



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 27, 2017

**OVERNIGHT LANE CLOSURES TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK
ON THE CENTRAL TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) MILE LONG BRIDGE**

Temporary closures needed to prepare for scheduled bridge maintenance and repair project

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Temporary, overnight lane closures are scheduled next week on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Mile Long Bridge to prepare for repair and maintenance work scheduled as part of the Illinois Tollway's 2017 construction program.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers. The temporary closures are necessary to provide a work zone and safely accommodate the Mile Long Bridge repairs. All work is weather dependent.

In 2017, the Illinois Tollway will begin repairs and maintenance work on the I-294 Mile Long Bridge. Work will include replacing pavement in all lanes in both directions, as well as bridge joint repairs and bridge deck drainage system cleaning. The project is scheduled to be complete in 2018.

Weather permitting, during the week of April 3, temporary nightly lane closures will be put in place between Archer Avenue and 75th Street from 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. the following morning. One lane and shoulder will be closed in the both directions to remove rumble strips and prepare to shift traffic to provide a work zone for repair work.

Once this advance work is completed, long-term lane closures in both directions between Archer Avenue and 75th Street will be put in place and traffic will be shifted to maintain four lanes in both directions and bridge repairs and maintenance work will begin. However, additional lane closures will be required overnight to accommodate the work.

The project is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation and DuPage County, along with local municipalities and police and fire departments.

Maintenance and repair work on the Mile Long Bridge is necessary to extend the life of the bridge structure and enable the Tollway to provide safe and convenient travel for customers. More than 150,000 vehicles use this bridge daily. The work is part of the Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

Construction information about the [Mile Long Bridge Repair Project](#) is available in the "Projects by Roadway" section in the Explore Projects section on the Tollway's website at illinoistollway.com.

Work Zone Safety

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) 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-294, a 45 mph work zone speed limit is in effect throughout the construction season.

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:

- illinoistollway.com – Explore Projects 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 ILTollway, 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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