

DRIVING CONNECTIONS

PROGRAM GOALS

Driving Connections focuses on fulfilling five key goals that align the program with community and stakeholder priorities for the Tollway system and the region.

- 1 STRENGTHEN THE SYSTEM**
Renewing and strengthening the system we rely on
Improving the system by prioritizing investments in high-impact needs. By renewing and enhancing existing infrastructure and making it multifunctional, the Tollway is strengthening its core system so it can meet the needs of a growing and dynamic region. *Driving Connections* achieves this goal through roadway and bridge rehabilitation and reconstruction projects.
- 2 DRIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH**
Building infrastructure that unlocks economic opportunities
Strengthening economies by investing in infrastructure that connects people, goods, and services more efficiently—locally, regionally, and nationally. The Tollway is streamlining access between diverse regional economic centers, fueling growth, attracting new businesses and jobs, and building a stronger regional workforce. *Driving Connections* achieves this goal through targeted congestion relief and improved access to major job centers and tourist destinations.
- 3 MAXIMIZE PRIOR INVESTMENT**
Continuing investments in motion
Building on the foundation of past capital programs like *Move Illinois* and *Bridging the Future* to ensure that prior investments deliver lasting impact. By making smart investments now, the Tollway is reducing future costs and delivering benefits sooner. *Driving Connections* achieves this goal through continuing projects such as the delivery of full interchanges, and widening projects, efforts which began under prior capital programs.
- 4 EXPAND REGIONAL ACCESS**
Improving mobility and connecting our growing region
Connecting people and goods through smart planning, strategic partnerships and collaborative projects that deliver benefits for the entire region. *Driving Connections* accomplishes this through investments such as the Corridor Opportunities for Regional Enhancements (CORE) initiative and partnership projects with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Chicago Department of Aviation, and other regional partners.
- 5 TRANSFORM WITH TECHNOLOGY**
Advancing smart technologies for safer travel
Embracing innovation to create a safer, smarter, and more sustainable travel experience—integrating technology with infrastructure to broaden mobility choices and better support the communities we serve. *Driving Connections* accomplishes this by investing in the Tollway's high-demand fiber optic network, constructing new SmartRoads, improving customer-facing technologies, and funding sustainability and innovation initiatives.