



I-255 PROJECT FACT SHEET

OVERVIEW

Due to the current condition of Interstate 255, the Illinois Department of Transportation will be starting a major rehabilitation project in early Spring 2020. Closing the interstate for one construction season will enable the project to be completed cheaper, faster and safer.

The project consists of rehabilitating and resurfacing approximately 7 miles of I-255 from Collinsville Road to Illinois 15 in two sections separated by Interstate 64, with significant bridge repairs, safety improvements and drainage upgrades. This project will restore the roadway and bridges to a smooth and safe condition for motorists and will support future investment in the region.

WHEN WILL THIS PROJECT START AND HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

This project is scheduled to be on a fall 2019 letting with construction activities expected to begin in early spring of 2020. It is estimated to cost \$64,000,000 and will be completed in two sections, the Northern Section, from I-64 to Collinsville Road and the Southern Section, from IL-15 Interchange to I-64.

Each section will be closed approximately 5 months. Some patch work will occur along the southern section prior to the northern closure in an effort to ensure and extend the ability of that section to handle traffic. Work will start on the northern section in early spring with the full closure (all lanes) of I-255 between I-64 and Collinsville Road. Full closure of the southern section, between I-64 and Illinois 15, will start after the northern section is complete. Signed detour routes utilizing I-55/70 will be provided by the department to and from I-64. Local traffic is expected to use alternate ancillary routes to bypass the closure.

WHY AN INTERSTATE CLOSURE?

IDOT has determined that an interstate closure is the best construction method to use for this particular project because it ensures the safety of both the workers and the motoring public. An interstate closure eliminates potential conflicts a motorist might have as a result of lane shifts and crossovers. Most importantly, an interstate closure maximizes the safety environment for the men and women who work on this project.

This construction method also provides significant cost and time savings. By closing this stretch of I-255, IDOT is able to save approximately \$14 million. These cost savings allow the department the ability to use these funds elsewhere within the region on other critical infrastructure projects. It allows the work/project to be accelerated and compressed into one construction season; it also reduces the overall construction time for a project of this size from 4 years to 10 months.

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Benefits from complete lane closures include:

- Completion of the project in 10 months instead of 4 years.
- Save taxpayers \$14 million, plus the ongoing costs of repairing lanes that would need to stay open with staged construction.
- Eliminate lane shifts for new configurations, thus reducing accidents and driver confusion.
- Ensure the safety of workers during construction by keeping traffic out of the work zone.

I-255 PROJECT AREA MAP GRAPHIC

- █ NORTH SECTION
- █ SOUTH SECTION
- █ I-255
- █ I-64
- █ I-55/70
- █ IL-111
- █ IL-15
- █ IL-157
- █ IL-159

