



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 14, 2016

# LOCAL ROAD CLOSURES BEGIN NEXT WEEK IN ELGIN AS PART OF JANE ADDAMS MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-90) CONSTRUCTION

Short-term closures into November on Duncan Avenue and Trout Park Boulevard necessary to restore local roadways

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Lane reductions and local road closures are scheduled to begin next week and continue into November on portions of Duncan Avenue and Trout Park Boulevard in Elgin as part of the completion of the Illinois Tollway's Fox River Bridge Project on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90). Roadway and bridge reconstruction of I-90 between Elgin and the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) is scheduled to be complete by the end of December.

The local road closures are scheduled to begin the week of October 17 and continue into mid-November to accommodate the replacement of portions of the local roadways used as construction haul roads during the reconstruction of the Fox River Bridge on I-90. All work is weather dependent.

Electronic message signs, construction and detour signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers. The closures are necessary to provide a work zone and safely accommodate the construction work.

On Trout Park Boulevard, a portion of the roadway between Duncan Avenue and Sherwood Avenue will be closed in both directions and a detour will be put in place directing all drivers to Glenwood Avenue. In addition, between Illinois Route 25 and Duncan Avenue, eastbound Trout Park Boulevard traffic will be detoured via Glenwood Avenue and westbound traffic will remain on Trout Park Boulevard during construction with traffic shifts to maintain access.

On Duncan Avenue between Trout Park Boulevard and the Fox River Bridge, northbound traffic will be detoured east on Glenwood Avenue, north on Illinois Route 25, west to Higgins Road and south on South River Road to reach Duncan Avenue. Southbound traffic will remain on Duncan Avenue during construction with traffic shifts to maintain access.

In addition, bicycle and pedestrian access continues to be maintained on the Fox River Trail located on the east side of Fox River in Elgin and passing through the middle of the Fox River Bridge Project work zone. Approximately 300 feet of the Fox River Trail remains relocated to the east adjacent to Duncan Avenue, extending from the Trout Park parking lot to the south, traveling under the Fox River Bridge and connecting back to the Fox River Trail to the north of the bridge. Trail access will be restored by the end of December. Additionally, the bicycle and pedestrian bridge underneath the Fox River Bridge is on schedule to reopen in the spring of 2017.

#### **Work Zone Safety**

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) and other local 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. The work zone speed limit on Duncan Avenue is 30 mph in both directions, whether or not workers are present.

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.

## Fox River Bridge Project

The Fox River Bridge Project includes construction of two new bridge structures increasing capacity from six lanes to eight lanes with full shoulders in both directions to accommodate the new, wider I-90 roadway and also provide for drainage improvements and replacement of the existing bicycle and pedestrian bridge.

The new Fox River Bridge includes two, side-by-side 1,315-foot-long structures that will stand 40 feet above the surface of the Fox River and adjacent roadways. Each of the new structures were constructed with fewer piers to reduce the environmental impact on the waterway and forested fen below. The new bridge structures have eight spans supported by seven piers. The old bridge structures had 14 piers.

Currently, up to 101,300 vehicles travel on the I-90 Fox River Bridge daily. The Tollway is coordinating work on the Fox River Bridge Project with the City of Elgin, Kane County, the Forest Preserve District of Kane County, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife, Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), IDNR Office of Water Resources and the Illinois Nature Preserve Commission.

The \$95 million Fox River Bridge Project is funded by the Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*. Constructed as part of the original Tollway system in the 1950s, rebuilding and widening the Fox River Bridge is necessary to accommodate the \$2.5 billion I-90 Rebuilding and Widening Project. Work is scheduled to be complete by the end of December.

#### **Getting Tollway Construction Information**

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

- <u>www.illinoistollway.com</u> 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
- 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 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 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.