



State of Illinois
Pat Quinn, Governor

Illinois Department of Transportation
Erica Borggren, Acting Secretary

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First of Jane Byrne Interchange Bridges Opens

New Morgan Street Bridge Includes Pedestrian Improvements, Other Upgrades

CHICAGO - The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced tonight that the new Morgan Street bridge is now open to traffic. Morgan Street is the first of the nine major bridges crossing the expressway system near downtown Chicago that are being rebuilt as part of Governor Pat Quinn's \$420 million reconstruction of the Jane Byrne Interchange.

"Commuters, local residents and business owners will start to see benefits immediately with the new Morgan Street bridge opening," Acting Transportation Secretary Erica Borggren said. "This is a major milestone for the Jane Byrne Interchange reconstruction. We appreciate the continued patience and look forward to many more improvements to come."

Construction started in September 2013 to remove and replace Morgan Street over Interstate 290 (Eisenhower Expressway) and the Chicago Transit Authority's Blue Line. The longer bridge includes additional space under Morgan Street to accommodate the other improvements planned as part of overhaul of the Jane Byrne Interchange. Other components of the rebuilt bridge include new sidewalks, modernized traffic signals and improved lighting.

In addition to Morgan Street, as part of the Jane Byrne Interchange project, there are eight other cross street bridges that will be rebuilt: Taylor Street, Harrison Street, Van Buren Street, Jackson Boulevard, Adams Street, Monroe Street, Halsted Street and Peoria Street. The new bridges will enhance mobility in the area by including bike lanes, wider sidewalks and improved access to transit. Currently under construction are the Halsted Street and Peoria Street bridges over I-290 and the Harrison Street bridge over Interstate 90/94 (Dan Ryan Expressway).

The Jane Byrne Interchange connects the Eisenhower, Kennedy and Dan Ryan expressways, as well as Congress Parkway. More than 400,000 vehicles, including more than 30,000 trucks, pass through the interchange each day. Its four-year renovation started last year to improve safety, reduce congestion and create new jobs and economic development throughout the region.

For more information on the project, including a live camera feed of the work zone, visit www.circleinterchange.org.