



State of Illinois  
JB Pritzker, Governor



Illinois Department of Transportation  
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## Eastbound I-80 lane changes, ramp reopens

**CHICAGO** – The Illinois Department of Transportation announced today that as part of the ongoing efforts to replace the eastbound Interstate 80 bridges over Hickory Creek, Richards Street, Rowell Avenue/Canadian National Railroad and westbound over Richards Street in Joliet, Rockdale and New Lenox, a stage change is scheduled to take place on eastbound I-80 beginning, weather permitting, Wednesday, May 3.

To prepare for the next stage of the project, starting at 9 p.m. Wednesday, a lane closure will take place on eastbound I-80, between Wheeler Avenue and Briggs Street. At least one eastbound lane will remain open to traffic.

By 5 a.m. Thursday, May 4, all lanes reopen and the new lane pattern will be in place. In the new configuration, the eastbound lane-split at Hickory Creek will be removed and eastbound I-80 traffic will be shifted onto new pavement between Gardner and Rowell avenues. Additionally, the reconstructed eastbound I-80 ramp to Richards Street will reopen.

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.

The overall I-80 project will redesign and rebuild 16 miles from Ridge Road, in Minooka, to U.S. 30, in Joliet and New Lenox, while adding or extending auxiliary lanes to improve safety and reduce congestion. Interchanges will be rebuilt or improved at Interstate 55, Illinois 7, Center Street, Chicago Street, Richards Street and Briggs Street, with a new flyover ramp linking southbound I-55 to eastbound I-80 to improve traffic flow and safety. More than 30 bridges will be rehabilitated or replaced, including those over the Des Plaines River.

For more information visit [I80will.org](http://I80will.org). The mobile-friendly website features project information, photos, and the ability to submit questions and comments to the project team via a “Contact” link. Find traffic and road conditions at [www.gettingaroundillinois.com](http://www.gettingaroundillinois.com). You also can follow IDOT on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/illinoisdot) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/illinoisdot).

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