



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**July 12, 2021**

## **LANE CLOSURES SCHEDULED FOR DEERPATH ROAD BRIDGE BEAM PLACEMENT ON THE REAGAN MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-88) IN AURORA**

*Temporary, overnight closures will include full traffic stops for bridge beam placement*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Temporary, overnight lane closures will be scheduled this week on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) in Aurora for bridge beam placement as part of the Deerpath Road Bridge Reconstruction Project.

The temporary closures on I-88 are necessary to safely accommodate the placement of bridge beams over the Tollway. Bridge beam placement will be scheduled during overnight hours to minimize the impact on Tollway customers.

Beginning overnight Tuesday, July 13, on I-88 two westbound lanes are scheduled to close beginning at 8 p.m., with intermittent, full closures of I-88, each lasting 15 minutes, beginning at midnight. All lanes on I-88 are scheduled to reopen by 7 a.m. the following morning. A second night of similar closures will be scheduled Wednesday, July 14, into Thursday, July 15, starting at 7 p.m. in the eastbound lanes on I-88.

Electronic message signs will be in place in advance to alert Tollway drivers to the overnight lane closures. Up-to-date closure information will be available on the Illinois Tollway's [Daily Construction Alert](#). All work is weather dependent.

The Deerpath Road Bridge carrying local road traffic over I-88 is currently closed with a posted detour. Closure of the bridge is necessary because the existing bridge is too narrow to allow the Tollway to accommodate traffic and a work zone to safely remove and rebuild the bridge structure at the same time.

Reconstruction of the Deerpath Road Bridge is scheduled to be complete by the end of the year. Currently, up to 6,950 vehicles use the Deerpath Road Bridge daily.

As part of the Deerpath Road Bridge Project, the existing bridge carrying local traffic on Deerpath Road over the Tollway will be removed and replaced with a new, longer and higher structure. The existing bridge is more than 60 years old and will be replaced to extend the service life of the bridge and accommodate any future roadway improvements.

The new bridge will provide for two 13-foot lanes of traffic and 5-foot shoulders on Deerpath Road. In addition, the existing four-span structure will be replaced with a two-span bridge. Additional work on this project includes, the roadway reconstruction on I-88 under the bridge, as well as guardrail, landscaping and drainage improvements.

These repairs are necessary to extend the life of the local crossroad bridge and provide safe and convenient travel for Tollway customers. This work is part of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

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This project is being coordinated with the City of Aurora, Aurora Township, Sugar Grove Township, and Kane County, as well as local fire and police departments.

Maps and construction about the Deerpath Road Project are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at [Illinoistollway.com](http://Illinoistollway.com).

### **Work Zone Safety**

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) and Deerpath Road remain safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency's overall commitment to roadway safety.

Work 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.

The Illinois Tollway reminds motorists that the "Move Over Law" requires motorists to change lanes or to slow down and proceed with caution when passing any vehicle on the side of the road with hazard lights activated. If you see flashing lights ahead, please move over or slow down.

Illinois State Police have zero tolerance for drivers speeding in work zones or failure to comply with the Move Over Law. The minimum penalty for speeding in a work zone is \$250 and can include up to a \$25,000 fine and a 14-year jail sentence for hitting a roadway worker. Penalties for failure to slow down or move over for a vehicle on the shoulder with flashing lights includes up to a \$10,000 fine, 2-year suspension of driving privileges and jail time, in extreme cases.

### **About Move Illinois**

The Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, is improving mobility, relieving congestion, reducing pollution, creating as many as 120,000 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. The first nine years of *Move Illinois* are on schedule and within budget, delivering the rebuilt and widened Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) as a state-of-the-art 21st century corridor and opening a new interchange connecting the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to I-57. Progress continues on projects addressing the remaining needs of the existing Tollway system, delivering the Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project and reconstruction of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294).

### **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 294 miles of roadways 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), the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) and the Illinois Route 390 Tollway.

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