



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS MORE THAN \$41 MILLION IN CONTRACTS
FOR CONSTRUCTION AND PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN NOVEMBER**

*Nearly \$1.1 billion committed to small, minority-, women- and veteran-owned firms
since start of Move Illinois Program*

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved one new construction contract and one new professional engineering services contract totaling \$41.1 million at its November meeting.

Nearly \$328.2 million in construction and professional engineering service contracts have been approved by the Tollway Board so far in 2016, as part of the fifth year of the Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

To date, \$4.5 billion in construction and professional engineering service contracts have been approved by the Tollway Board since the *Move Illinois* Program began in 2012, including nearly \$1.1 billion committed to small, veteran-owned or disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned firms. In addition, the capital program has created or sustained an estimated 47,810 total jobs as of October 2016.

“The Illinois Tollway firmly believes that contractors we do business with should reflect diversity of communities we serve, from the professional engineering services that design our roads to the construction firms that build our roads,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Greg Bedalov. “We are committed to setting goals that continue to support the growth of participation by minority, women and veteran-owned firms.”

The contracts approved today include one prime consultant, eight subconsultants and one subcontractor that are certified as disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) and one subconsultant that is a certified veteran-owned firm. Of the \$41.1 million awarded for this month, nearly \$17.4 million, or 42 percent, is committed to veteran-owned or disadvantaged firms.

November construction contracts awarded include:

- A \$5.3 million contract to Aldridge Electric Inc., Libertyville, IL, for installation of intelligent transportation systems equipment on the Illinois Route 390 Tollway between Lake Street (U.S. Route 20) and Illinois Route 83.

November professional engineering services contracts awarded include:

- A \$35.8 million contract with Stantec Consulting Services Inc./Terra Engineering Ltd., Chicago, IL, for design work for the new I-490 Tollway from south of Irving Park Road to County Line Road/Mount Prospect Road.

Construction contracts for Illinois Tollway projects are competitively bid under the rules of the Illinois Procurement Code. As part of the process, contractors' bid submissions for construction work

advertised by the Tollway are opened and read aloud during public bid opening meetings, which are also broadcast live on the Tollway’s website. Following an agency review process, the lowest, responsible and responsive bid is presented to the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors for review and approval.

Illinois Tollway professional engineering services contracts are awarded through the qualifications-based selection process (Illinois Public Act 87-673 (30 ILCS 535/1-535/80) Architectural, Engineering and Land Surveying Qualifications-Based Selection Act), which requires state agencies to select professional architects, engineers and surveyors on the basis of demonstrated competence and professional qualifications, rather than low bid. Staff from the Department of Engineering checks statements of interest to ensure that specified pre-qualifications and documentation are met and then reviews and scores statements of interest based on the selection criteria outlined for each project. Executives from the Department of Engineering then review the scoring, as well as each firm’s capacity, and identify the top recommended firms per project. To complete the review, a committee of Tollway professionals and independent engineering officials considers the top recommended firms and finalizes the top three firms in ranked order. The Tollway then seeks to negotiate a final contract price with the top-ranked firm.

The Illinois Tollway provides detailed information about current Tollway construction contracts through the Construction Contract Tracker on the Tollway’s website at illinoistollway.com. Contractors and consultants can also access resources online to help them learn about how to do business with the Tollway, including construction bid-letting schedules, professional service bulletins, manuals and construction bid calendars. These resources can be found in the “Doing Business” section of the Tollway’s website.

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 throughout the 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 21st 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 292 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), the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) and the Illinois Route 390 Tollway.

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