



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 2, 2016

# WORK SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK TO REBUILD TRIPP ROAD BRIDGE IN BOONE COUNTY

Local crossroad bridge being reconstructed for Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Rebuilding and Widening Project

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL –** The Tripp Road Bridge carrying traffic over the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) in Boone County is scheduled to close next week for removal and reconstruction as part of the I-90 Rebuilding and Widening Project. The project is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2016.

The Tripp Road Bridge in Boone County is among four local crossroad bridges scheduled to be reconstructed along I-90 in 2016 to accommodate the new, wider I-90 roadway. Local crossroad bridges being removed and reconstructed in 2016 also include the Spring Center Road Bridge in Boone County. In addition, reconstruction work will be completed on the Higgins Road Bridge (Illinois Route 72) in Gilberts and on the Higgins Road Bridge (Illinois Route 72) in Hoffman Estates.

Construction on the Tripp Road Bridge is scheduled to begin on Monday, March 7, with closure of the bridge in both directions. Electronic message signs will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the closure. No detour route will be posted.

Closure of the local crossroad bridge is necessary because the bridge structure is not wide enough to maintain traffic and provide a work zone. In addition to providing a safe work zone for construction workers and drivers, closure of the bridge will allow work to be complete in half the time.

The Tripp Road Bridge was constructed as part of the original Tollway system in the 1950s and is being reconstructed and widened to accommodate the new, wider I-90 roadway. The new concrete bridge will include one lane in both directions and shoulders. Up to 175 vehicles use this bridge daily.

Reconstruction of the Tripp Road Bridge is being coordinated with Boone County and Flora Township, along with local school districts and police and fire departments.

Maps and construction project information about the I-90 local crossroad bridge projects are available in the "Projects by Roadway" section in the Construction/Planning section on the Tollway's website at <a href="https://www.illinoistollway.com">www.illinoistollway.com</a>.

### **Work Zone Safety**

The work zone speed limit on I-90 at Tripp Road will be 55 mph in both directions, whether or not workers are present. Drivers should continue to watch for changing traffic patterns and use caution at all times.

Illinois State Police have zero tolerance for drivers speeding in work zones. The minimum penalty for speeding in a work zone is \$375. Posted signs advise drivers of a \$10,000 fine and 14-year jail sentence for hitting a roadway worker.

# I-90 Rebuilding and Widening Project

The \$2.5 billion Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Rebuilding and Widening Project will deliver a 21<sup>st</sup> century, state-of-the-art corridor linking Rockford to O'Hare International Airport. The I-90 corridor from downtown Chicago to Rockford serves nearly one million travelers per day. The project encompasses 62 miles and features six reconstructed and expanded lanes from Randall Road to I-39 near Rockford completed in 2014 and reconstruction and expansion to eight lanes from the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to Randall Road in Elgin to be completed in 2016. The new I-90 will also feature significant improvements to interchanges and bus on shoulder service along the eastern segment in partnership with Pace. In addition, the new I-90 includes flexible infrastructure to enable the Tollway to add new "smart" features and future transit expansion for the first time in the agency's history.

The I-90 Rebuilding and Widening Project is funded by the Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*. The I-90 bridges were constructed as part of the original Tollway system in the 1950s.

### **Getting Tollway Construction Information**

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

- www.illinoistollway.com Construction/Planning section, Tollway Trip Calculator, live roadway images and real-time roadway incident information
- 1-800-TOLL-FYI Daily lane closure information
- <u>www.travelmidwest.com</u> Real-time travel times
- www.twitter.com Real-time roadway incident information at Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355 and Tollway Trip 94/294

#### About Move Illinois

The Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, will improve mobility, relieve congestion, reduce pollution, create as many as 120,000 jobs and link economies across the Midwest region. *Move Illinois* will address the remaining needs of the existing Tollway system; rebuild and widen the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) as a state-of-the-art 21<sup>st</sup> century corridor; construct a new interchange to connect the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to I-57; build a new, all-electronic Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project and fund planning studies for emerging projects.

## **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 286 miles of interstate tollways 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) and the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80).

