



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

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ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS \$12 MILLION IN JUNE FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS

Contracts include awards to small businesses for a variety of work supporting the Move Illinois Program

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved six construction contracts totaling nearly \$12 million at its June Board meeting, including five contracts awarded as part of the agency’s efforts to support small businesses.

Nearly \$139 million in contracts has been approved by the Tollway Board in 2021, as part of the tenth year of the Tollway’s 15-year, \$14 billion *Move Illinois* capital program.

To date, more than \$8.8 billion has been invested by the Illinois Tollway since the *Move Illinois* Program began in 2012, with more than \$2 billion of that total committed to small, diverse and veteran-owned firms. In addition, the capital program has created or sustained an estimated 95,950 total jobs as of May 2021.

“Our agency has taken the challenge to heart to increase economic opportunities for small and emerging construction firms by finding ways to give them an opportunity to compete,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez. “Right-sizing contracts offers small firms the opportunity to step up from subcontracting and supports the ultimate goal of building capacity and opportunities for growth.”

The Illinois Tollway Small Business Initiative is intended to increase opportunities for small construction companies to participate on Tollway construction contracts. The program puts small businesses in a position to succeed and grow by identifying select construction contracts, generally with values of approximately \$5 million or less, specifically for small businesses to perform as prime contractors.

Construction contracts awarded include:

- A \$6.2 million contract to Lorig Construction Company, Des Plaines, IL, for construction of a new pedestrian bridge across the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) between Hinsdale and Western Springs near 47th Street.
- A \$2.1 million contract to Western Remac Inc., Woodridge, IL, for toll plaza improvements at seven locations along the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294) and Edens Spur Tollway (I-94).
- A \$1.5 million contract to Marking Specialists, Buffalo Grove, IL, for systemwide pavement marking.
- A \$1.1 million contract to Lion Construction, Momence, IL, for pavement repairs on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) at Illinois Route 53.
- A \$770,805 contract to Foundation Mechanics, Des Plaines, IL, for access road from the new Aurora (M-8) Maintenance Facility to the eastbound Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88).
- A \$283,395 contract to Meru Corp., Niles, IL, for installation of right-of-way fencing along the Illinois Route 390 Tollway between Illinois Route 83 and York Road.

The contracts approved today include four prime contractors and 10 subcontractors that are certified as disadvantaged, minority-and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms and four subcontractors that are certified veteran-owned firms. Commitments for D/M/WBE participation range from 20.41 percent to 39.5 percent per contract and commitments for veteran participation range from 3.06 percent to 3.37 percent per contract.

Construction contracts for Illinois Tollway projects are competitively bid under the rules of the Illinois Procurement Code. All contracts are presented to the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors for review and approval.

The Illinois Tollway broadcasts all public meetings on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com. This includes all board meetings and public bid openings. Also provided is detailed information about current Tollway construction and professional engineering services contracts through the Construction Contract Tracker. Contractors and consultants can also access resources online to help them learn about how to do business with the Tollway, including construction bid-letting schedules, professional service bulletins, manuals and construction bid calendars. These resources can be found in the "Doing Business" section of the Tollway's website.

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* 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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