



## Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Pedestrian Bridge Project

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

In coordination with the Village of Hinsdale, the Village of Western Springs and the Western Springs Park District, the Illinois Tollway is building a new pedestrian bridge over the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294), to maintain a convenient connection between Hinsdale and Western Springs for pedestrians and bicyclists.

The pedestrian bridge is being relocated from its current location near Ogden Avenue to a new site adjacent to 47th Street selected by the Villages of Hinsdale and Western Springs.

The new bridge will be built prior to the old bridge's removal to allow for full pedestrian access throughout construction.

The \$8 million project is part of the Central Tri-State Tollway Project with work scheduled for 2021 to 2023.

### PROJECT SUMMARY

To accommodate roadway and infrastructure improvements planned as part of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project, the Illinois Tollway is relocating the I-294 Pedestrian Bridge.

The new, pedestrian bridge will be constructed on the north side of 47th Street, conveniently linking Veeck Park in Hinsdale and Spring Rock Park in Western Springs, to provide a connection to existing paths in both parks as preferred by the communities and park district.

Site selection, design and construction planning for the I-294 Pedestrian Bridge was developed in consultation with Hinsdale, Western Springs and the Western Springs Park District.

The site selection process led by the communities incorporated input from more than 1,000 residents through online surveys in addition to local public meetings and resulted in the decision to relocate the bridge to the new site adjacent to 47th Street.

With direction from the Hinsdale and Western Springs, the bridge design features a weathered steel structure and ADA accessible sloped ramps with ornamental vertical fencing

painted black.

The Tollway worked with the municipalities to incorporate design details into the new pedestrian bridge. Logos will be incorporated on pedestals at the base of both side of the bridge to identify each village.

In addition, as part of the project, landscape restoration and improvements will be included. The Tollway has worked with the municipalities and the Western Springs Park District to incorporate additional trees and landscaping at the new location including native species, shrubs, shade trees and ornamental trees, providing seasonal interest as pedestrians use the new bridge and pass through the parks.

### PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

Construction is being coordinated with the Village of Hinsdale, Village of Western Springs and the Western Springs Park District, as well as the Lyons Township School District.

In fall 2021, the Tollway began construction of the new bridge adjacent to 47th Street, with the existing bridge near Ogden Avenue anticipated to be removed in spring 2023. At the request of the local communities and park district construction access will be from 47th Street near Fair Elms Avenue and near Veeck Park.

In 2022, traffic shifts will be put in place on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and on 47th Street to provide a work zone for the continued construction of a center pier on I-294 and piers and abutments in the parks on both sides, as well as assembly and placement of the new pedestrian bridge structure. This work is scheduled to be complete in fall 2022.

The new steel bridge will be pre-fabricated and then moved into place once the piers and abutments are complete.

Removal of the existing pedestrian bridge near Ogden Avenue will begin after the new bridge is open to the public and is anticipated to be scheduled in spring 2023.

### Customer Impacts

Construction signage will be put in place to alert pedestrian users and bicyclists, when necessary, at both the new pedestrian bridge location and at the existing pedestrian bridge.



The Illinois Tollway's construction schedule will ensure that local residents will continue to have access to a pedestrian bridge over I-294. The removal of the existing bridge will be scheduled after the new pedestrian bridge opens to the public.

On 47th Street, a traffic shift will be in place through 2022. All traffic on the 47th Street Bridge will be shifted onto the eastbound side of the road and reduced to a single lane in both directions.

On I-294, lane and shoulder closures will be put in place provide a work zone and safely accommodate construction. Whenever possible, the Tollway uses traffic shifts and shoulders to keep as many lanes open during peak hours as were available before construction.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to scheduled lane closures, traffic patterns and work zone speed limits.

## PURPOSE

The I-294 Pedestrian Bridge Project is being coordinated with the Village of Hinsdale, Village of Western Springs and the Western Springs Park District to maintain bicycle and pedestrian access over the Tollway for local residents.

The project is part of the \$4 billion Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project, including planning and design in coordination with the communities and funding and construction by the Illinois Tollway. Both villages have agreed to share the future cost of maintenance of the enhanced railings on the bridge, as well as routine maintenance of the bridge surface.

The Central Tri-State Tollway Project is reconstructing and widening the roadway between Balmoral Avenue and 95<sup>th</sup> 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

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that 47th Street, the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and the nearby park areas remain safe for residents, drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency's overall commitment to roadway safety.

Work 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.

## GETTING TOLLWAY CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

The Illinois Tollway has a variety of ways customers can get the latest travel information, including:

- [Illinoistollway.com](http://Illinoistollway.com) – Projects section, live roadway images and real-time roadway incident information.
- [Daily construction alerts](#) – Daily and long-term lane and shoulder closure schedules.
- [Twitter.com](https://twitter.com) – Real-time roadway incident information at Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355, Tollway Trip 94/294 and Tollway Trip 390.