



*Move Illinois:  
The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*

# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 11, 2017**

**CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK ON THE TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-94)  
AT THE GRAND AVENUE INTERCHANGE IN GURNEE**

*Ramp closures, detour needed to extend mainline barrier wall and improve access to exit ramp*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Construction to improve traffic flow and enhance safety on the Tri-State Tollway (I-94) at the Grand Avenue Interchange in Gurnee, is scheduled to begin next week, including work to extend the barrier wall separating the westbound exiting traffic from the I-94 mainline traffic.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to traffic shifts and closures needed throughout construction, including closure of the ramp connecting eastbound Grand Avenue to westbound I-94 with a posted detour scheduled to begin July 17. All work is weather dependent.

The I-94 improvements include extending the barrier wall separating the westbound exiting traffic from the tollway mainline traffic and moving traffic exiting to westbound Grand Avenue to the barrier-separated area. This work will extend the barrier wall already separating the traffic exiting to eastbound Grand Avenue from I-94 mainline traffic.

In addition, construction will also include shoulder work, roadway lighting, drainage and signage improvements, ramp maintenance, pavement marking and landscaping. All work is scheduled to be complete in spring 2018.

Extension of the barrier wall will improve traffic flow by separating exiting traffic to westbound Grand Avenue from mainline I-94 traffic. The decision point for all drivers exiting to Grand Avenue will occur well ahead of both the exit ramp to eastbound Grand Avenue and the exit ramp to westbound Grand Avenue, and the new lane will provide additional space for exiting traffic to queue on the ramp side of the barrier wall if needed.

To accommodate the construction work zone, beginning the week of July 17 and continuing through November, the ramp carrying traffic from eastbound Grand Avenue to westbound I-94 will close and a detour will be posted directing traffic to continue east on Grand Avenue to Milwaukee Avenue and then onto I-94 westbound.

During work to complete all the improvements and maintenance work, long-term lane closures and traffic shifts will be needed on I-94, as well as lane reductions on the ramp carrying westbound I-94 traffic to eastbound Grand Avenue.

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Improvements on the Tri-State Tollway and Grand Avenue Interchange are necessary to provide safe and convenient travel for Tollway customers. The work is funded by the Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

Construction information about the [North Tri-State Tollway Projects](#) 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 Tri-State Tollway (I-94) remains 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.

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](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](https://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, \$14 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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