

March 2019 Update.....

The Jane Byrne (Circle) Interchange reconstruction continues at a steady pace, with work accelerating with warmer weather. The following contracts are well under construction:

- **Northeast Ramp from Dan Ryan to Inbound Congress Parkway**
Construction of the Northeast Ramp between the Dan Ryan northbound to the inbound Congress Parkway is effectively complete. Various electrical improvements continue and the Contractor is completing finish work and punch list tasks. Installation of an overhead sign is currently underway immediately west of the Old Post Office. Due to adjacent work on the Eastbound (Inbound) Congress Parkway bridge, the Northeast ramp will not open until the additional work is mostly complete.
- **Westbound (Outbound) Congress Parkway**
Congress Parkway rehabilitation and construction is effectively complete. Traffic continues to be staged to support the westbound mainline pavement work and other projects. The Contractor continues completing miscellaneous punch list tasks and electrical work.
- **Westbound (Outbound) I-290 Mainline**
The reconstruction of the westbound (outbound) lanes of the mainline Eisenhower from I-90/94 to Racine Avenue continues. Traffic was previously shifted into a stage that allows full pavement and barrier wall reconstruction work along the median. Removal of the existing roadway and barrier is ongoing. Electrical improvements and various pavements and barrier walls have been completed. The project is anticipated to be completed in summer 2019.
- **Van Buren Street Bridge over I-90/94**
The bridge was closed to traffic on 10/9/2017. In order to construct the proposed bridge structure, the existing ramp from the Southbound Kennedy (I-90/94) to eastbound (inbound) Congress Parkway was closed in mid-January, 2018. All structural steel components were previously installed and work to install formwork and steel reinforcement for the deck is almost complete. Placement of concrete for the new bridge is planned to start during the second week of April. The contractor has recently started building elements of the proposed retaining wall connecting the Van Buren Street bridge to the Halsted Street bridge. The project includes the full reconstruction of the bridge, a new retaining wall between Van Buren Street and Halsted Street and reconstruction of Van Buren Street pavement and drainage and major improvements to an existing City of Chicago combined sewer siphon beneath the expressway. In coordination with Greektown, major improvements will also be made within Elysian Field on the southeast corner of Van Buren and Halsted Streets. The project is anticipated to be completed in the summer of 2019.
- **Water Main Improvements at Jackson Boulevard**

The project has installed a brand new 16" water main for the City of Chicago beneath I-90/94. The water main utilizes a 30" steel casing pipe under I-90/94 with riser shaft structures on both sides of the expressway. Minor punch list items remain. Traffic on Jackson Boulevard has been restored to the normal configuration.

- **Eastbound (Inbound) I-290 Mainline**

The reconstruction of the inbound mainline lanes of the Eisenhower from west of Racine Avenue to I-90/94 began in the fall of 2017. Traffic is staged in order to allow construction progress. Construction of retaining walls the south side of I-290 has been completed with pavement construction ongoing. Traffic will be placed onto the newly built pavement in the spring of 2020. The overall project is anticipated to be complete in the fall of 2019.

- **Eastbound (Inbound) Congress Parkway**

The construction of the inbound portion of Congress Parkway rehabilitation and mainline bridge reconstruction began in the fall of 2017. Traffic was shifted onto the newly reconstructed and improved inner lanes in late October, 2018. Foundation construction for the proposed portion of the bridge is almost complete with steel beam installation to follow. Steel beams have already been installed on the viaduct structure starting at Des Plaines Street and formwork for the concrete deck is progressing. The exit ramp to Canal Street was closed with the traffic shift. Two lanes of traffic will be maintained at all times except for limited nighttime lane closures as needed for bridge deck work. The overall project is anticipated to be complete in the fall of 2019.

- **Retaining Wall and Water Main/Sewer Improvements Near University of Illinois – Chicago (UIC)**

The project includes the relocation and rehabilitation of one 48" water main from the City of Chicago Cermak Pumping Station, additional water main and drainage improvements and the construction of a retaining wall extending south of Harrison along the west side of I-90/94. The wall will be built along the University of Illinois – Chicago Student Recreation Facility and will create more space for the future construction/relocation of exit ramps from I-90/94 and I-290 to Taylor Street and the West-South Ramp connecting the outbound Congress Parkway to the southbound Dan Ryan. The proposed water main relocation work has continued with final connections and coordination with the City of Chicago ongoing. The rehabilitation of the existing water main below the highway pavement using carbon fiber wrap has been completed. Relocation of an existing 60" City of Chicago combined sewer is almost complete. The retaining wall construction continues. The project completion is anticipated in the summer of 2019.

- **Monroe Street Bridge over I-90/94**

The project includes the full reconstruction of the bridge, a new retaining wall south along the east side of I-90/94 reconstruction of Monroe Street pavement and drainage and miscellaneous ramp improvements. The project is anticipated to be completed in the summer of 2019. All bridge support piers and abutments were previously completed, and steel beam placement was completed in March. Installation of formwork and steel reinforcement for the bridge deck is progressing with the plan to place the concrete bridge deck in late April. Work for the retaining wall along the Madison Street exit ramp continues with demolition of the existing retaining wall ongoing prior to the installation of the reinforced concrete face for the new wall. The project also includes the structural lining of a City of Chicago combined sewer siphon beneath WB I-290.

Two new major construction projects have started work in the spring of 2019:

- **Eastbound I-290 to Northbound I-90/94 Ramp**

The project includes the reconstruction and relocation of the ramp connecting eastbound I-290 to northbound I-90/94. At project completion, the ramp will continue to carry one lane of traffic until future improvements along the northbound lanes allow two lanes along the critical ramp movement. In addition to the proposed bridge, five retaining walls will be constructed and large diameter sewers will be installed. The overall project is anticipated to be complete by late-2020. The contractor is currently progressing various required documentation in preparation of starting field work in mid-April.

- **Major System Ramp Reconstruction**

During this large project, multiple interchange ramps will be reconstructed. The previously removed southbound I-90/94 to eastbound Ida B. Wells Drive ramp will be reconstructed. The westbound I-290/Ida B. Wells to southbound I-90/94 will be removed and reconstructed. The westbound I-290/Ida B. Wells to northbound I-90/94 will be removed and reconstructed. The exit ramp from southbound I-90/94 to Taylor Street will be removed and reconstructed with the exit relocated north of Van Buren Street. The exit ramp from eastbound I-290 to Taylor Street will also be reconstructed and reconfigured to shift the exit west of Halsted Street. The eastbound I-290 to southbound I-90/94 ramp will also be partially reconstructed and relocated. The ramp reconstruction and relocation work includes four ramp bridges and six retaining walls. The overall project is anticipated to be complete by late-2020. The contractor has been installing items in order to begin the demolition of the existing, and previously closed, ramp bridge carrying westbound I-290/Ida B. Wells to southbound I-90/94.

The Illinois Department of Transportation continues to be fully committed to complete the reconstruction of the Jane Byrne (Circle) interchange in an expeditious manner while enhancing the safety of motorists in the work zones and maintaining traffic flow within the City of Chicago Central Business District.

The project website is updated periodically so please visit us again.