



State of Illinois
Pat Quinn, Governor



Illinois Department of Transportation
Ann L. Schneider, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Traffic Alert

IDOT: Full Weekend Closures of I-90/94 (Kennedy Expressway), Ohio/Ontario Feeder Ramp & Reversibles Begin June 13

CHICAGO – The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced that weather permitting, demolition of the westbound Ohio/Ontario Street Bridge to eastbound I-90/94 over I-90/94 (Kennedy Expressway), will begin Friday, June 13, 2014.

This large-scale demolition will occur over the course of **three** separate weekends. Due to the type of bridge, a three-unit, eight-span, concrete structure with the supporting columns constructed integral into the bridge, it cannot be disassembled in pieces, but rather must be removed one unit at a time. The demolition schedule is as follows:

JUNE 13, 14, 15

10 p.m. Friday – 5 a.m. Monday- **Closure of eastbound I-90/94 and the reversible lanes.**
Removal of first portion (unit 2 over EB I-90/94): Divert two (2) lanes of EB I-90/94 onto EB Ohio Street exit to cross-over on temporary pavement within the interchange infield area to access EB I-90/94.

JUNE 20, 21, 22

10 p.m. Friday – 5 a.m. Monday- **Closure of westbound I-90/94 and the reversible lanes.**
Removal of second portion (unit 1 over WB I-90/94): Divert two (2) lanes of WB I-90/94 traffic onto EB Ohio Street ramp. Continue to Orleans Street to make a U-turn and head along WB Orleans Street to access WB I-90/94. The intersection at Orleans Street will be reconfigured and restriped to allow free-flow movements

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JUNE 27, 28, 29

10 p.m. Friday – 5 a.m. Monday- **Closure of eastbound I-90/94 exit to Ohio Street.**

Removal of last portion (unit 3 over the EB Ramp to Ohio Street): Both directions of I-90/94 will be open.

The removal of the westbound Ontario Street to eastbound I-90/94 ramp structure will have a significant impact on traffic in and around the system. An estimated 260,000 vehicles travel along I-90/94 per day.

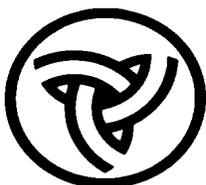
This project is a \$ 16.5 million improvement to the Ontario Street entrance onto the Kennedy Expressway as part of the Ohio Street interchange project. This structure will be replaced with a three-span, steel girder structure over I-90/94 and a single span, steel girder structure over the eastbound I-90/94 to eastbound Ohio Street exit ramp. It also involves the extension and deck beam replacement of the westbound Ontario Street to westbound I-90/94 ramp tunnel structure.

Other minor work includes the construction of a retaining wall along the westbound Ontario Street to eastbound I-90/94 ramp, drainage improvements and new roadway lighting under the tunnel structure.

Motorists can expect significant delays and back-ups and should seek alternate routes. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to flaggers, watch for signing in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits, and be on the alert for workers and equipment. Mass transit is strongly encouraged.

Detour routes can be found at www.dot.state.il.us/KennedyatOhio/detour.html and details on other construction projects in IDOT's District 1 at www.dot.state.il.us. Updates on the impacts to traffic are available at www.travelmidwest.com

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