

Patricia Reed

Carpenters Local 363, Lorig Construction Co.

MOVE
ILLINOIS

The Illinois Tollway
DRIVING
THE FUTURE

Patricia Reed knew she wanted to work in construction ever since she was a little girl. Her uncle and godfather were home builders and they inspired her enthusiasm for construction. Patricia quickly followed in their footsteps.

When she was a student at Elgin High School, she participated in a districtwide home building project with her building trades class and a group of students from local high schools. This experience led Patricia to her first job doing rough framing and finish carpentry for a home builder.

Through Carpenters Local 363, she was offered the chance to work on a bridge project on Butterfield Road in Aurora and begin a four-year apprenticeship with a local construction company.

Now, nearly 16 years later, the Elgin resident has worked on a host of major road construction projects throughout Northern Illinois. The largest is the \$719 million Tri-State Tollway (I-294)/I-57 Interchange Project, which is part of the Illinois Tollway's *Move Illinois* Program.

Her current employer, Lorig Construction Co., is providing long-term job security to experienced workers like Patricia through its work on *Move Illinois*.

Patricia is currently doing carpentry work in preparation for bridge deck concrete pours and has also been given the

opportunity to gain new skills including pile driving and welding. The opportunity to expand her expertise has reinforced Patricia's commitment to her occupation.

For Patricia, building bridges is not just a job, but a career she loves. And, it offers her more than just a paycheck.

"I knew back in high school that this was the right job for me. I love coming to the site every day and working for a company that is willing to support women in construction and that allows me to expand my skills on the job."



Patricia Reed with Governor Pat Quinn at the kick-off for construction of the Tri-State Tollway (I-294)/I-57 Interchange ramp.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOLLWAY'S *MOVE ILLINOIS* PROGRAM,
VISIT WWW.ILLINOISTOLLWAY.COM.

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