



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NIGHTLY LANE CLOSURES SCHEDULED TO BEGIN FOR PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE REMOVAL OVER TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294)

Bridge removal completes relocation project for Hinsdale and Western Springs

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Temporary, overnight lane closures are scheduled next week on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) south of Ogden Avenue for work to remove the old I-294 Pedestrian Bridge in Hinsdale and Western Springs.

The pedestrian bridge located near Ogden Avenue closed in January to pedestrian traffic and the new I-294 Pedestrian Bridge constructed adjacent to 47th Street opened for use in fall 2022.

Lane closures on I-294 will be necessary to safely accommodate a work zone for bridge removal. The work will be scheduled during overnight hours to minimize the impact on drivers. Up-to-date closure information will be posted on the Tollway website in the [Daily Construction Alert](#). All work is weather dependent.

Beginning Monday, February 13, up to six nights of lane closures will be scheduled on I-294, reducing traffic to a single lane to begin pedestrian bridge removal. Overnight work will be done in one direction of I-294 at a time, with one lane closing at 8 p.m., a second lane closing at 9 p.m. and a third lane closing at 11 p.m. All lanes are scheduled to reopen by 5 a.m. the following morning.

During the week of February 20, up to two nights of additional lane closures will be scheduled on I-294 in one direction at a time, including intermittent full roadway closures, to remove the over-the-road structure. Each night, traffic in one direction will be reduced to a single lane by 11 p.m. with intermittent full stops anticipated to begin at 11:30 p.m. All lanes will be open to traffic by 5 a.m. the following morning.

Additional work to remove existing pedestrian bridge structure has been completed in areas adjacent to the Tollway, including the removal of railings, pathways and concrete and installation of fencing. Restoration of the area with topsoil and seeding is scheduled to be completed in the spring. Access to local roads will be required and coordinated with the Villages of Hinsdale and Western Springs accordingly.

The Illinois Tollway has coordinated with the Village of Hinsdale, the Village of Western Springs and the Western Springs Park District to relocate the pedestrian bridge adjacent to 47th Street over the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to maintain a convenient connection between parks and two communities for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Selection of the new location connecting Spring Rock Park in Western Springs to Veeck Park in Hinsdale and was a collaboration between the Village of Hinsdale, the Village of Western Springs and the Western Springs Park District and included input provided by local area residents.

Relocation of the I-294 Pedestrian Bridge was funded by the Tollway's Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project, which is reconstructing and widening the roadway from Balmoral Avenue to 95th Street. Project

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and construction information is available for review on the I-294 Pedestrian Bridge Project page in the [Projects \[projects\]](#) section on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com [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. 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 11 years of *Move Illinois* are on schedule and within budget, delivering the new Illinois Route 390 Tollway and a rebuilt and widened Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) with its new SmartRoad corridor, as well as 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 new I-490 Tollway Project and reconstructing 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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