



*Move Illinois:
The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 14, 2017

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT BEGINS IN MARENGO TO REBUILD ILLINOIS ROUTE 23 BRIDGE ON THE JANE ADDAMS MEMORIAL TOLLWAY

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway has begun work this week to remove and rebuild the Illinois Route 23 Bridge on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) in Marengo. Construction of the new bridge is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2017.

Illinois Route 23 and the bridge will remain open to traffic throughout construction. Traffic shifts and lane reductions will be put in place to safely accommodate traffic and a work zone as the bridge is removed and rebuilt one side at a time. Up to 3,100 vehicles use this portion of Illinois Route 23 daily.

The Tollway's construction of the new Illinois Route 23 Bridge is being coordinated with McHenry County and the City of Marengo and will accommodate ongoing local planning efforts for a new interchange in the future. The cost to construct the new bridge is estimated at \$9 million.

In 2017, the Tollway will remove the existing bridge built in the 1950s to carrying Illinois Route 23 traffic over the original I-90 Tollway and build a new wider and longer bridge in its place. The new concrete bridge will provide full shoulders and one lane in both directions and the new structure will be supported by a center median pier in I-90 with concrete abutments on either side of the roadway.

The project will lengthen the Illinois Route 23 Bridge due to the new, wider I-90 roadway completed in 2014 and will widen the bridge to provide space for turn lanes to access future interchange ramps. In addition, portions of Illinois Route 23 at I-90 and Grossen Road at Illinois Route 23 will be rebuilt to accommodate the new bridge structure.

Work on the Illinois Route 23 Bridge Project will begin the week of February 13 with advance work to prepare for bridge removal and reconstruction. Flaggers will be used to maintain traffic through the work zone on Illinois Route 23 during advance work. Electronic message signs and construction signage will be in place on Illinois Route 23 and on I-90 to alert drivers to the work zone and new construction traffic patterns.

On I-90, the left lanes in both directions will be closed and speed limits reduced through the duration of the project to provide for a work zone.

On Illinois Route 23, daily lane closures are scheduled between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. as work begins to install temporary traffic signals on Illinois Route 23, as well as construction of temporary pavement for traffic staging, tree removal and preliminary dirt grading.

Once temporary traffic signals are in place, Illinois Route 23 traffic will be shifted and reduced to a single lane on the bridge with signals controlling access for northbound and southbound traffic during removal and reconstruction of the east side of the bridge. The east side of the bridge is scheduled to reopen by the end of summer, at which time work will begin on the west side of the bridge. The new bridge pavement will be wide enough to accommodate one lane of traffic in each direction and a work zone for the remainder of the construction project.

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In addition, throughout the project, a portion of Grossen Road south of I-90 will be closed due to its proximity to the bridge. No detour will be posted, but traffic on Grossen Road can use Carls Road to reach Illinois Route 23.



Reconstruction of the Illinois Route 23 Bridge is being coordinated with the City of Marengo, McHenry County, Riley Township and the Illinois Department of Transportation, along with local school districts and police and fire departments.

Construction information about the Illinois Route 23 Project is available under “Projects Overview” in the Explore Projects section on the Tollway’s website at illinoistollway.com.

Work Zone Safety

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that I-90, Illinois Route 23 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 speed limits are in effect in all work zones 24/7 and drivers should continue to watch for changing traffic patterns and use caution, especially when workers are present. A 55 mph work zone speed limit is in effect for traffic on I-90 throughout construction. A 45 mph work zone speed limit is in effect for traffic on Illinois Route 23.

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:

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- 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
- travelmidwest.com – Real-time travel times
- twitter.com – Real-time roadway incident information at Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355, Tollway Trip 94/294 and Tollway Trip 390.

About *Move Illinois*

The Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, is improving mobility, relieving congestion, reducing pollution, creating as many as 120,000 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. The first five years of *Move Illinois* is on schedule and within budget, delivering the rebuilt and widened Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) as a state-of-the-art 21st century corridor and 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 Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project and planning for emerging projects, including 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 292 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.

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