



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 27, 2022

LONG-TERM TRAFFIC SHIFTS BEGIN NEXT WEEK ON CENTRAL TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) SOUTHBOUND BETWEEN 83RD STREET TOLL PLAZA AND 95TH STREET

Three southbound lanes are scheduled to shift onto the northbound side, access to 95th Street will be limited

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Beginning next week, southbound traffic on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) between the 83rd Street Toll Plaza and 95th Street is scheduled to shift into a counterflow configuration with limited access to exit to 95th Street as part of the \$4 billion Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project. Four lanes will remain open, and traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration through the end of the year.

Traffic shifts are necessary to provide a safe work zone and accommodate traffic during construction. Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the new traffic patterns. Up-to-date information regarding lane closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's [Daily Construction Alert](#). All work is weather dependent.

Overnight Wednesday, June 1, on southbound I-294 between the 83rd Street Toll Plaza and 95th Street overnight lane closures will be scheduled to shift traffic. Four lanes of traffic will be maintained on southbound I-294 with three lanes shifted onto the northbound side in a counterflow configuration by midnight. The fourth lane will be shifted onto the southbound shoulder and will provide access to 95th Street exits.

Traffic traveling in the three counterflow lanes will not have access to the 95th Street exits. The next available exit is five miles to the south at Cicero Avenue (Illinois Route 50)/127th Street.

Northbound traffic in this area is currently shifted and will remain in this configuration.

The shift is needed to create a work zone to continue mainline rebuilding and widening, including reconstruction of I-294 bridges over 87th Street. Work also includes noisewall, storm sewer and utility work.

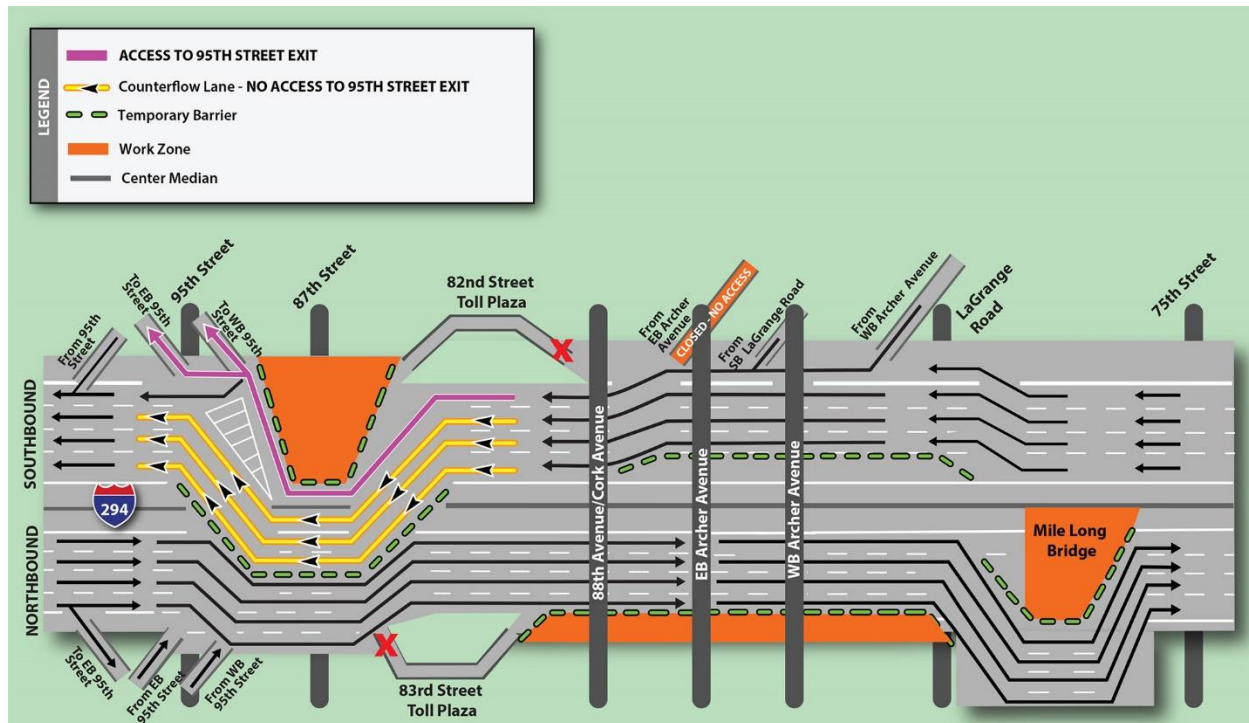
Construction updates, project information, maps and detour information for work that is part of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com.

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 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 2023.

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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 planning for emerging projects, including 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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