

Golden Corridor

Interstate 90, Jane Addams Memorial Tollway

1958, 2017



Library of Congress

The 76-mile northwest portion of Interstate 90 connecting Chicago O'Hare International Airport and Rockford, Illinois, opened in 1958 as the Northwest Tollway. In 2007, the Northwest Tollway was renamed the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway after Jane Addams, a Nobel Peace Prize winner and co-founder of Chicago's Hull House, one of the first settlement houses in the United States.

The Golden Corridor is called as such because it generates a "gold" mine of economic profit for communities in the area. Several Fortune 500 company headquarters, office parks, industrial parks, exhibition and entertainment centers, medical facilities, hotels, shopping centers, and restaurants are located along the Golden Corridor.

Key to this transformation have been the improvements to the highway infrastructure. Whereas Chicago-focused travel used to be the primary factor in transportation infrastructure development, there has been a recognition of the value of pushing those improvements farther west. The adjustments have already caused an economic boon, particularly in the northwest suburbs of Chicago.

O'Hare International Airport, one of the busiest airports in the world for both passengers and cargo, is just east of the Golden Corridor.



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

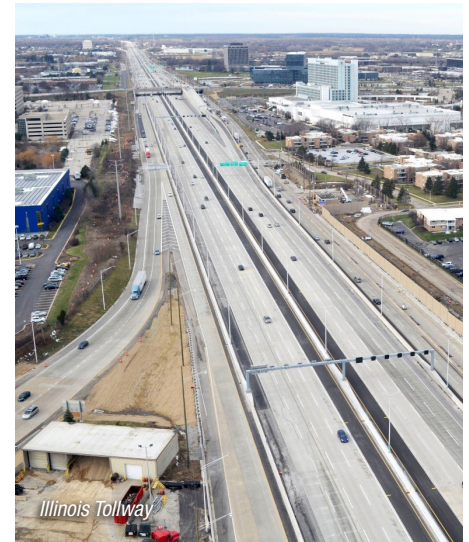
Contributions & Crossroads

Our National Road System's Impact on the U.S. Economy and Way of Life

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2016 construction of bridge and ramps along the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway and the Golden Corridor (left).

Eastern segment (above) of the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway and the Golden Corridor.

Quick Facts

- Originally constructed in 1958, the I-90 corridor from downtown Chicago to Rockford serves nearly 1 million travelers per day.
- In 2011, the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors approved the 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future. Move Illinois committed \$2.5 billion to rebuild and widen 62 miles on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway between Rockford and O'Hare.
- As part of the I-90 Rebuilding and Widening Project, the Illinois Tollway is integrating transit into the corridor through the use of new Flex Lanes, as well as accommodating future transit expansion plans, including bus Park-n-Ride stations constructed on the tollway.
- The corridor has been reconstructed to include flexible infrastructure to enable the tollway to add new “smart” features as needed or as they become available in the years to come.
- Scheduled to go live in spring 2017, the new I-90 SmartRoad will use the latest technologies to make the roadway safer and more efficient, incorporating active traffic management, integrating transit, and delivering a 21st century corridor.
- From 2013 through 2016, recycled materials on the I-90 Rebuilding and Widening Project, including asphalt pavement, concrete, and aggregate, totaled 4,915,714 tons – enough material to build a bike path 9,637 miles long.
- The I-90 Rebuilding and Widening Project is expected to save drivers up to 27 minutes on the average trip from Elgin to the Kennedy Expressway. In addition, the improved roadway will accommodate as many as 83,000 more vehicles per day and is expected to save drivers \$440 million annually due to reduced congestion and delays.
- The project is expected to create or sustain as many as 11,500 additional permanent jobs in the Chicago region. When complete, the corridor is expected to accommodate long-term growth in truck traffic projected to increase by 15,000 trucks carrying 375,000 tons of freight per day by 2040.

Reference and Additional Information

http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/10180/113409/Manufacturing+in+the+Golden+Corridor_CMAP+v2.pdf/494a0ed6-2ccb-4e42-9b3d-db7db13d3611

<https://www.illinoistollway.com/projects/jane-addams/i-90-corridor-overview>