

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Inbound Ryan/Kennedy lane changes at Byrne

Washington ramp reopens, lanes split, new collector-distributor road opens

CHICAGO – The Illinois Department of Transportation is reminding the public that as part of the ongoing Jane Byrne Interchange reconstruction, stage changes are scheduled to take place on the inbound Kennedy Expressway (Interstate 90/94) beginning, weather permitting, Friday, Dec. 17, and on the inbound Dan Ryan Expressway (Interstate 90/94) starting, weather permitting, Sunday, Dec. 19.

To facilitate the inbound Kennedy stage change, starting at 10 p.m. tomorrow, Tuesday, Dec. 14, crews will begin to remove the current split configuration on the inbound Kennedy, between Washington Boulevard and Van Buren Street. **By 5 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, the lane split will be removed, and traffic will stay in the no-split configuration for two days (Wednesday and Thursday) while crews prepare for the next lane split configuration.** Starting at 10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, final work on the new configuration will begin. By 5 a.m. Friday, Dec. 17, the new traffic pattern will be in place and is estimated to remain until early summer 2022.

Inbound Kennedy

- In the new configuration, there will continue to be five inbound lanes, exits remain the same. The right lane stays as an exit lane to Monroe Street. The exit to Ida B. Wells Drive/outbound Eisenhower Expressway (Interstate 290) and Taylor Street remains the same.
- The **three inbound through lanes will split near Van Buren Street.** The two left lanes **shift slightly left onto new pavement** before continuing southbound.
- The third inbound lane remains in its current configuration. **Drivers wishing to access the 18th Street exit must do so via this lane.**
- All lanes rejoin just south of Roosevelt Road.

Inbound Dan Ryan

By 9 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 19, the following configuration will be in place. At the same time, the exit ramp to Washington Boulevard reopens.

- There will continue to be five inbound lanes near 14th Street. The two right lanes stay as the exit to Ida B. Wells Drive/outbound Eisenhower Expressway (Interstate 290).
- The three inbound through lanes will shift slightly to the right and will **split after Taylor Street.**

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- The two left lanes continue inbound and **traffic will not be able to exit until Ohio Street.**
- The right lane will connect to the new collector-distributor road to **access the exit ramps to Washington Boulevard, Madison, Randolph** (*currently closed until spring 2022*) and **Lake streets**, then continues north to rejoin the outbound Kennedy at Lake Street.
- Additionally, the inbound Eisenhower ramp to the outbound Kennedy will be reconfigured to connect with the new CD road to access the exit ramps before connecting to the expressway.

Motorists should be aware of the changes, prepare to merge into their preferred lane early and anticipate some delays the first few days of the configuration.

To facilitate the overall stage changes, motorists should expect various overnight lane and ramp closures (with detours) on both sides of the expressway, between Lake Street and Roosevelt Road, weather permitting, from 8 p.m. Saturday, to 9 a.m. Sunday and from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Sunday through Thursday, with occasional full stops for no longer than 15 minutes at a time beginning at 1 a.m.

The new configuration will allow center lanes to be built as part of mainline expressway construction and is estimated to remain until early summer 2022.

The new collector-distributor road will improve safety, efficiency and reduce conflict points by relocating the left-hand entrance ramps at Jackson and Adams streets, along with separating the exit ramps to Washington Boulevard, Lake, Madison and Randolph streets from mainline traffic.

Motorists should expect significant delays and 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.

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, visit www.janebyrneinterchange.org. The mobile-friendly website features a detailed project timeline with an interactive map, photo galleries, a live camera feed of the work zone, and the ability to submit questions and comments to the project team via a “Contact Us” link.

The improved Jane Byrne Interchange will be substantially completed by late 2022.

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