



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 8, 2022

LONG-TERM COUNTY LINE ROAD CLOSURE AND DETOUR BEGINS NEXT WEEK FOR ILLINOIS TOLLWAY IMPROVEMENTS

Northbound lanes closing between East Lake Street and Grand Avenue until summer 2023

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – A long-term closure and detour of northbound traffic on County Line Road between East Lake Street and Grand Avenue is scheduled to begin next week and continue through summer 2023 to accommodate Illinois Tollway improvements on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and at the North Avenue Interchange.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to closures and detours. Construction information is available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com as well as on the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways website at maps.cookcountyil.gov/hwyproject. All work is weather dependent.

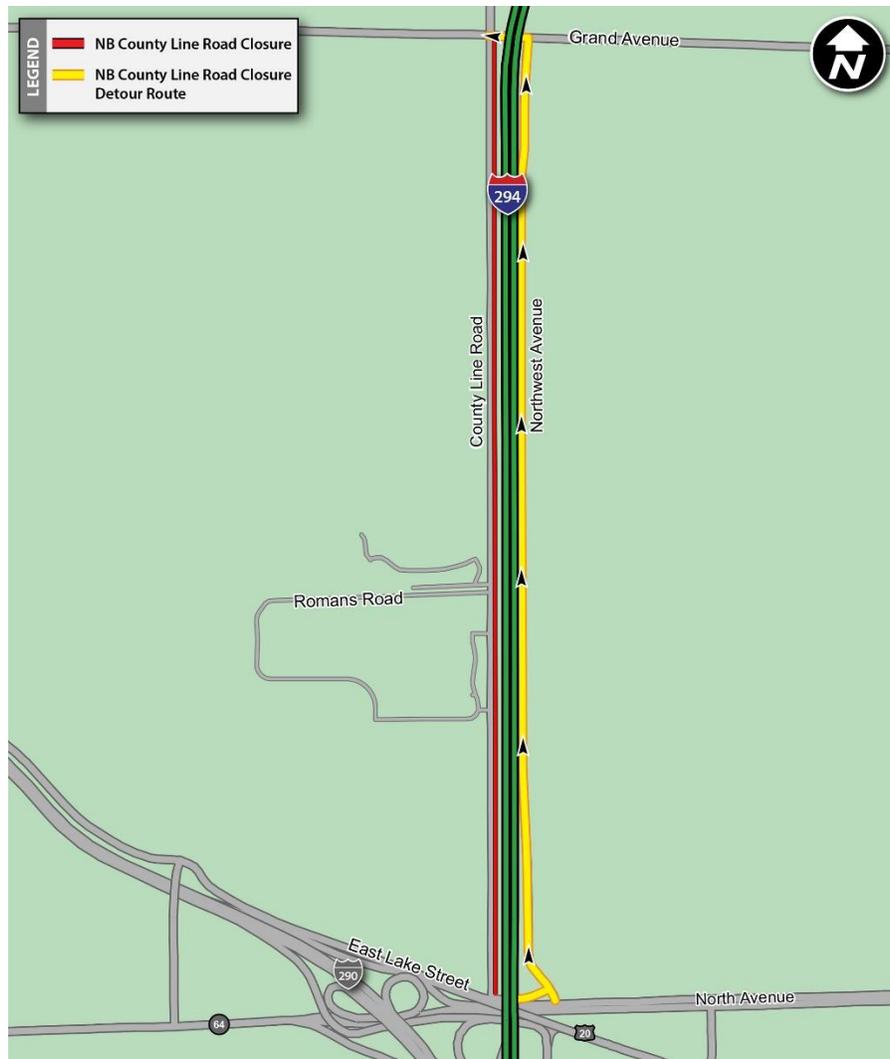
Beginning the week of September 12, County Line Road will be closed to northbound traffic between East Lake Street to Grand Avenue through summer 2023. Northbound County Line traffic will be detoured to northbound Northwest Avenue and Grand Avenue to reach County Line Road. Southbound traffic will continue to have access to County Line Road during this period.

The construction, led by the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, will accommodate the Tollway's new ramp connecting the southbound Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to County Line Road.

The closure and detour are needed for Cook County's work to rebuild and realign County Line Road to provide:

- one lane in each direction, north of the future ramp to Grand Avenue, and
- one northbound lane and two southbound lanes, south of the new ramp to Frontage Road.

Construction in this area is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, the City of Elmhurst, City of Northlake, Village of Bensenville and the Village of Melrose Park, as well as local fire and police departments



Ongoing lane closures and traffic shifts are scheduled to continue over the next three years on these local roadways to allow Cook County to complete the roadway improvements which includes pavement reconstruction, bridge work, watermain reconstruction, drainage installation, and traffic signal modifications.

The project will include work to realign a portion of County Line Road to accommodate the reconstruction and widening of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and for the North Avenue Interchange Project that includes construction of a new ramp connecting southbound I-294 to County Line Road to provide new access to North Avenue and Lake Street to help reduce congestion at the interchange and on local roads.

In addition, the North Avenue and Lake Street (U.S. Route 20) intersection will be reconfigured to improve traffic flow and provide new direct access to eastbound North Avenue. Drainage improvements are planned to help alleviate flooding in the area during periods of heavy rainfall. Construction of detention ponds to hold stormwater and the installation of new storm sewers will help address flooding along North Avenue.

In partnership with the Illinois Tollway and cities of Northlake and Elmhurst, Cook County is leading the project's design and will be constructing the project improvements. This work is in coordination with the

Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

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* are 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.

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