



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 14, 2016**

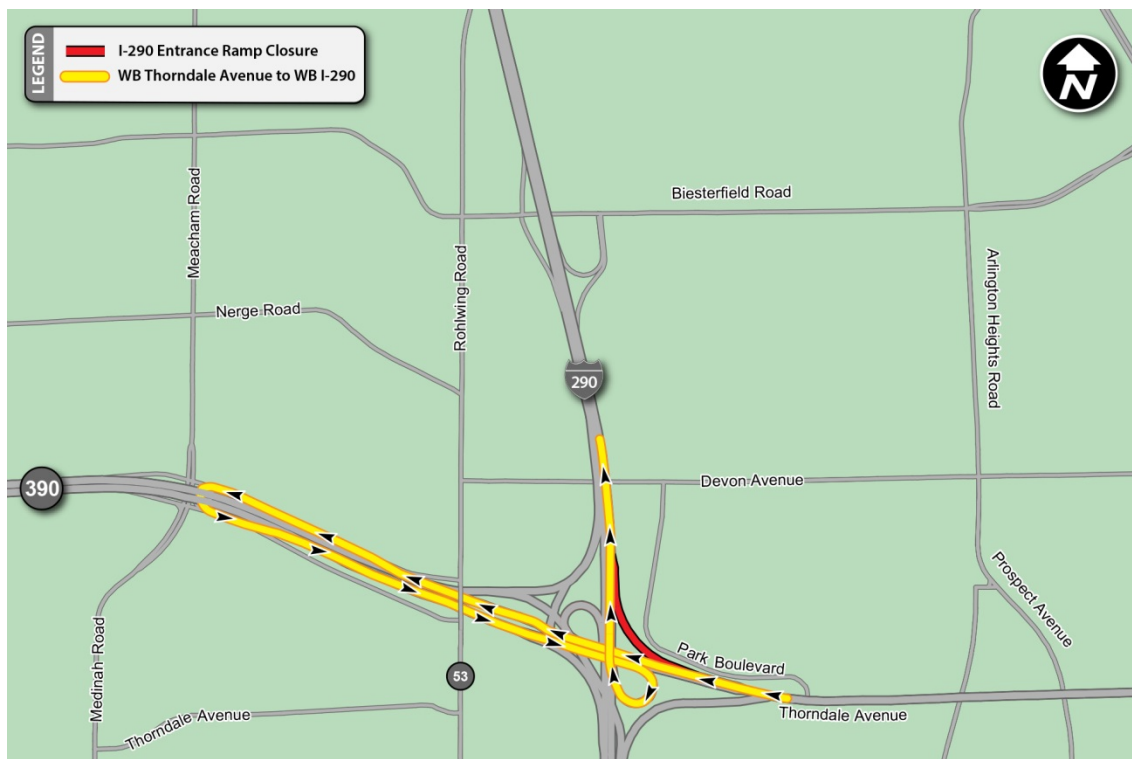
**TEMPORARY, OVERNIGHT RAMP CLOSURE SCHEDULED THIS WEEK  
ON I-290 FOR ELGIN O'HARE WESTERN ACCESS PROJECT**

*Ramp closure and detour needed for a traffic shift on the I-290 Interchange Project*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – A temporary, overnight closure of the ramp connecting westbound Illinois Route 390 to westbound I-290 with a posted detour is scheduled this week to shift ramp traffic as part of ongoing work on the I-290 Interchange Project.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the overnight closures and detour. The temporary closures are necessary to provide a work zone and safely accommodate the construction of the I-290 Interchange. All work is weather dependent.

On Thursday, June 16, one westbound lane on Illinois Route 390 between Park Boulevard and I-290 is scheduled to close at 9 p.m. to prepare for a traffic shift on the ramp connecting westbound Illinois Route 390 to westbound I-290. At 1 a.m. on Friday, June 17, a full ramp closure is scheduled and traffic will be detoured via the Meacham Road loop ramp to eastbound Illinois Route 390 and back to the I-290 Interchange where traffic will be able to exit to westbound I-290. All lanes are scheduled to reopen by 5 a.m. on Friday, June 17, ahead of rush hour traffic.



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.

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

As part of the EOWA Project, the Illinois Tollway is completely rebuilding the I-290 Interchange at Illinois Route 390, formerly known as the Elgin O'Hare Expressway. 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.

Maps and construction project information about the EOWA Project are available in the “Projects by Roadway” section in the Construction/Planning section on the Tollway’s website at [www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com).

The \$3.4 billion Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project is included in the Tollway’s 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Moving 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:

- [www.illinoistollway.com](http://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](http://www.travelmidwest.com) – Real-time travel times
- [www.twitter.com](http://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, 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 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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