



*Move Illinois:  
The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*

# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 4, 2018**

## **MARCH OF DIMES PRESENTS ILLINOIS TOLLWAY WITH 2018 TRANSPORTATION AWARD**

*Agency recognized for Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Rebuilding and Widening Project*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The Illinois Tollway received the 2018 Transportation Award from the March of Dimes in recognition of the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Rebuilding and Widening Project. The award was presented today, May 4, during the March of Dimes annual Construction and Transportation Awards luncheon in Chicago.

The March of Dimes Transportation Award recognizes an outstanding transportation project within the greater Chicago community. Honorees are selected by the organization's 23-person planning committee, which is made up of professionals from various companies within the construction and transportation industries. The I-90 Rebuilding and Widening Project was selected for its positive impact on communities throughout the corridor, from Rockford to Chicago.

"The Illinois Tollway is making a difference in people's lives through our investments in major transportation infrastructure projects such as the I-90 Rebuilding and Widening Project," said Tollway Board Chairman Bob Schillerstrom. "Projects like this improve access, stimulate economic development and create jobs so communities and the people who live and work there can thrive."

Now in its 24<sup>th</sup> year, the March of Dimes annual foundation event is one the largest gatherings of the construction and transportation industries in the Chicago metropolitan area. It provides an opportunity for individuals and businesses to come together in support of the March of Dimes mission to prevent and reduce premature birth and birth defects and promote good health for moms and babies through research, education, advocacy, community programs and support. Proceeds from the event directly fund the research and programs that help to ensure that every baby receives a healthy start to life.

"We are pleased to present the Transportation Award to the Illinois Tollway for the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Rebuilding and Widening Project," said 2018 March of Dimes Construction and Transportation Awards Chair Kendra Dinkins, who is president and CEO of Taylor Electric Co. "Initiatives such as these illustrate the Tollway's commitment to serving the community's needs, which parallels the March of Dimes mission – to fight for the health of all moms and babies."

Completed in 2016, the I-90 Rebuilding and Widening Project delivered 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, as well as improvements to 16 interchanges and more than 100 bridges.

The 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.

The four-year project delivered a new roadway along with new flexible infrastructure and technology to enable the Tollway to add new "smart" features as needed and introduce the region's first SmartRoad in 2017, communicating real-time roadway and traffic information to drivers and delivering a 21<sup>st</sup>

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 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.

**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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