



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**August 2, 2021**

**NIGHTLY RAMP CLOSURES WITH DETOURS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN THIS WEEK AT I-55 INTERCHANGE FOR CENTRAL TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) PROJECT**

*Two weeks of nightly closures on I-55 and ramps connecting northbound I-294 to southbound I-55 and Wolf Road needed for bridge pier removal*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Two weeks of overnight closures and detours are scheduled to begin Friday, August 6, on the ramps connecting the northbound Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to southbound I-55 and to Wolf Road to accommodate bridge pier removal on I-55 as part of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project.

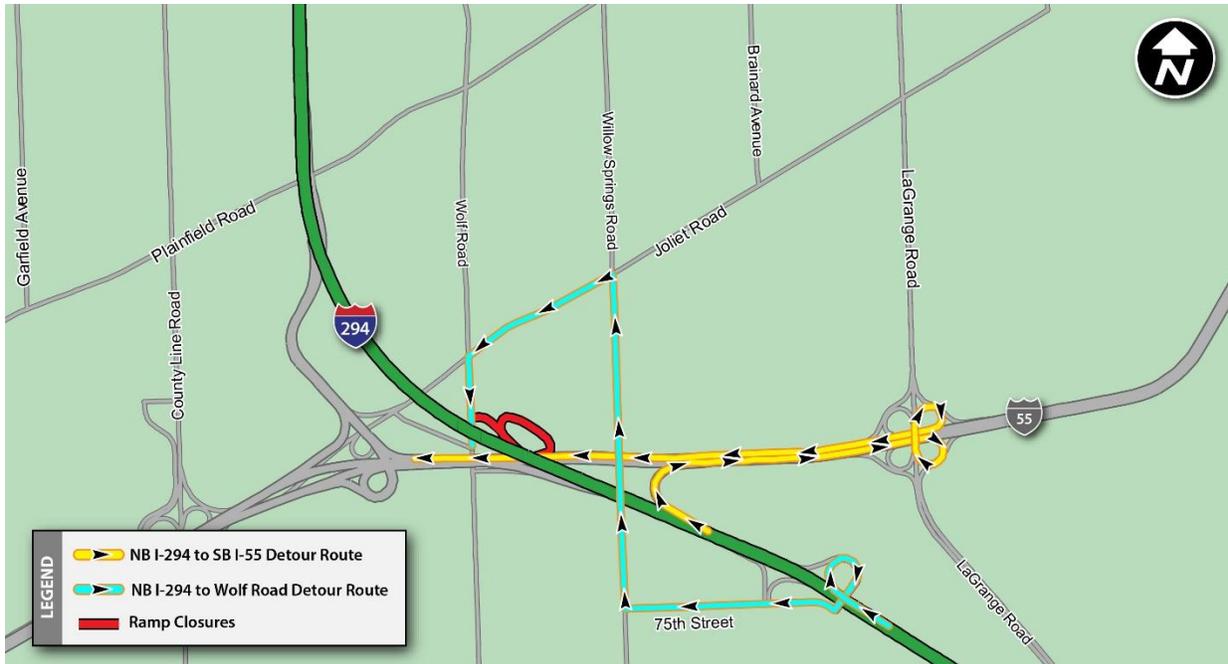
Closure of the ramps along with lane closures on I-55 will be needed for 10 nights to provide a safe work zone for pier removal for the bridge carrying I-294 over I-55. Work requiring closures will be scheduled during overnight hours to reduce the impact on drivers.

Electronic message and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers on I-294 and I-55 to the construction work zones, ramp closures and detours. Up-to-date information regarding lane closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's [Daily Construction Alerts](#). All work is weather dependent.

On Friday, August 6, beginning at 9 p.m., one northbound lane I-294 between 75<sup>th</sup> Street and I-55 will be closed to set up the ramp closures. Closures and detours for the ramps connecting northbound I-294 to southbound I-55 and Wolf Road will be put in place nightly beginning at 11 p.m. and scheduled to reopen by 4 a.m. each following morning. Lane closures will also be put in place on I-55 at the same time to accommodate this work.

Drivers traveling to southbound I-55 will be detoured to northbound I-55 and routed through the LaGrange Road Interchange to access southbound I-55.

Drivers traveling to Wolf Road traffic will be detoured to 75<sup>th</sup> Street and routed to Willow Springs Road and Joliet Road to access Wolf Road.



Additional closures will be scheduled in the area as work continues to rebuild the I-294 bridge over I-55, including overnight road closures on Wolf Road in August to accommodate bridge beam installation.

Construction in this area is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, Village of Indian Head Park and Village of Countryside, as well as local fire and police departments.

As part of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project, the Illinois Tollway is reconstructing and widening I-294 between 75th Street and Plainfield Road, including construction of new I-294 bridges over I-55 and Flagg Creek and repairing the existing bridges over Wolf Road and Joliet Road. This work is scheduled for completion in 2022.

Construction updates, project information, maps and detour information for work that is part of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at [www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com).

The \$4 billion Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project is reconstructing and widening the roadway between Balmoral Avenue and 95<sup>th</sup> Street to provide congestion relief, update old infrastructure to meet current and future transportation demand and address regional needs. This work is part of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*. More than 220,000 vehicles use the Central Tri-State Tollway daily

### 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 I-294, a 45 mph work zone speed limit is in effect throughout the construction season.

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 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 nine 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 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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