

Edition: U.S. ▾

Search The Huffington Post



FRONT PAGE

POLITICS

BUSINESS

ENTERTAINMENT

FOOD

MEDIA

COMEDY

TRAVEL

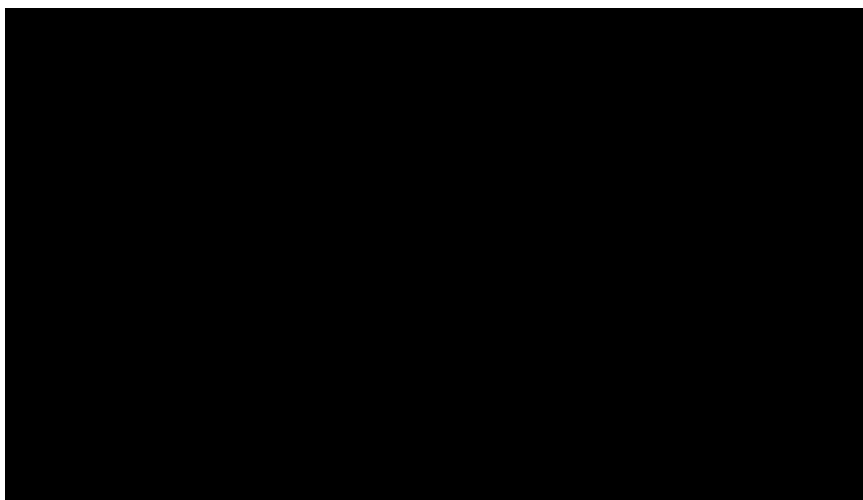
BLA

[Chicago](#) > [Around Town](#) • [Restaurants](#) • [Real Estate](#) • [Impact](#) • [Best of Chicago](#)

HuffPost Social Reading

Chicago Congestion Pricing Plan Unveiled: Could New Lanes Cut Commute Times?

Posted: 10/16/2012 10:35 am Updated: 10/16/2012 10:56 am



GET CHICAGO ALERTS:

SIGN UP

REACT: [Amazing](#) [Inspiring](#) [Funny](#) [Scary](#) [Hot](#) [Crazy](#) [Important](#) [Weird](#)

FOLLOW: [Polls](#), [Video](#), [Chicago Congestion Pricing](#), [Chicago Traffic](#), [Chicago Congestion](#), [Chicago Congestion Expressways](#), [Chicago Congestion Pricing Expressways](#), [Chicago Congestion Tolling](#), [Congestion Pricing In Chicago](#), [Chicago News](#)



Flickr: PhillipC

Congestion pricing could be coming soon to the Chicago area's oft-clogged roadways.

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning on Monday [launched a campaign that aims to build support for a plan](#) that could trim nearly a half hour off of morning commute times -- for a price, the Chicago Tribune reports.

The plan, according to WBEZ, would add separate lanes to area expressways -- including the Addams, Eisenhower and Stevenson -- that [would charge a premium for being used](#) during peak traffic times.

According to ABC Chicago, if the plan is approved, it will likely first be [implemented on the Addams tollway as early as next year](#). Three new roadways -- the Elgin-O'Hare west bypass, the northern Highway 53 extension and the Highway 120 bypass -- would feature congestion pricing in all of its lanes.

(Would you pay to use the proposed new lanes? Vote below.)

"In the short run, really, what we'd like to do is provide travelers with choices to get around," Jesse Elam, CMAP spokesman told ABC. "In the longer run, we really want to find a good way to manage congestion adequately."

But how much would it cost? According to CMAP's proposal, drivers would be charged between 5 cents and 31 cents per mile during rush hour, the Tribune reports.

A similar plan was implemented in London in 2003 and has also been used in Orange County, Calif., and Minneapolis, to name two stateside examples.

CMAP has [created an interactive website](#) that explains the proposal in more detail.