

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 10, 2022

OVERNIGHT CLOSURES SCHEDULED ON ROBERTS ROAD AND 87TH STREET FOR CENTRAL TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION WORK

Full roadway closures with detours needed to safely accommodate bridge beam placement

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Overnight road closures with detours will be scheduled on Roberts Road and 87th Street during the next two weeks to accommodate mainline bridge beam placement on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project. Overnight lane closures will also be scheduled in both directions on I-294 during this time to complete the work.

The temporary closures are necessary to safely accommodate the placement of bridge beams on I-294 over Roberts Road and 87th Street. Bridge beam placement will be scheduled during overnight hours to minimize the impact on local road traffic.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be in place in advance to alert drivers to each of the overnight closures. Up-to-date closure information will be posted on the Tollway website in the <u>Daily Construction Alert</u>. All work is weather dependent.

Work is scheduled to begin on Roberts Road under I-294 on Monday, March 14, with closures alternating between Roberts Road and 87th Street over the next two weeks, however, both roads will not be closed at the same time. The closures will begin at 9 p.m. each night with the roadway reopening by 5 a.m. the following morning. Altogether, five nights of roadway closures will be needed on Roberts Road and three nights of roadway closure will be needed on 87th Street.

During the roadway closures on Roberts Road, a posted detour will route traffic via 95th Street, 88th Avenue/Cork Avenue and 79th Street. (see map below)

During the roadway closures on 87th Street, a posted detour will route traffic via Cork Avenue, 95th Street and Harlem Avenue. (see map below)

In addition, Frontage Road, which connects westbound 87th Street to Roberts Road north of I-294, is scheduled to close each of the eight nights. No detour will be posted.

Roberts Road Detour Route:



87th Street Detour Route:



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.

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.

In 2022, 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 mainline work is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2022.

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.

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 10 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.