



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 26, 2024

LONG-TERM LANE CLOSURES SCHEDULED ON SOUTHWEST HIGHWAY UNDER THE TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) FOR BRIDGE REPAIR WORK

Lane reductions in both directions on Southwest Highway in Chicago Ridge scheduled through fall for bridge repair work

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway is scheduled to begin long-term lane closures next week on Southwest Highway under the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to accommodate bridge repair work. One lane of traffic in each direction will be maintained during construction. Delays are expected.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place to alert drivers of closures, which are necessary to safely accommodate the work zone. Up-to-date closure information will be posted on the Tollway website in the [Daily Construction Alert](#). All work is weather dependent.

Beginning the week of Monday, July 29, traffic on Southwest Highway under I-294 is scheduled to be reduced to a single lane in each direction.

Traffic shifts and lane reductions on Southwest Highway are scheduled to continue through 2024 for work to repair bridge beams underneath the Tollway.

This work is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation along with local municipalities and police and fire departments.

In 2024, the Illinois Tollway has scheduled repair work along the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) between Russell Road and Atkinson Road, including local crossroad bridge repairs on Atkinson Road; from Dempster Street to Touhy Avenue; and from Southwest Highway to 171st Street, as well as pavement repairs throughout the corridor.

Additional work includes underpass lighting work at Deerfield Road, median barrier and noisewall repairs and improvements for roadway drainage, fiber optics, utilities, and roadway camera and ramp queue detection system.

Repair work will provide customers an improved driving experience and extend the life of the roadway. This work is part of the Tollway's 16-year, \$15 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

Maps and construction information are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at illinoistollway.com.

Work Zone 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 Southwest Highway, a 40 mph work zone speed limit is in effect.

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The Illinois Tollway reminds motorists that the “Move Over Law” requires motorists to change lanes or to slow down and proceed with caution when passing any vehicle on the side of the road with hazard lights activated. If you see flashing lights ahead, please move over or slow down.

Illinois State Police have zero tolerance for drivers speeding in work zones or failure to comply with the Move Over Law. The minimum penalty for speeding in a work zone is \$250 with up to a \$25,000 fine and a 14-year jail sentence for hitting a roadway worker. Penalties for failure to slow down or move over for a vehicle on the shoulder with flashing lights includes up to a \$10,000 fine, 2-year suspension of driving privileges and jail time, in extreme cases.

About Move Illinois

The Illinois Tollway’s 16-year, \$15 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, is improving mobility, relieving congestion, reducing pollution, creating as many as 165,220 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. The first 12 years of *Move Illinois* are on schedule and within budget, delivering the new Illinois Route 390 Tollway and a rebuilt and widened Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) with its new SmartRoad corridor, as well as 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 new I-490 Tollway Project and 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 294 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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