



## **Grand Avenue (IL Route 132) Bridge Rebuild & Lengthen Project**

The Grand Avenue (IL Route 132) Bridge over the Tri-State Tollway (I-94) has been reconstructed and lengthened in order to accommodate the North Tri-State Rebuild & Widen Project.

The North Tri-State project includes reconstructing and widening to four lanes in each direction between Dempster Street and IL Route 173. In 2008, four lanes opened in each direction between Grand Avenue and IL Route 173. Work to reconstruct the roadway north of IL Route 173 to Russell Road and resurface pavement from Russell Road to the Wisconsin state lane is complete. This work is part of the Tollway's Congestion-Relief Program to reduce congestion.

### **Update – Latest Construction Info**

Reconstruction of the Grand Avenue Bridge over I-94 is complete and two lanes are now open in each direction, as well as a westbound auxiliary lane for traffic entering and exiting I-94. The southbound exit ramp to eastbound Grand Avenue also was reconstructed and realigned to accommodate the longer bridge and the widening of the Tri-State Tollway.

### **Minimizing Impact to Reduce Delays**

The Tollway coordinated bridge work with the Illinois Department of Transportation and officials from Lake County and the village of Gurnee to minimize the impact to local roads. On the Grand Avenue Bridge, one through lane in each direction and the westbound lane for traffic entering and exiting at I-94 were maintained during construction. The main Tri-State Tollway impacts were shoulder closures and temporary overnight lane closures for bridge reconstruction work. Lane closures were permitted off-peak only to minimize the impact to traffic.

### **Work Zone Safety**

Construction zone speed limits are in effect in all construction zones 24/7 and drivers should continue to watch for changing traffic patterns and use caution, especially when workers are present. A 45 m.p.h. speed limit is in place on the mainline. See the Tollway's Work Zone Safety page at [www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com).

### **Schedule**

The project began in summer 2008. Work was completed in fall 2009.

- 2008 – Eastbound bridge reconstruction scheduled and closure of southbound exit ramp to eastbound Grand Avenue. Eastbound bridge work completed.
- 2009 – Westbound construction scheduled with traffic staged on new pavement on eastbound side of the bridge. Westbound bridge work completed and southbound exit ramp reopened.

### **Purpose – Pertinent Details on Why and How**

Rebuilding and lengthening the Grand Avenue Bridge allows the Tollway to widen I-94 underneath Grand Avenue to provide congestion relief and reduce travel times. The Tollway coordinated this project with local, county and state transportation and transit officials. When Rebuild & Widen Projects on the north, central and south segments are complete, the Tri-State Tollway will provide four lanes in each direction from Indiana, up to the north end of the system near the Wisconsin state line.

For further information visit [www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com) & view the construction section, or call 1-800-TOLL-FYI.

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