

Plainfield Road Bridge Project

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Illinois Tollway is removing the existing local road bridge carrying Plainfield Road traffic over the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and rebuilding it with a new, longer and higher bridge structure to accommodate the reconstruction and widening of the Central Tri-State Tollway.

The new bridge will be built to provide for two lanes of traffic, as well as additional pedestrian and bicycle access.

Construction began in 2021 and is scheduled to be complete in 2023.

PROJECT SUMMARY

As part of the Plainfield Road Bridge Project, the existing bridge carrying traffic over I-294 will be removed and replaced with a new, longer bridge structure.

The new Plainfield Road Bridge structure will provide for one lane of traffic and wide shoulders in each direction.

To provide for local pedestrian and bicycle access, a protected sidewalk will be included on the north side of the bridge and a new protected bicycle/multi-use path and sidewalk will be built on the south side.

Additional work related to this project includes restoration of retaining and noisewalls, sewer construction, utility work, lighting, landscaping and drainage improvements.

In addition, since the Illinois Tollway typically constructs new bridges with a 75-year service life, the new bridge will be designed to accommodate future local roadway improvements. Cook County is currently conducting a study for the improvements of Plainfield Road, and the new bridge will be built to ensure compatibility with future plans.

Currently, up to 14,200 vehicles use the Plainfield Road Bridge daily.

Customer Impacts

Lane closures and traffic shifts on Plainfield Road will be necessary to provide a work zone to safely accommodate traffic and 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. During construction, traffic on the Plainfield Road Bridge will be shifted, but one lane in each direction will remain open.

PURPOSE

The Plainfield Road Bridge Project is part of the \$4 billion Central Tri-State Project, which 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.

Construction on this project is being coordinated with Cook County, Village of Burr Ridge, Village of Indian Head Park and Village of Western Springs, as well as local fire and police departments.

WORK ZONE SAFETY

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and local roads safe for both 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

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lights includes up to a \$10,000 fine, 2-year suspension of driving privileges and jail time, in extreme cases.

Visit the Tollway's Work Zone Safety page at illinoistollway.com.

SUSTAINABILITY

The Tollway is committed to building green and minimizing the environmental impact of construction by reducing, recycling and reusing materials. In addition to reducing the cost of this work, reuse of these materials reduces the need for virgin asphalt materials and reduces energy consumption, greenhouse gases and the volume of material that would otherwise be sent to landfills.

GETTING TOLLWAY CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

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

- <u>Illinoistollway.com</u> Projects section, live roadway images and real-time roadway incident information.
- <u>Daily construction alerts</u> Daily and long-term lane and shoulder closure schedules.
- <u>Twitter.com</u> Real-time roadway incident information at Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355, Tollway Trip 94/294 and Tollway Trip 390.