



# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
January 19, 2011

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## **ILLINOIS TOLLWAY ANNOUNCES 2011 CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM**

*Congestion-Relief Program nearly 85 percent complete;  
Work on Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) scheduled for April*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The Illinois Tollway today announced plans for its 2011 Congestion-Relief Program (CRP), which has been reduced from \$6.3 billion to \$5.8 billion to reflect actual savings from projects completed and closed, anticipated project savings from future closeouts, a decrease in projected revenues due to the slow economy and the elimination of the design engineering for future work on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Corridor.

By the end of 2010, the Illinois Tollway had completed nearly \$5 billion in improvements on the Tollway's roads on time and on budget, resulting in more efficient travel and a smoother ride for motorists. The CRP is nearly 85 percent complete.

Congestion-Relief Program projects will continue through 2016. In 2011, work will include resurfacing I-90 from Barrington Road to the Elgin Toll Plaza and from U.S. 20 to Genoa Road, as well as design for resurfacing on I-90 from the Kennedy Expressway to Barrington Road.

An estimated \$105 million of the \$192 million budgeted for the CRP in 2011 will be spent on I-90. The work is scheduled to begin in April between Genoa Road and U.S. 20 and between the Elgin Toll Plaza and Barrington Road and includes repairing and resurfacing 27 miles of mainline pavement and rehabilitating 25 bridge structures. This work is scheduled to be complete by the end of this year. The remaining \$87 million budgeted for the CRP will be spent on landscape projects and other systemwide improvements.

Changes to the scope of work on I-90 in the CRP include the elimination of \$151.9 million previously allocated for design engineering work associated with a full reconstruct and widening of I-90. Funding in the current CRP is sufficient to address pavement surface issues for the next five to seven years.

"Pavement on I-90 will be undergoing a 5<sup>th</sup> rehabilitation, which is beyond industry norms and unprecedented on the Tollway system," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Kristi Lafleur. "By the end of the CRP, this pavement will be nearing 60 years old. The Tollway's staff has done a tremendous job of maintaining the roadway and addressing the most pressing needs and the upcoming work will allow us to continue to provide our customers with a smooth ride."

### **About the Tollway's Congestion-Relief Program**

The Illinois Tollway's \$5.8 billion Congestion-Relief Program - *Open Roads for a Faster Future*, is reducing travel times by rebuilding and restoring nearly all of the system, adding lanes to many miles of existing roads, converting 22 toll plazas to barrier-free open road tolling, and extending I-355 south to I-80 in Will County.

In the first six years of the program, the Tollway delivered numerous improvements:

- Customers have realized the time-saving benefits of open road tolling at 22 toll plazas – completed in less than 22 months.
- Customers have benefited from a newly rebuilt and widened corridor on the South Tri-State Tollway (I-294/I-80) from IL Route 394 to 95<sup>th</sup> Street, and on the North Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294) from Balmoral Avenue to IL Route 173.
- The Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) has been widened and reconstructed from York Road to IL Route 59 and from the Aurora Toll Plaza to Orchard Road. The section of the Reagan Memorial Tollway from US 30 to IL Route 251 was restored to make the existing pavement a base to support a new full-depth asphalt pavement.
- The section of the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) from the Cherry Valley Interchange to Rockton Road was reconstructed and widened with full-depth asphalt pavement. These improvements also included a reconstructed and reconfigured interchange at I-90 and I-39, and the removal of the Cherry Valley Toll Plaza.
- In addition to the 12.5 mile extension of the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355), the original 17-mile section of I-355 from I-88 to Army Trail Road and from I-55 to 75th Street was repaired and resurfaced and the segment between 75th Street and Ogden Avenue was resurfaced and widened.

### **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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