

## **ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS**

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 31, 2024

# OVERNIGHT AND LONG-TERM RAMP CLOSURES CONTINUE IN FEBRUARY AS PART OF WORK TO RECONFIGURE THE I-290/I-88 INTERCHANGE AT I-294

Ongoing temporary closures needed to safely accommodate ramp and bridge work and maintain access to traffic

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL –** Overnight and long-term ramp closures with detours will continue throughout February for the Illinois Tollway's ongoing work to reconstruct and reconfigure the I-290/I-88 Interchange at the Tri-State Tollway (I-294). Delays are expected.

Construction and electronic message signs will be in place in advance to alert drivers to the ramp and lane closures, traffic shifts and detours. Up-to-date closure information will be available in the Illinois Tollway's Daily Construction Alerts. All work is weather dependent.

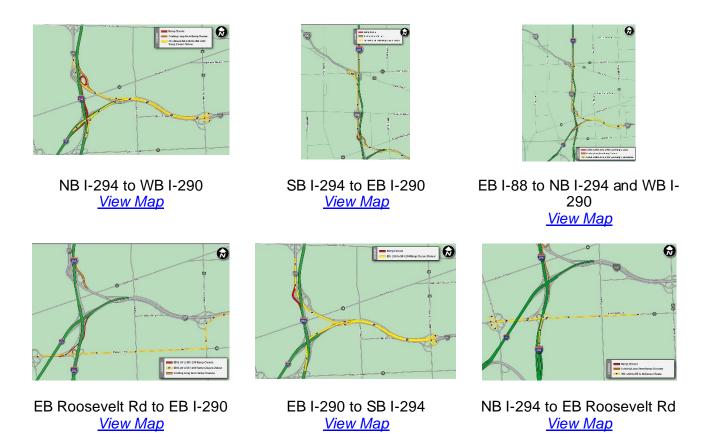
On Thursday, February 1, overnight lane closures will be scheduled on southbound I-294 between the Cermak Toll Plaza and I-290, including intermittent full closures each lasting 15 minutes for roadway signage work.

Throughout February, multiple interchange ramps connecting I-294 to I-290, I-88 and Roosevelt Road are scheduled to close overnight as needed with posted detours for ongoing bridge reconstruction, pavement repair and roadway lighting work.

Ramp closures and detours will include:

- For the ramps connecting northbound I-294 to westbound I-290, traffic will be routed onto eastbound I-290 to Mannheim Road and then through the interchange to access westbound I-290.
- For the ramps connecting southbound I-294 to eastbound I-290, traffic will be routed onto westbound I-290 to westbound North Avenue to access eastbound I-290.
- For the ramps connecting eastbound I-88 to northbound I-294 and westbound I-290, traffic will be routed onto eastbound I-290 to Mannheim Road and then through the interchange to access westbound I-290.
- For the ramp connecting eastbound Roosevelt Road to eastbound I-290, traffic will be routed east to northbound Mannheim Road to access eastbound I-290.
- For the ramps connecting eastbound I-290 to southbound I-294, traffic will be routed onto to Mannheim Road and then through the interchange to westbound I-290 to southbound I-294.
- For the ramps connecting northbound I-294 to eastbound Roosevelt Road, traffic will be routed to westbound Roosevelt Road to York Road and then through the interchange to access eastbound Roosevelt Road.

In addition, the ramp carrying eastbound St. Charles Road to eastbound I-290 is scheduled to close as needed. No detour will be posted.



In addition, overnight lane closures will be scheduled in both directions on I-294 at the interchange for pavement repair.

On I-290, overnight lane closures will be scheduled in both directions between St. Charles Road and Butterfield Road throughout February, including intermittent full closures on eastbound I-290, each lasting 15-minutes, for bridge beam removal work on northbound I-294 over I-290.

All mainline lane closures will be scheduled during overnight hours with lanes and ramps reopening ahead of the morning rush hour.

Overnight closures and detours of ramps at the I-290/I-88 Interchange at I-294 are scheduled to continue through the end of the year as needed, as well as closures on I-88.

Ongoing long-term ramp closures with detours continuing in January include the following:

- Westbound I-290 to northbound I-294.
- Westbound Roosevelt Road to southbound I-294.

Ramp and local road closures in this area are being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Village of Berkeley, Village of Hillside, City of Elmhurst, Village of Oak Brook as well as local fire and police departments.

Information about ongoing long-term and overnight ramp closures and detours including maps and construction updates are available on the <u>I-290/I-88 Interchange Project</u> page on the Tollway's website at <u>www.illinoistollway.com</u> in the Projects section.

Work in 2024 at the I-290/I-88 Interchange at I-294 includes ongoing reconstruction of bridges over Roosevelt Road, I-88, Butterfield Road, the Canadian National Railroad, I-290 and Electric Avenue, as well as noisewall construction and drainage, electrical and lighting improvements.

The reconfiguration and reconstruction of the I-290/I-88 Interchange is estimated at \$700-\$800 million and will reduce congestion, improve safety and address operational issues, as well as infrastructure conditions as part of the Illinois Tollway's \$4 billion Central Tri-State Project. Work started in 2020 and is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2026.

Information including maps and construction updates is available on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com in the Projects section.

The \$4 billion Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) 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 *Move Illinois* Program. 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 Butterfield Road, a 35 mph work zone speed limit is in effect. 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 16-year, \$15 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, is improving mobility, relieving congestion, reducing pollution, creating as many as 165,220 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. The first 12 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 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.