

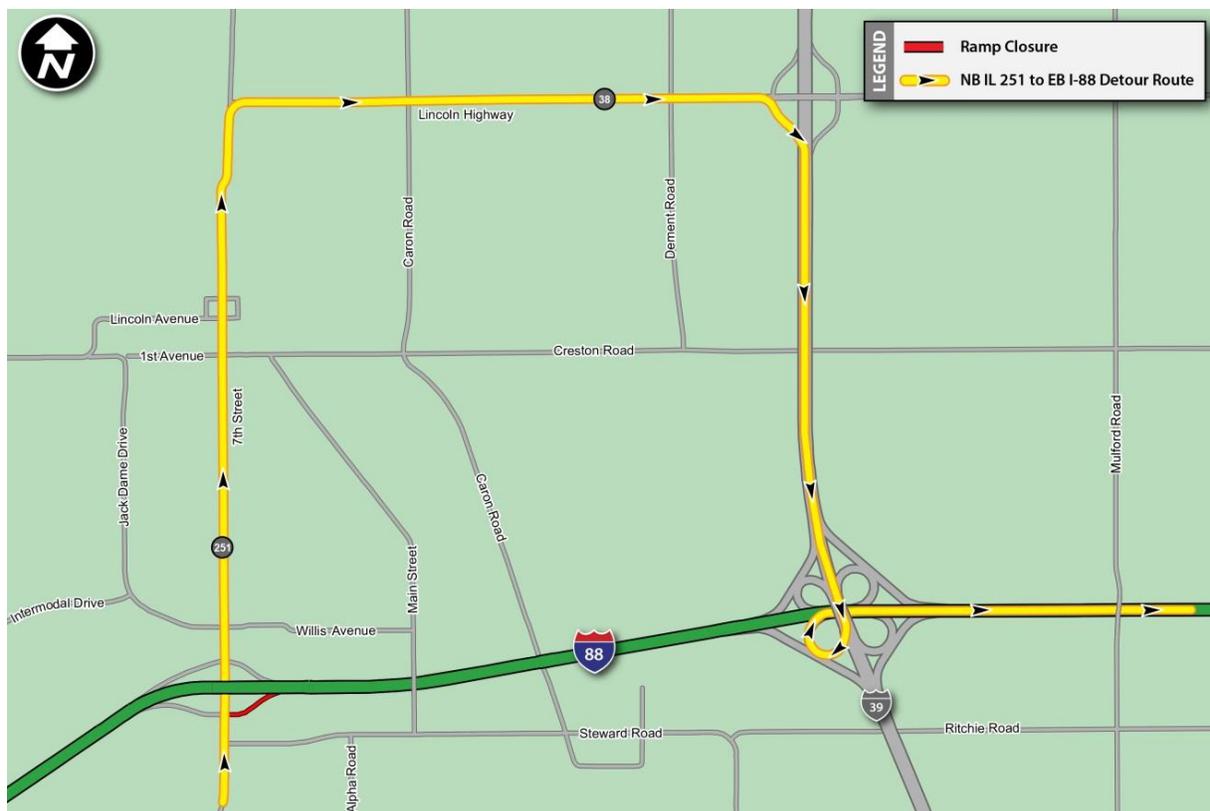


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 18, 2018

**ILLINOIS ROUTE 251 RAMP REPAIR WORK SCHEDULED TO BEGIN
NEXT WEEK ON THE REAGAN MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-88) IN ROCHELLE**
Ramp closure and detours scheduled through July at Illinois Route 251 and I-39

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway is scheduled to begin ramp resurfacing work at the Illinois Route 251 Interchange on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) in Rochelle next week. The repair work will require ramp closures and detours. Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place to alert drivers in advance.

Weather permitting, on Monday, May 21, the ramp connecting Illinois Route 251 to eastbound I-88 is scheduled to close for up to five days. The ramp will not be closed over the weekend. A detour will be posted directing traffic to use Lincoln Highway (Illinois Route 38) and the I-39 Interchange to access I-88.



The Illinois Tollway has scheduled work to resurface and rebuild ramps and bridges at six interchanges on I-88 between Illinois Route 251 and Orchard Road. At the Illinois Route 251 Interchange, the ramps connecting westbound I-88 to Illinois Route 251 and Illinois Route 251 to eastbound I-88 are scheduled to be resurfaced.

Once ramp resurfacing is complete at the Illinois Route 251 entrance ramp to I-88, repair work and detours will be scheduled to begin at the I-39 Interchange. Work at these two locations is scheduled to be completed by the end of summer.

Ramp and bridge closures and detours will allow the Tollway to safely accommodate construction and will allow the work to be completed in half the time. Work will be staggered so that adjacent interchanges are not under construction at the same time.

In addition, throughout 2018 traffic on I-88 in this area will be reduced from two lanes to one in each direction for a roadway resurfacing project. The shoulders on this segment of I-88 are too narrow to safely accommodate traffic shifts and provide for work zones.

The improvements on I-88 will extend the life of the roadway and interchanges improving travel in the area and providing convenient access to local communities and support economic opportunities. This work is part of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

Construction is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, City of DeKalb, DeKalb County, Kane County, Ogle County, Dement Township, Malta Township, DeKalb Township, City of Rochelle, Pierce Township, Kaneville Township, Village of Sugar Grove and Cortland Township, as well as local fire and police departments and Northern Illinois University.

Maps and construction information about the I-88 Interchange Improvements is available on the Tollway's website at illinoistollway.com via the Interactive Tollway map and under "Projects Overview" in the Explore Projects section.

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.

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 \$375. Posted signs advise drivers of a \$10,000 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.

Getting Tollway Construction Information

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

- illinoistollway.com – Interactive Tollway Map for construction and live roadway images.
- [Daily construction alerts](#) – Daily and long-term lane and shoulder closure schedules.
- [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 six 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) and planning for emerging projects.

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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