



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 7, 2021**

## **WORK SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ON NEW PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE OVER CENTRAL TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) FOR HINSDALE AND WESTERN SPRINGS**

*New bridge near 47<sup>th</sup> Street will replace the existing bridge near Ogden Avenue  
to accommodate roadway reconstruction and widening on I-294*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The Illinois Tollway is starting work this week on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Pedestrian Bridge Project in Hinsdale and Western Springs, beginning with traffic shifts on the 47<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge to provide a construction work zone.

In coordination with the Village of Hinsdale, the Village of Western Springs and the Western Springs Park District, the Illinois Tollway is building a new pedestrian bridge over I-294 to maintain a convenient connection between Veeck Park and Spring Rock Park and community pathways for pedestrians and bicyclists as part of the \$4 billion Central Tri-State Tollway Project. The pedestrian bridge is being relocated from its current location near Ogden Avenue to a new location adjacent to 47<sup>th</sup> Street selected by the villages.

Beginning this week, on 47<sup>th</sup> Street one lane in both directions between Princeton Road and Fair Elms Avenue is scheduled to close for median removal and temporary pavement work. Once that work is complete, all traffic on 47<sup>th</sup> Street will be shifted onto the eastbound side of the road and reduced to a single lane in both directions to provide for a construction work zone. Traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration through 2022.

On I-294, traffic in this area is currently shifted and will remain in this configuration through the end of the year for construction of piers and abutments for the new pedestrian bridge.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be in place in advance to alert drivers to the construction work zones and lane closures scheduled as needed on I-294 and 47<sup>th</sup> Street throughout the project. Up-to-date closure information will be available on the Illinois Tollway's [Daily Construction Alert](#). All work is weather dependent.

Work on the I-294 Pedestrian Bridge Project will include removal of trees in the footprint of the new bridge and ramps and within the work zone on the north side of 47<sup>th</sup> Street. To minimize disruption in the parks and at the request of the local communities and the park district, construction access will be from 47<sup>th</sup> Street for work to build piers and abutments in the parks on both sides with work scheduled to be complete in fall 2022. A new pre-fabricated steel pedestrian bridge structure is scheduled to be moved into place in spring 2023.

The Illinois Tollway's construction schedule will ensure that local residents will continue to have access to a pedestrian bridge over I-294. The removal of the existing bridge near Ogden Avenue will be scheduled after the new pedestrian bridge adjacent to 47<sup>th</sup> Street opens to the public. The project is scheduled to be complete in 2023.

Site selection, design and construction planning for the I-294 Pedestrian Bridge was developed in consultation with Hinsdale, Western Springs and the Western Springs Park District. The bridge design

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features a steel structure and ADA accessible sloped ramps with ornamental vertical fencing painted black. The Tollway worked with the municipalities and the park district to incorporate design details into the new pedestrian bridge and to include landscape restoration and improvements at both locations in the project.



Information about the I-294 Pedestrian Bridge Project will be maintained in the [Projects section](#) on the Tollway's website at [www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com). Construction in this area will be coordinated with the Village of Hinsdale, Village of Western Springs, Western Springs Park District, as well as the Lyons Township School District.

The \$4 billion Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project is reconstructing and widening the roadway between Balmoral Avenue and 95<sup>th</sup> Street to provide congestion relief, update old infrastructure to meet current and future transportation demand and address regional needs. This work is part of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*. More than 220,000 vehicles use the Central Tri-State Tollway daily.

### **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.

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 21<sup>st</sup> 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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