

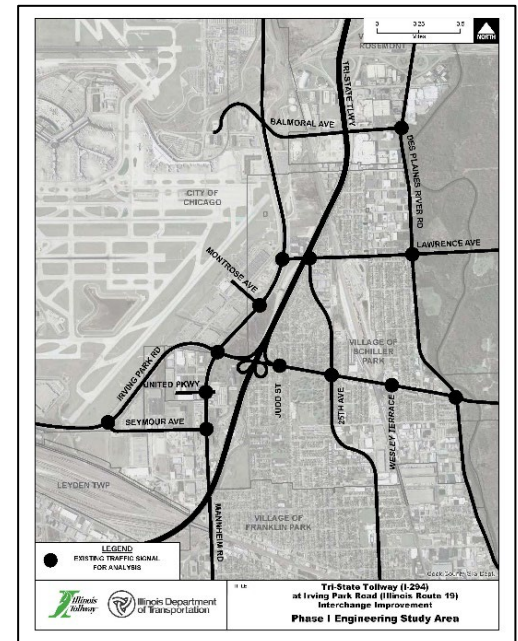
Tri-State Tollway (I-294) at Irving Park Road (Illinois Route 19) Interchange Improvement - Phase I Engineering Study Public Meeting #1 – October 8, 2024

Purpose of this Meeting

- Introduce the project and provide an overview of the Study Area
- Discuss the objectives of Phase I Engineering Study
- Explain the overall project development process including Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS)
- Discuss the schedule for completion of the Phase I Engineering Study
- Discuss opportunities for stakeholder involvement, including utilization of the Community Advisory Group and to encourage your input

Project Overview

The Illinois Tollway and the Illinois Department of Transportation are partnering on a Phase I Engineering Study to evaluate access improvements to the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) in the vicinity of Irving Park Road (Illinois Route 19) in the villages of Schiller Park and Franklin Park. Currently, the existing Irving Park Road Interchange on I-294 only provides access to and from the north making travel difficult for adjacent industrial and commercial businesses and neighboring residents. The Phase I Engineering Study will consider the effects on adjacent roadways including Irving Park Road, Mannheim Road, Lawrence Avenue and Des Plaines River Road, for the interchange improvement alternatives considered.



Study Process

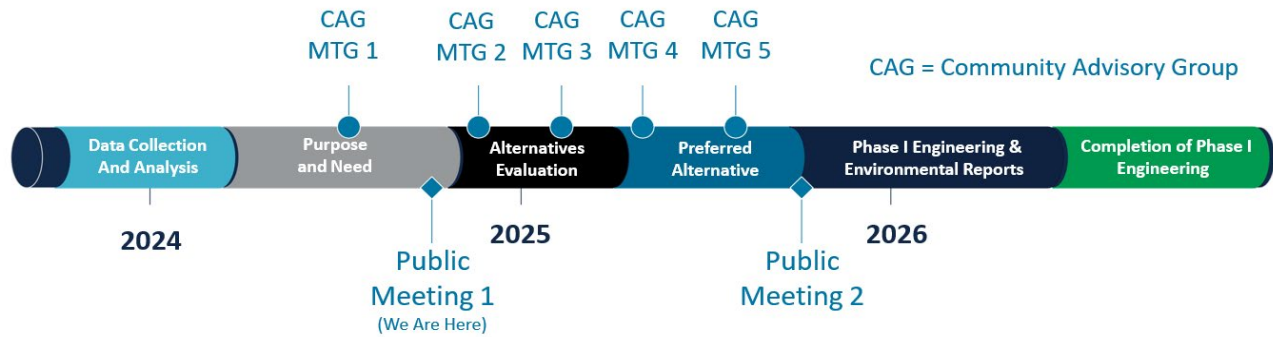
The Phase I Engineering study will follow Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements to ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act). The Study will evaluate a range of alternatives and recommend a preferred improvement plan that best supports the project goals including cost effectiveness, constructability, as well as avoiding, minimizing or mitigating environmental impacts. Key evaluation criteria for comparison of alternatives considered will include, but is not limited to transportation performance, environmental impacts, inclusion and/or compatibility with nonmotorized and transit improvements, compatibility with other planned transportation improvements, and public and agency support.

The Phase I Engineering Study is expected to be completed in 2026. After completion of the Phase I Engineering Study, subsequent phases of engineering and construction will be considered by the Tollway and IDOT contingent upon funding availability and project readiness.



Overall Project Development Process

Anticipated Phase I Engineering Project Schedule



Previous Feasibility Study

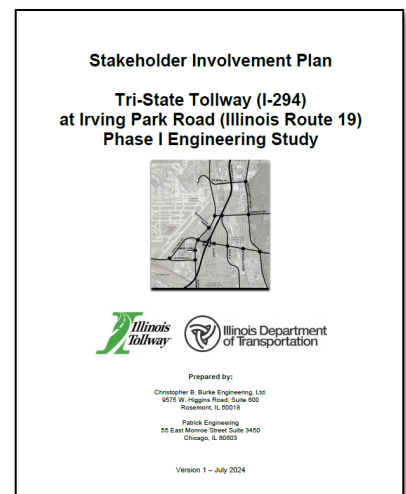
The Phase I Engineering Study will be based on a previous Feasibility Study completed in March 2021. The Feasibility Study was based on 2020 traffic data. The Phase I Engineering Study will include an updated alternatives analysis based on 2050 traffic projections, more detailed environmental studies and coordination, and more extensive public involvement and agency coordination in accordance with NEPA requirements. The results of the previous Feasibility Study can be viewed at this Public Meeting and are also available for viewing on the project webpage listed below.

Public Participation Opportunities

The Illinois Tollway and IDOT are completing Phase I Engineering based on the principles of **Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS)**. CSS is a collaborative approach that engages project stakeholders to identify relevant project issues and concerns, considers potential solutions that are compatible with the surrounding community (i.e., context), and that meet the established purpose and need for the proposed transportation improvement project.



The stakeholder coordination process is described in the Stakeholder Involvement Plan (SIP) prepared for the Study that can be viewed at this meeting and is also available on the project webpage. Coordination meetings will occur throughout the Phase I Engineering Study process with applicable jurisdictional and/or oversight agencies, including the FHWA, the Chicago Department of Aviation, various environmental resource agencies and other agencies as required. Other public participation opportunities include access to project information via the project webpage, public meetings, individual stakeholder meetings, and the established Community Advisory Group (CAG). Five (5) CAG meetings will be held over the duration of the Phase I Engineering Study process. The first CAG meeting was held on July 25, 2024.



Next Steps

The next steps for the Phase I Engineering Study following this Public Meeting are:

- Finalize the project Purpose and Need Statement
- Develop and evaluate alternatives based on the project Purpose and Need criterion
- Evaluate and minimize environmental impacts including natural resources, noise, and right-of-way needs
- Additional stakeholder coordination and CAG Meetings
- Identify a Preferred Alternative and prepare preliminary engineering plans and right-of-way needs
- Present Preferred Alternative at Public Meeting #2

Your Input is Important!

Please provide your comments or questions by completing the Public Meeting Comment Form and submitting it during this Public Meeting or send it to the Illinois Tollway by mail or email via the address on the comment form or the address listed below. Comment forms received by October 25 will be included as part of the record of this Public Meeting.

Project Webpage

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The Illinois Tollway project webpage includes additional project information which will be updated as Phase I Engineering proceeds at:
www.illinoistollway.com/tri-state-tollway-irving-park-road