



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 15, 2022

WINTER WORK TO CONTINUE ON CENTRAL TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) PROJECT SOUTH SEGMENT BETWEEN 95TH STREET AND I-55

*Traffic between 95th Street and LaGrange Road scheduled to return to regular configuration;
with traffic between LaGrange Road and I-55 reduced and shifted for winter construction*

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Work to shift traffic is scheduled to begin this week on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) between 95th Street and LaGrange Road to return traffic to its normal configuration for winter and allow for continuation of construction as weather allows.

Overnight lane closures, with traffic reduced to a single lane at times, will be needed to complete the traffic shifts.

Work to shift traffic is scheduled for Thursday night, December 15, on southbound I-294 between LaGrange Road and 88th/Cork Avenue and on Friday night, December 16, on southbound I-294 between the 83rd Street Toll Plaza and 95th Street and also on northbound I-294 between the 83rd Street Toll Plaza and LaGrange Road.

Overnight lane closures will continue to be scheduled as needed and as weather allows to complete the traffic shifts. Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the nightly closures and new traffic patterns. Up-to-date information regarding lane closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's [Daily Construction Alert](#).

By the end of the month, the Tollway anticipates completing the traffic shifts with up to five lanes of traffic in both directions on I-294 between 95th Street and LaGrange Road. Shoulder closures will remain in place to provide for a median work zone between the 82nd/83rd Street Toll Plazas and 95th Street and an outside shoulder work zone between the 82nd/83rd Street Toll Plazas and LaGrange Road.

Between LaGrange Road and I-55, traffic is already shifted with traffic reduced to three lanes and shifted onto the southbound side of the roadway into a counterflow configuration. Traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration as work continues into the winter.

Road reconstruction, bridge work and noisewall work are scheduled to continue over the winter through the entire southern segment of the Central Tri-State Project between I-55 and 95th Street.

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 95th Street and I-55, which includes rebuilding and widening the roadway to five lanes in both

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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.

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 152,000 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 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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