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## **Monroe Street Bridge Reconstruction Begins Monday, part of Ongoing Jane Byrne Interchange Project**

**CHICAGO** – The Illinois Department of Transportation announced that an extended bridge closure will take place on Monroe Street between Halsted Street and Des Plaines Avenue to reconstruct the Monroe Street bridge over the Kennedy Expressway (Interstate 90/94), in Chicago, beginning, weather permitting, Monday, Feb. 26. The bridge reconstruction project is part of the ongoing Jane Byrne Interchange project.

Beginning Monday, the structure that carries Monroe Street over Interstate 90/94 will be fully closed to vehicle and pedestrian traffic. A posted detour will direct westbound Monroe Street vehicle traffic to go south on Des Plaines Avenue, west on Adams Street, and north on Halsted Street to meet back with Monroe Street. Eastbound Monroe Street traffic should go north on Halsted Street, east on Madison Street and south on Des Plaines Avenue to meet back with Monroe Street. Pedestrians should use the Madison Street bridge.

Expected to open in Summer 2019, the new structure will have two lanes in each direction, as well as sidewalks on both sides of the bridge. The scope of the project includes total reconstruction of the Monroe Street bridge over the Kennedy Expressway. It also includes new retaining walls, lighting and traffic signal enhancements.

The Monroe Street bridge is one of several expressway bridge improvement projects included in the overall Jane Byrne Interchange reconstruction. Of those bridges, the following are completed and open to traffic: Halsted Street, Taylor Street, Morgan Street, Harrison Street and Peoria Street.

The overall reconstruction project at the Jane Byrne Interchange will improve safety and traffic flow for the more than 400,000 motorists who use it each day, while also enhancing mobility for bicyclists, pedestrians and transit users in the surrounding neighborhoods. For more information and to view a live camera feed of the work zone, visit [www.circleinterchange.org](http://www.circleinterchange.org).

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