



Move Illinois:  
*The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*

# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS MORE THAN \$12 MILLION IN CONTRACTS FOR CONSTRUCTION IN FEBRUARY**

*More than \$4.5 billion invested since start of Move Illinois Program*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved three new construction contracts for 2017 totaling \$12.6 million at its February meeting, including the Tollway’s first contract award to include a small business goal.

“Through *Move Illinois* the Tollway is providing investments that are improving our region’s transportation network and at the same time strengthening businesses,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Greg Bedalov. “Every construction firm was once a start-up; it’s the ones that are offered support and the opportunity to perform that become successful businesses.”

As part of this month’s contract awards, one contract includes small business goals as part of the Tollway’s Small Business Initiative. To help put small businesses in a position to succeed and grow as prime contractors, the Illinois Tollway Small Business Initiative promotes the use of small business goals on a project by project basis and also identifies select construction contracts, generally with values of approximately \$1 million, that can be set aside specifically for small businesses.

Nearly \$34.8 million in construction contracts have been approved by the Tollway Board so far in 2017, as part of the sixth year of the Tollway’s 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

To date, more than \$4.5 billion has been invested by the Illinois Tollway since the *Move Illinois* Program began in 2012, with nearly \$1.1 billion of that total committed to small, diverse and veteran-owned firms. In addition, the capital program has created or sustained an estimated 49,650 total jobs as of January 2017.

February construction contracts awarded include:

- A \$7.4 million contract to Lorig Construction Company, Des Plaines, IL for pavement and bridge repair work between 147<sup>th</sup> Street and 95<sup>th</sup> Street on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294).
- A \$3.6 million contract to Martin & Company Excavating, Oregon, IL, for bridge removal and roadway construction in Lee County on the west end of the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88).
- A \$1.6 million contract to Western Remac Inc., Woodridge, IL, for sign fabrication installation as needed systemwide.

The contracts approved today include three subcontractors that are certified as disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms and one subcontractor that is a registered small business. Commitments for D/M/WBE participation range from 23 to 24 percent and the small business commitment is 6.7 percent. Of the \$12.6 million awarded for this month, nearly \$1.6 million, or 13 percent, is committed to small or disadvantaged firms.

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.

The Illinois Tollway provides detailed information about current Tollway construction contracts through the Construction Contract Tracker on the Tollway's website at [illinoistollway.com](http://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*, 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 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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