



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 3, 2021**

## **OVERNIGHT FULL CLOSURES SCHEDULED NEXT WEEK ON I-57 FOR TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294)/I-57 INTERCHANGE PROJECT**

*Temporary, overnight lane closures needed to safely accommodate bridge beam placement*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Temporary, overnight lane closures, including intermittent, full traffic stops, are scheduled to begin next week on I-57 for bridge beam placement on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) /I-57 Interchange Project.

Altogether, six nights of intermittent, full closures will be needed on I-57 between I-294 and Kedzie Avenue. The work is part of the Tollway's construction of a new ramp to connect southbound I-57 to southbound I-294.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the lane closures and full-stops. The temporary closures are necessary to provide a work zone to safely accommodate bridge beam placement. Up-to-date information regarding lane closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's [Daily Construction Alert](#). All work is weather dependent.

Beginning Tuesday September 7, southbound I-57 is scheduled to be reduced to a single lane by midnight. In addition, 15-minute, intermittent full closures of I-57 and the ramp connecting southbound I-294 to southbound I-57 are scheduled to begin at 1 a.m. and end by 4 a.m. All lanes are scheduled to reopen by 6 a.m. the following morning. Up to three nights of closures may be needed to complete the work.

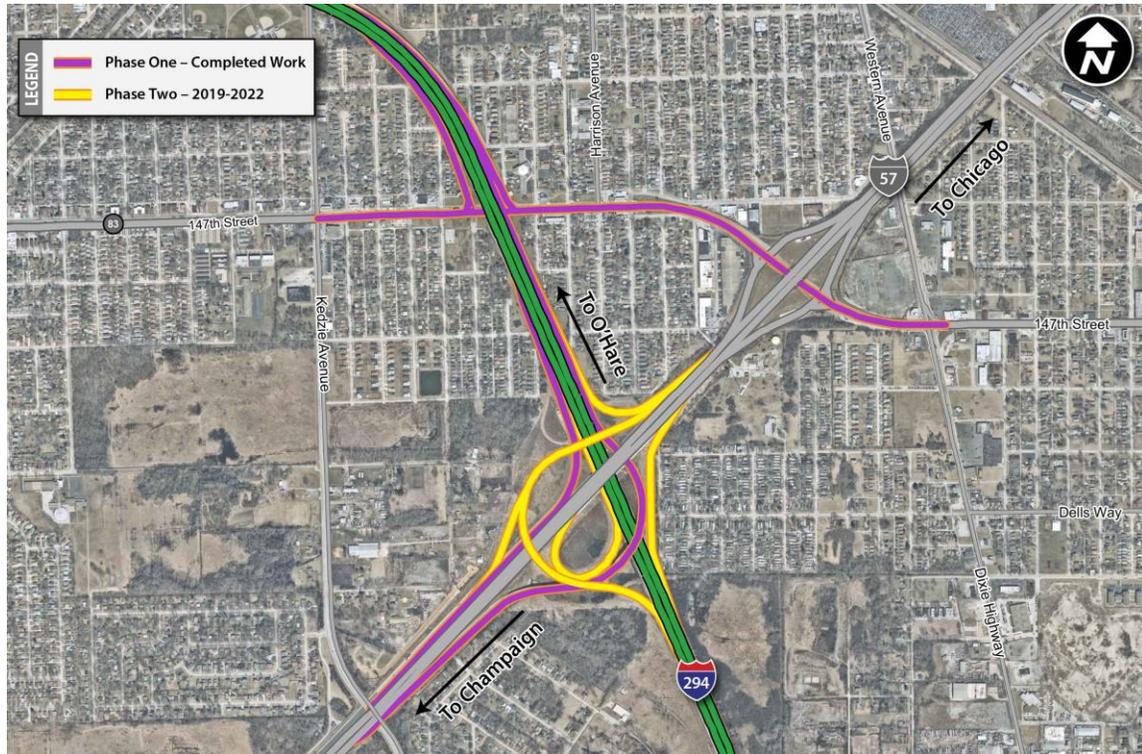
Once the southbound closures are complete, closures in the northbound direction are scheduled. Up to three weeknights of closures may be needed to complete the work. Northbound I-57 is scheduled to be reduced to a single lane overnight beginning at 11 p.m. with 15-minute, intermittent full closures scheduled to begin at 1 a.m. and end by 4:30 a.m. All lanes are scheduled to reopen by 5 a.m. the following morning

Maps and construction information about the Tri-State Tollway (I-294)/I-57 Interchange Project are available in the Project's section on the Tollway's website at [www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com).

In 2021, work on I-294/I-57 Interchange Project includes completion of roadway widening on I-57, widening of the I-57 bridge over Dixie Highway, replacing the 147th Street Bridge, as well as continued construction of the ramp connecting northbound I-294 to northbound I-57 and the two ramps carrying traffic from southbound I-57 to I-294, including a flyover ramp bridge. Work to widen the CSX Railroad Bridge on I-57 is also scheduled this year.

This work is part of the second phase of the I-294/I-57 Interchange Project, which is completing the full-access interchange. The \$719 million I-294/I-57 Interchange Project is funded by the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future.

The new interchange is improving travel by providing customers with completed access between the two interstates. For the first time, the new I-294/I-57 Interchange provides motorists with access between I-294 and I-57, including a new interchange at 147<sup>th</sup> Street. The complete interchange will reduce congestion on local routes, enhance economic development and improve regional mobility to better serve commuters, freight operators and local communities.



### 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. On I-294, a 55 mph work zone speed limit is in effect throughout the construction season. On I-57, work zone speed limits will also be in effect throughout the construction season.

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 with 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* is 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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