



Move Illinois:
The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future

NEWS

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ILLINOIS TOLLWAY ANNOUNCES 2012 CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

New Toll Rates for Cars Begin on January 1 to Fund Systemwide Infrastructure Improvements

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway today announced it will invest nearly \$609 million in 2012 for projects to repair and rebuild roadways, bridges and interchanges and other capital investments across the 286-mile system and begin the first year of the agency’s new \$12 billion capital program, Move Illinois: *The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

“The Move Illinois Program is a 15-year plan that will allow us to maintain our existing system of roadways and build new capacity to ensure that the Tollway will meet the needs of the Midwest region 10, 20 and 30 years from now,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Kristi Lafleur. “We want our customers to know about the construction planned in 2012 and how their tolls are being reinvested in the Tollway system.”

In 2012, new projects will include beginning construction of two new, all-electronic interchanges, including the new I-294/I-57 Interchange – one of two places in the nation where two interstates cross but do not connect. \$29.6 million is budgeted to construct new embankments and bridge piers and lengthen I-294 bridges over 147th Street. Ramps to and from Champaign are expected to open in fall 2014. These ramps will provide 75 percent of the benefits of the new interchange and will help stimulate the slow economy of the Chicago Southland area.

An estimated \$47.2 million is budgeted to begin construction of the new Illinois Route 47 interchange on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90), including construction of new ramps, all-electronic toll collection and bridge reconstruction. This project will feature several new green initiatives, including a geothermal water piping system that makes use of the earth’s natural heating and cooling abilities to help heat and cool nearby plaza buildings, reflective roofs and trellised vegetation for plaza buildings to further reduce heating and cooling costs, as well as ramp shoulder pavement that will allow water to seep through and reduce stormwater runoff.

More than \$137 million will be spent on Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294) roadway resurfacing and ramp and bridge repairs, including work from 95th Street to Balmoral Avenue and from the Edens Spur to Half Day Road.

In addition, \$90.5 million will be used on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) to rebuild and widen a section of roadway from Deerpath Road to Illinois Route 56 in North Aurora, for roadway resurfacing from Illinois Route 56 to Illinois Route 251 in Rochelle and for bridge and ramp repairs along the corridor. An additional \$23.7 million has been set aside for ramp and lighting repairs throughout the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355).

An estimated \$98.8 million will be spent for the reconstruction and widening of bridges throughout the I-90 corridor from the Kennedy Expressway to I-39 in Rockford and for shoulder improvements from Randall Road in Elgin to Mill Road in Rockford to prepare for upcoming reconstruction and widening of I-90. In addition, \$14.9 million will be used to fund bridge design on the existing portion of the Elgin O’Hare Expressway between U.S. Route 20 and Rohlwing Road to prepare for bridge and roadway rehabilitation and widening.

Tollway customers will see the first construction projects begin in early spring on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) with other projects starting at various times from spring through fall.

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New Toll Rates for Cars Begin On January 1

At midnight on January 1, 2012, new toll rates for cars will take effect on the Illinois Tollway to fund systemwide infrastructure improvements. Rates vary by road, plaza and ramp. Customers with I-PASS will pay 35 cents more per toll at a typical toll plaza than they do today. For a complete list of new rates, visit www.illinoistollway.com.

To inform customers about the new toll rates, signage has been posted on all tollbooths and automatic coin baskets and information has been shared with customers via electronic message signs, eNewsletters, television and radio advertisements, and posters and brochures at toll plazas and Tollway Oases.

Seventy-five percent of Tollway customers have not seen a toll rate increase since 1983 – nearly 30 years ago. Even after the new toll rates take effect, the Illinois Tollway will rank 29 among all 41 toll road agencies in the U.S. in terms of price – still in the bottom third and an average of just 6 cents per mile.

The Illinois Tollway is a user-fee system; only those who use the system pay for it. No state or federal tax dollars are used to fund maintenance and operations.

The Benefits of I-PASS

The Illinois Tollway operates the largest open road tolling system in the nation. Approximately 84 percent of all transactions on the system are electronic transactions, from more than 4.3 million active transponders and more than 3.2 million active I-PASS accounts.

I-PASS customers will continue to pay 50 percent less than customers who pay cash. To get an I-PASS:

- Visit an Illinois Tollway Customer Service Center, open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Visit one of Jewel-Osco's 180+ Northern Illinois locations
- Go online or call 1-800-UC-IPASS (800-824-7277)

About Move Illinois

The Illinois Tollway's \$12 billion capital program, Move Illinois: *The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, will improve mobility, relieve congestion, reduce pollution, create 120,000 jobs and link economies across the Midwest region. Move Illinois will address the remaining needs of the existing Tollway system; rebuild and widen the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) as a state-of-the-art 21st century corridor; construct a new interchange to connect the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to I-57; build a new, all-electronic Elgin O'Hare West Bypass and fund planning studies for the Illinois Route 53 Extension and the Illiana Expressway.

About the Illinois Tollway

The Illinois Tollway is a user-fee system that receives no state or federal funds for maintenance and operations. The agency maintains and operates 286 miles of interstate tollways in 12 counties in Northern Illinois, including the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88), the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355), the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) and the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80).

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