheduled to reduce the number of lanes on a section of westbound Illinois Route 390 (Thorndale Avenue) this week and is preparing to move all traffic exiting to Illinois Route 390 from eastbound I-290 onto one ramp to continue construction of the new flyover ramp that will connect westbound I-290 to Illinois Route 390 as part of the Elgin O'Hare Western Access (EOWA) Project.

Work is scheduled to begin after 10 p.m. on Thursday, May 8. On Illinois Route 390, westbound traffic will be reduced to two lanes near the exit to eastbound I-290. The outside westbound lane will serve as an exit only lane to I-290. The Illinois Route 390 lane reduction will be in place for about two months.

In addition, a portion of the ramp carrying traffic from eastbound I-290 to Illinois Route 390 is scheduled to close later this week for construction. The existing eastbound I-290 to eastbound Illinois Route 390 ramp will be widened and all vehicles exiting eastbound I-290 onto Illinois Route 390 will continue to the same traffic signal with westbound traffic directed to turn right and eastbound traffic directed to turn left. Up to 10,500 vehicles a day use the segment of the ramp serving only westbound Illinois Route 390. Up to 18,000 vehicles a day use the combined ramp.



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The lane reduction on Illinois Route 390 and the ramp closure are needed to provide a work zone for construction of the new interchange connecting Illinois Route 390 and I-290. This year, eight piers will be built for the flyover ramp as part of the I-290 Interchange Project. Beam placement for the flyover ramp is expected to begin later this year and be complete in spring 2015. Work will also begin on the new ramp connecting westbound I-290 to eastbound Illinois Route 390, but that work will have no immediate impact on traffic.

The I-290 Interchange is being reconstructed to provide direct access to and from Illinois Route 390 in all directions. The interchange 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*.

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 around the western border of O'Hare linking the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) and the Tri-State Tollway (I-294), the extension of the Elgin O'Hare Expressway east along Thorndale Avenue to O'Hare and the rehabilitation and widening of the existing Elgin O'Hare Expressway. Broadly supported by local governments, the project is the result of bipartisan consensus reached by Governor Quinn's 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 \$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 the Illinois Route 53/120 Project and the Illiana Expressway.

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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