



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 28, 2017**

**ROADWAY RESURFACING SCHEDULED TO RESUME IN APRIL  
ON THE WESTERN END OF THE REAGAN MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-88)**

*Single eastbound lane closures required for the duration of the work between Dixon and Rock Falls*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The Illinois Tollway will resume work next week to complete roadway resurfacing on the far western segment of the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) in Whiteside and Lee Counties. Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to lane reductions and construction work zones.

Weather permitting, on Monday, April 3, at 7 a.m. the right eastbound lane will be closed in the 11-mile segment between U.S. Route 30 and U.S. Route 52 to provide a workzone for roadway resurfacing and shoulder reconstruction. Traffic is scheduled to remain in this stage until late May, when the left eastbound lane will be closed to complete the repairs.

Traffic on eastbound I-88 will be reduced from two lanes to one lane in work zones throughout the majority of the resurfacing project. The partial shoulders on this segment of I-88 are too narrow to safely accommodate a traffic shift and provide for a work zone.

The lane closures are being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Whiteside and Lee Counties, local fire and police departments.

Resurfacing on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) between U.S. Route 52 and U.S. Route 30 in Rock Falls is necessary to maintain and extend the life of the roadway and provide safe and convenient travel for Tollway customers. The work is scheduled to be complete by summer and is funded by the Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

Construction information about the [I-88 Roadway Improvement Project](#) is available in the "Projects by Roadway" section in the Explore Projects section on the Tollway's website at [illinoistollway.com](http://illinoistollway.com).

### **Work Zone Safety**

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) 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-88, 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.

### **I-88 Roadway Resurfacing Project**

The I-88 Roadway Resurfacing Project will provide customers a smoother surface, improving the overall driving experience, and extend the life of the roadway.

Roadway resurfacing work on I-88 includes milling off two inches of asphalt pavement and replacing it with a new six-inch asphalt overlay. Shoulder reconstruction includes removal of the existing pavement and construction of a new six-inch asphalt shoulder. Once the overlay is completed, the roadway will be restriped with new markings.

This year's resurfacing work will place the remaining layers of asphalt to complete the conversion of the western segment of I-88 to "perpetual pavement." The first stage of this work was completed in 2006.

Perpetual pavement is thick enough that only two inches needs to be removed and replaced at a time to keep the surface fresh. Future maintenance will require removal and replacement of the top layer of asphalt only in lieu of full reconstruction of the entire pavement structure.

### **Getting Tollway Construction Information**

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

- [Illinoistollway.com](http://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](http://travelmidwest.com) – Real-time travel times
- [twitter.com](http://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 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 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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