

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 14, 2022

OVERNIGHT RAMP CLOSURES SCHEDULED ON I-290 NEAR THE TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) IN ELMHURST AND NORTHLAKE

Nightly, full closures planned on ramp connecting westbound I-290 to eastbound Lake Street/North
Avenue: lane closures also scheduled

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Work is scheduled to begin tonight on the reconstruction of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) bridge over Lake Street/North Avenue. The work will require up to two weeks of nightly closures of the ramp connecting westbound I-290 to eastbound Lake Street/ North Avenue and lane closures on eastbound Lake Street. No detours will be posted.

The temporary nightly closures are necessary to accommodate the installation of temporary pavement to create a work zone for removal of the old bridge over southbound I-294. Up-to-date information regarding lane closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's <u>Daily Construction Alert</u>. All work is weather dependent.

Beginning Monday, March 14, the ramp connecting westbound I-290 to eastbound Lake Street/ North Avenue will close nightly at 8 p.m. No detour will be posted. In addition, one lane on eastbound Lake Street is also scheduled to close. The ramp and lane are scheduled to reopen by 5 a.m. each following morning. Similar closures will be needed nightly for up to two weeks to construct the temporary pavement and establish a work zone.

Construction in this area is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County, City of Elmhurst and City of Northlake, DuPage County as well as local fire and police departments.

Construction updates, project information, and maps 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.

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.

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.