

Congress Parkway Improvement Project

Michigan Avenue to Wells Street

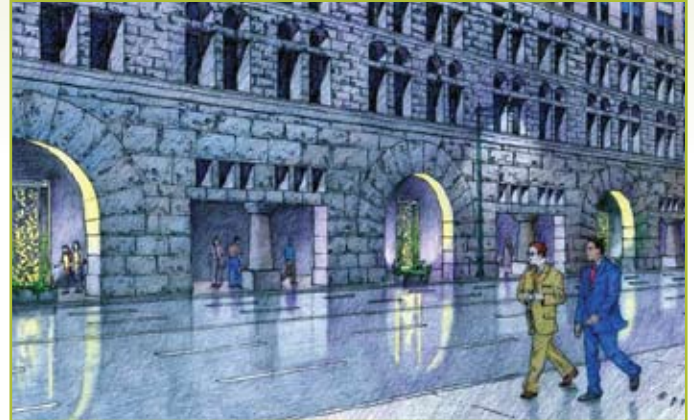


Starting in October 2010, the Chicago Department of Transportation will begin a project to improve Congress Parkway from Michigan Avenue to Wells Street.

The improvements will enhance traffic and pedestrian safety, and beautify one of the main gateways into downtown Chicago.

Over the past several years, the area surrounding Congress Parkway has been one of the fastest growing employment, residential, higher educational and commercial areas in the City. These changes have altered the travel patterns and significantly increased the amount of pedestrian and vehicular traffic in the area.

The Congress Parkway improvement project will address that growth and provide a foundation for future growth.



Roadway improvements

- Enhance vehicular safety by improving geometry, modernizing signals, and interconnecting signal timings
- Improve pedestrian safety by providing countdown signals, wider sidewalks, medians, and pedestrian refuge areas
- Modify a State Street median to facilitate vehicles turning onto eastbound Congress Parkway

Sidewalk improvements

- Wider sidewalks to accommodate more pedestrians
- New trash receptacles
- Install 20 in-ground planters and seating areas with decorative pavers, 57 above-ground landscaped planters, and 71 new trees.

Lighting improvements

- Install new decorative street lighting
- Install LED decorative lighting system in medians, planters, and under One Financial Place





Traffic impacts

Congress will be reduced to three lanes inbound (eastbound) and two lanes outbound (westbound) for most of the project.

Temporary, off-peak eastbound lane closures will reduce the inbound lanes to two lanes.

This configuration aligns with the lane configuration at the Congress Parkway bridge, which IDOT is reconstructing. CDOT and IDOT continue to coordinate these two projects.

Additionally, State Street at Congress Parkway will see lane reductions for part of the project.

Pedestrian impacts

Temporary sidewalk closures will occur during sidewalk reconstruction and pedestrians will be rerouted.

***Project schedule:
October 2010 to
Fall 2012***

Project funding is provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, tax-increment financing, and federal sources.

For more project info:
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