



State of Illinois
Bruce Rauner, Governor

Illinois Department of Transportation
Randall S. Blankenhorn, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 22, 2015

CONTACT:
Carson Quinn 312.814.4693
Guy Tridgell 312.793.4199

IL19/Irving Park Road now open between South Access Road and York Road

CHICAGO – The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced that Illinois Route 19 (Irving Park Road) will be fully open with two lanes in both directions accessible to traffic between South Access Road and York Road near Bensenville and O’Hare Airport.

The re-opening of IL 19 includes the new 14’ – 6” vertical clearance under the new railroad bridge. In late March 2015, IDOT immediately closed the roadway and implemented a detour after a large number of trucks ignored a posted truck detour, and the new railroad bridge over the roadway was struck by over-height trucks multiple times. The at-grade railroad crossing the caused frequent delays on IL 19 as trains blocked the roadway has been removed and all Canadian Pacific trains are operating along the new bridge. Work continues on culvert work north of IL 19.

This is part of the railroad flyover project, which kicked off in February 2013. The project includes the reconstruction of the intersection of Irving Park Road and York Road, that respectively carry 37,000 vehicles and 28,000 vehicles each day. An average of 25 freight trains pass through the crossing each day, delaying 6,400 vehicles and costing motorists 1,500 daily hours of delays that will be eliminated as a result of this project. The project is in conjunction with the Village of Bensenville, DuPage County, the City of Chicago’s O’Hare Modernization Program, the Canadian Pacific Railroad and Metra.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to flaggers and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits and be on the alert for workers and equipment.

Find details on other construction projects in IDOT’s District 1 at <http://goo.gl/upgvZu>. Updates on the impacts to traffic are available at www.travelmidwest.com.

##