

## **ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS**

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 3, 2024

# OVERNIGHT LANE CLOSURES SCHEDULED ON TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) NEAR FRANKLIN PARK

Closures needed to safely accommodate bridge beam placement for new I-490/I-294 Interchange construction

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL –** Overnight lane closures, including intermittent, full roadway closures, are scheduled to begin this weekend on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) near Franklin Park for bridge beam placement. The work is part of construction to build the interchange that will connect to the new I-490 Tollway.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the closures. Up-to-date information regarding lane closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's <u>Daily Construction Alert</u>. The temporary closures are necessary to provide a work zone to safely accommodate bridge beam placement. All work is weather dependent.

Beginning Sunday, May 5, three nights of overnight lane dosures are anticipated in both directions on I-294 between Wolf Road and Grand Avenue beginning at 8 p.m. In addition, full closures, each lasting15 minutes, are scheduled to begin at midnight. All lanes are scheduled to reopen by 6 a.m. the following morning.

If beam placement work cannot be completed during this time, additional nights of closures and detours will be scheduled through mid-May.

Construction in this area is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County, DuPage County, City of Elmhurst, the Village of Franklin Park and City of Northlake, as well as local fire and police departments.

Construction updates, project information, maps and detour information for work that is part of the I-490/I-294 Project are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at <a href="https://www.illinoistollway.com">www.illinoistollway.com</a>.

In 2024, work will include completing the remaining retaining walls and bridges over Grand Avenue, the Union Pacific Railroad and North Avenue/Lake Street. In addition,

work will include reconstruction of mainline pavement on northbound I-294 and completion of the flyover ramp from northbound I-294 to northbound I-490. The work is anticipated to be completed by early 2025.

The I-490/I-294 Interchange Project will improve travel and enhance mobility by providing access to and from the new I-490 Tollway and also the Illinois Route 390 Tollway. The project is estimated at approximately \$360 million and will include widening roadway bridges on and reconstructing a portion of the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and building a new interchange connecting I-294 and I-490. The project will deliver two new ramp bridges connecting I-490 to I-294. In addition, to accommodate the new ramps, in coordination with the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project, I-294 will be widened and reconstructed, including reconstruction of bridges carrying I-294 over the Union Pacific Railroad, Grand Avenue and North Avenue/Lake Street.

### **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 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.