



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

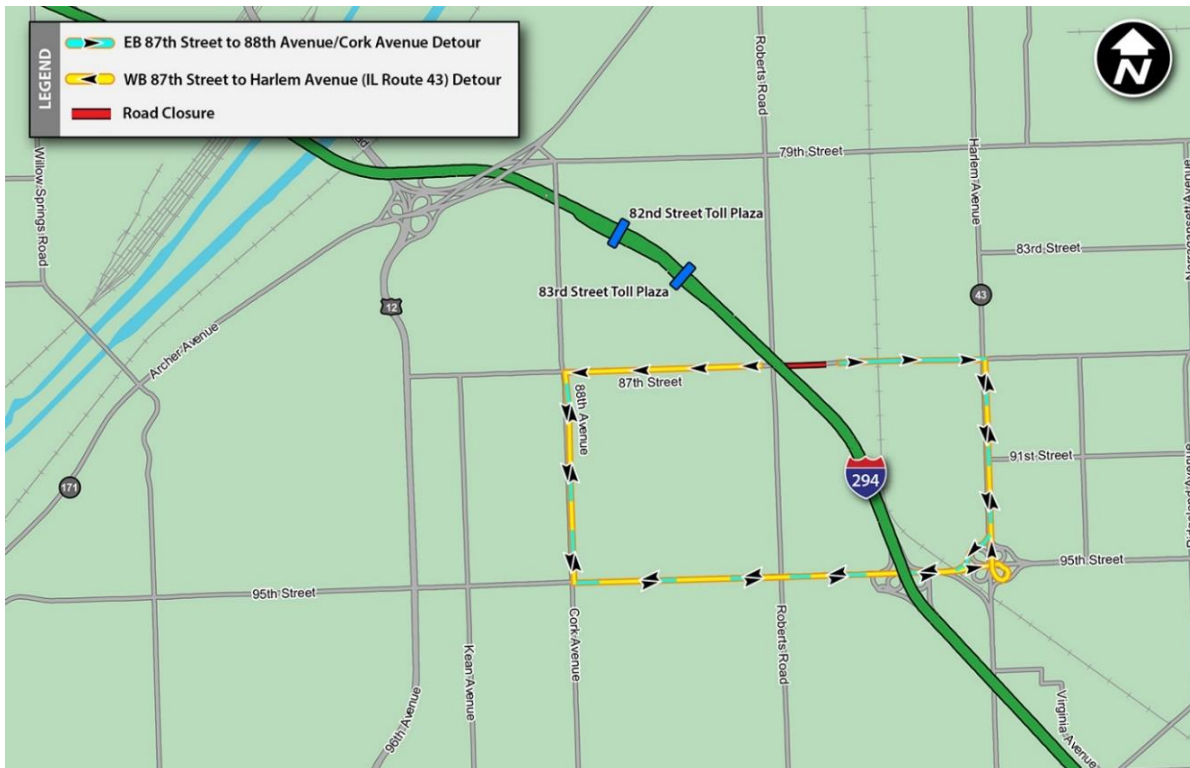
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**November 24, 2021**

## **OVERNIGHT CLOSURES SCHEDULED ON ROBERTS ROAD AND 87<sup>TH</sup> STREET FOR CENTRAL TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION WORK** *Nightly full roadway closures with detours needed to safely accommodate bridge removal*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Overnight road closures on Roberts Road and 87th Street with posted detours are scheduled to begin next week to accommodate mainline bridge removal work for the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project.

The overnight closures of the local roads are necessary to safely accommodate the removal of the I-294 mainline bridge beams over Roberts Road and 87<sup>th</sup> Street. A single night of closures is needed at each location. Electronic message signs and construction signage will be in place in advance to alert drivers to each of the overnight closures and detours. Up-to-date closure information will be posted on the Tollway website in the [Daily Construction Alert](#). All work is weather dependent.

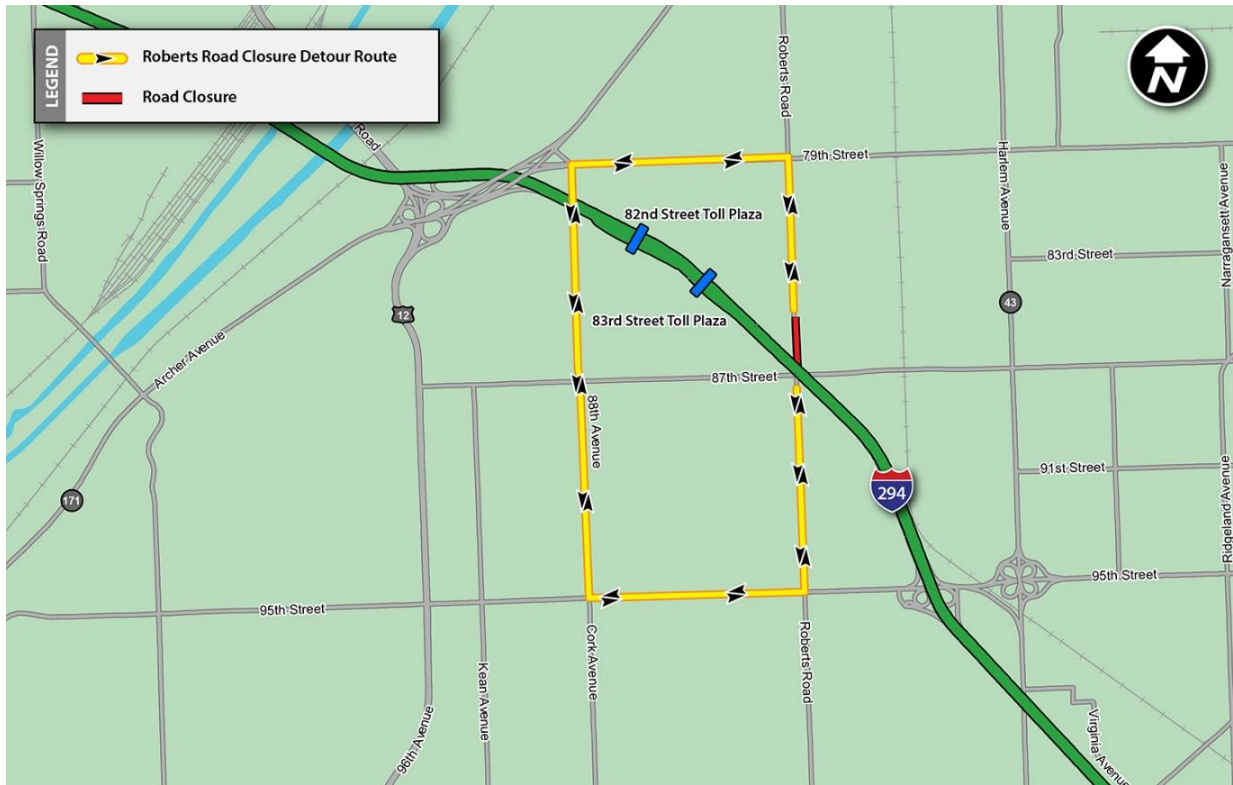
On 87th Street under I-294, full roadway closures are scheduled to begin on Thursday, December 2. The closures will begin at 9 p.m. with the roadway reopening by 5 a.m. the following morning. During the roadway closures, a posted detour will route traffic to 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Cork Avenue, 95th Street and Harlem Avenue to access 87th Street.



Once work at 87th Street is complete, a full closure of Roberts Road under I-294 will be scheduled. The closures will begin at 9 p.m. each night with the roadway reopening by 5 a.m. the following morning.

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During the roadway closures, a posted detour will route traffic via 95th Street, 88th Avenue/Cork Avenue and 79th Street to access Roberts Road.



If the work cannot be completed during this time, contingency closures will be scheduled as weather allows.

To accommodate bridge replacement work, traffic is currently reduced in both directions on Roberts Road and 87th Street. Traffic will remain in this configuration through 2022 for bridge work.

Construction in this area is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, Village of Bridgeview, City of Hickory Hills, Village of Justice, as well as local fire and police departments.

In 2021, the Illinois Tollway is continuing work on southern section of the Central Tri-State Project between I-55 and 95th Street, which includes rebuilding and widening the roadway to five lanes in both directions, including construction of new I-294 bridges over I-55, Flagg Creek, 87th Street and Roberts Road, as well as reconstructing shoulders including adding Flex Lanes. This work is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2023.

Construction updates, project information, maps and detour information for work that is part of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at [www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com).

The \$4 billion Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project is reconstructing and widening the roadway between Balmoral Avenue and 95th 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. On I-294, a 45 mph work zone speed limit is in effect throughout the construction season. On 87th Street and Roberts Road, a 35 mph work zone speed limit is in effect.

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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