

KENNEDY EXPRESSWAY BRIDGE REHABILITATION PROJECT



KENNEDY EXPRESSWAY REVERSIBLE LANE IMPROVEMENTS

Anticipated Spring 2024 – Fall 2024

Overview

Officially opened in 1960, the Kennedy Expressway supports an average of 275,000 vehicles a day. In 2024, IDOT will start the rehabilitation of the Reversible Lane Access Control system to increase safety, reduce maintenance costs and improve traffic flow.

Project efforts totaling approximately \$150 million will accomplish:

- Rehabilitation of Reversible Lane Access control system
- Pavement patching
- Overhead sign-structure replacements
- Installing new signage
- LED lighting upgrades
- Structural painting
- Bridge structure replacement

Rehabilitation Timeline

Reversible lane improvements will continue through fall 2024 and will require lane and ramp closures. IDOT will provide a schedule of all planned closures and estimated durations. This schedule is subject to change as weather and other conditions dictate.

Q: What is the REVLAC System?

A: The Reversible Lane Access Control System, or reversibles, gives drivers access to two additional lanes for inbound and outbound use during peak hours. This system improves traffic flow and travel times.

Q: What are the benefits of rehabilitating the REVLAC system?

A: The original REVLAC system was initially built in the 1960s and was controlled through analog means. This contract will modernize the system's hardware and software, reduce the cost of operation and maintenance, and make the REVLAC system current with the technology of the 21st century.

Q: When was the last major overhaul of the REVLAC System?

A: The REVLAC system was reconstructed in 1994 when the Kennedy was last reconstructed. The new design included three outbound entrances and three inbound entrances with the option of exiting to the Ohio Street feeder ramp or the southbound Kennedy mainline.

Q: Have the reversible lanes always existed?

A: The reversible lanes were originally constructed in 1960 with two outbound entrances and only one inbound entrance.