

ELGIN O'HARE WESTERN ACCESS PROJECT



Elmhurst Road Interchange Project at I-90

PROJECT OVERVIEW

In 2015, work continues to build the new Elmhurst Road Interchange on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90). The Illinois Tollway will complete the reconstruction of the existing ramps and construction of a new bridge to carry Elmhurst Road traffic over the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) and then begin work to reconstruct and widen Elmhurst Road.

The \$54 million Elmhurst Road Interchange Project will complete the existing partial interchange that currently only provides access to and from the east and is scheduled to be completed in 2016. This work is part of the Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project.

Construction Update (7-1-16)

All traffic on Elmhurst Road between Oakton Street and I-90 is shifted onto the northbound side of the road to allow for widening of southbound lanes and construction of the new northbound Elmhurst Road Bridge. In addition, northbound traffic is reduced to one lane over Higgins Creek to allow for the rebuilding and widening of the southbound side of the Higgins Creek Bridge.

Elmhurst Road Bridge

Traffic in both directions is shifted onto the new southbound Elmhurst Road Bridge. This will allow for the demolition of the old Elmhurst Road Bridge and the start of construction on the new northbound Elmhurst Road Bridge.

PROJECT SUMMARY

A new, diverging diamond interchange will be constructed at I-90 and Elmhurst Road. Diverging diamond interchanges are designed to eliminate left turns in front of oncoming traffic, smooth traffic flow and reduce congestion. Right turns work the same as they do at conventional interchanges, and traffic is controlled by signals. The Elmhurst Road Interchange will be one of the region's first diverging diamond interchanges.

The project includes construction of two new bridge structures to carry southbound and northbound Elmhurst Road traffic over I-90. The new bridge will feature a shared-use path for pedestrians and bicyclists in the median of the northbound bridge. In addition, existing ramps carrying

traffic to and from the east will be reconstructed and new ramps to provide access to and from the west will be built.

Additional work on this project includes the reconstruction of the Elmhurst Road Bridge over Higgins Creek and the reconstruction and widening of Elmhurst Road from two lanes to three, which will begin in spring 2015 and continue through the end of the year.

Traffic Impacts

Whenever possible, the Tollway uses traffic shifts and shoulders to keep as many lanes open during peak hours as were available before construction. The Elmhurst Road Bridge and all existing ramp access will remain open during construction.

In 2015, the Elmhurst Road Bridge Project will require traffic shifts and reduced speed limits on I-90 for work to construct the new bridge structure.

PURPOSE

New bridges and ramps will be constructed at the interchange to provide full access between I-90 and Elmhurst Road. The current interchange at Elmhurst Road and I-90 is a partial interchange providing westbound exit and eastbound entrance access only. These ramps were built in 1958 as part of the original construction of I-90.

The project cost is estimated at \$54 million. These improvements are part of the \$3.4 billion Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project, which is included in the Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

BUILDING GREEN

The Tollway is committed to "Building Green" and minimizing the environmental impact of construction by reducing, recycling and reusing materials. New asphalt pavement used for the ramp shoulders may incorporate recycled materials and sustainable practices including warm-mix asphalt, reclaimed asphalt pavement and recycled asphalt shingles. In addition to reducing the cost of this work, reusing materials reduces the need for virgin asphalt materials and reduces the volume of material that would

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otherwise be sent to landfills.

WORK ZONE SAFETY

A 45 mph work zone speed limit is in place on I-90. A 35 mph work zone speed limit is in place on Elmhurst Road. Construction zone speed limits are in effect in all construction zones 24/7 and drivers should continue to watch for changing traffic patterns and use caution, especially when workers are present. Visit the Tollway's Work Zone Safety page at www.illinoistollway.com.



LEGEND

- 2014
- Fall 2014 - 2016
- 2015-2016
- Local Road Improvements - late 2015-2016
- New Traffic Signals and Turn Lanes



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