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OVERNIGHT LANE CLOSURES SCHEDULED THIS WEEK ON THE REAGAN MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-88) IN DIXON

Lane closures planned for beam removal as part of bridge deck replacement work

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Temporary, overnight lane closures are scheduled this week on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) for bridge replacement work at the Illinois Route 26 Interchange in Dixon.

Beam removal will be done during overnight hours to minimize the impact on traffic. Electronic message signs will be put in place in advance to alert drivers. The temporary closures are necessary to provide a work zone and safely accommodate the repairs at the Illinois Route 26 Interchange.

Weather permitting, between 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. on Friday, July 8, intermittent, full closures will be scheduled in both directions on I-88, each lasting 15 minutes, for bridge beam removal. If the work is not completed during this time, backup closures will be scheduled from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday, July 9.

In addition, the left lanes in both directions at this location are already closed for a roadway resurfacing project. Additional lane closures on I-88 will be scheduled later this summer for bridge beam placement.

Currently as part of the bridge repair work, the ramp carrying traffic from eastbound I-88 to Illinois Route 26 is closed through the fall with a posted detour directing traffic to exit at U.S. Route 30 in Rock Falls located 11 miles west of the interchange and follow the detour route east to Illinois Route 26.

Full closure of the ramp 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 bridges will allow work to be complete in half the time.

All work is being coordinated with Whiteside and Lee Counties and the Illinois Department of Transportation, along with local municipalities, townships, school districts and police and fire departments. Up to 1,300 vehicles use the ramp on a daily basis.

Maps and construction project information about the <u>Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) Local Crossroad</u> <u>Bridge Project</u> is available in the "Projects by Roadway" section in the Construction/Planning section on the Tollway's website at <u>www.illinoistollway.com.</u>

Work Zone Safety

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that I-88 and other area roadways remain safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency's overall commitment to roadway 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-88, a 45 mph work zone speed limit will be in effect.

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 a 14-year jail sentence for hitting a roadway worker.

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
- www.travelmidwest.com Real-time travel times
- <u>www.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.

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 292 miles of roadways in 12 counties in Northern Illinois, including the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88), 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.