



Lake Cook Road Bridge Replacement and Roadway Widening

The Illinois Tollway and the Cook County Highway Department have completed a joint project to replace and widen the Lake Cook Road Bridge over the North Tri-State Tollway (I-294/I-94). The project was part of the Illinois Tollway's North Tri-State Tollway Rebuild & Widen Project to provide congestion relief in the 39-mile corridor between Dempster Street and the Wisconsin state line.

The bridge over the northbound lanes of the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) was rebuilt and lengthened in order to accommodate the Tollway's Rebuild & Widen Project. As part of this project, the Tollway also widened and resurfaced about ¾ of a mile of Lake Cook Road from west of the southbound I-294 entrance and exit ramps to east of Wilmot Road. The project also included water main construction and resurfacing along Wilmot Road.

The Rebuild & Widen project includes reconstructing and widening to four lanes in each direction of the North Tri-State Tollway between Dempster Street and IL Route 173. Four lanes are now open 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 now complete.

Update – Latest Construction Info

Work is now complete and three lanes of traffic are now open on Lake Cook Road from west of the southbound I-294 entrance and exit ramps to east of Wilmot Road.

Minimizing Impact to Reduce Delays

The Tollway coordinated bridge work with the Cook County Highway Department, the Illinois Department of Transportation and Lake County officials to minimize the impact to local roads. On Lake Cook Road two lanes were maintained in both directions during reconstruction. The main Tollway impacts on this project were shoulder closures and temporary overnight lane closures for bridge reconstruction and for beam erection activities. Lane closures on I-294 were permitted during off-peak hours 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 35 m.p.h. speed limit will be in place on the Lake Cook Road Bridge, while a 45 m.p.h. speed limit will be in place on the mainline. See the Tollway's Work Zone Safety page at www.illinoistollway.com.

Schedule

- The project began in December 2007.
- Spring 2008 - Long-term lane reductions on Lake Cook Road began.
- End of 2008 - All work completed, including a third eastbound lane on Lake Cook Road east of I-294 and dual left turn lanes at the intersection of Lake Cook Road and Wilmot Road.

Purpose – Pertinent Details on Why and How

Rebuilding and lengthening of the Lake Cook Road Bridge allows the Tollway to widen the northbound lanes of I-294 underneath Lake Cook Road to provide congestion relief and reduce travel times. The Tollway coordinated this project with nearby businesses and 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 & view the construction section, or call 1-800-TOLL-FYI.

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