



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS MORE THAN \$54 MILLION IN CONTRACTS
FOR CONSTRUCTION AND PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN FEBRUARY**

More than \$5.6 billion invested since start of Move Illinois Program

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved eight construction contracts and three professional engineering service contracts totaling \$54.3 million at its February meeting. Nearly \$174.2 million in construction contracts have been approved by the Tollway Board in 2018, as part of the seventh year of the Tollway’s 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

Tollway Board approval of the February contracts includes five small business set-aside construction contracts. The Illinois Tollway’s Small Business Initiative helps put small businesses in a position to succeed and grow as prime contractors by identifying select small business set-aside construction contracts, generally with values of approximately \$1 million, that can be offered specifically to small businesses and also promoting the use of small business goals on a project basis.

Since the start of the *Move Illinois* Program in 2012, the Tollway has approved 55 small business set-aside contracts to certified small firms, including 26 first-time prime contractors.

To date, more than \$5.6 billion has been invested by the Illinois Tollway since the *Move Illinois* Program began in 2012, with nearly \$1.6 billion of that total committed to small, diverse and veteran-owned firms. In addition, the capital program has created or sustained an estimated 57,430 total jobs as of January 2018.

February construction contracts awarded include:

- A \$13.9 million contract to Lake County Grading Co., Libertyville, IL, for advanced earthwork grading for the new I-490 Tollway.
- A \$13.5 million contract to Herlihy Mid-Continent Co., Romeoville, IL, for bridge reconstruction and ramp rehabilitation on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) at the 159th Street Interchange.
- A \$2.2 million contract to Taff Construction Inc., Chicago, IL, for LED lighting retrofit and intelligent transportation system (ITS) improvements between Belvidere Road and Half Day Road on the Tri-State Tollway (I-94).
- A \$1.8 million contract to Demarc Electric and Communications, Lombard, IL, for LED lighting retrofit and intelligent transportation system (ITS) improvements between Russell Road and Belvidere Road on the Tri-State Tollway (I-94).
- A \$1.4 million contract to Foundation Mechanics, Des Plaines, IL, for grading and landscaping improvements between Arlington Heights Road and the Kennedy Expressway on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90).
- A \$1.2 million contract to Lorig Construction Co., Des Plaines, IL, for bridge rehabilitation work between 87th Street and Roosevelt Road on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294).
- A \$1.1 million contract to Demarc Electric and Communications, Lombard, IL, for camera installation systemwide.

- A \$455,551 contract to Demarc Electric and Communications, Lombard, IL, for preventative maintenance of existing intelligent transportation system (ITS) equipment systemwide.

February professional engineering services contract awards include:

- A \$10.8 million contract to Chastain & Associates, Schaumburg, IL, for construction management services for the roadway and bridge rehabilitation between I-55 and Army Trail Road on the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355).
- A \$6.5 million contract to BLA Inc., Itasca, IL, for construction management services for roadway, ramp and bridge construction from Illinois Route 83 to York Road on the Illinois Route 390 Tollway as part of the I-490 Interchange.
- A \$1.5 million contract to Quantum Spatial Inc., Sheboygan, WI, for systemwide aerial mapping services upon request.

The contracts approved today include, 19 subconsultants, two prime contractors and 11 subcontractors that are certified as disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms and two subconsultants, two prime contractors as well as one subcontractor that are certified veteran-owned firms. Commitments for D/M/WBE participation range from 14 to 39 percent per contract and commitments for veteran participation range from two to 71 percent per contract.

Illinois Tollway professional engineering services contracts are selected in accordance with the qualifications-based selection process (Illinois Public Act 87-673 (30 ILCS 535/1-535/80) Architectural, Engineering and Land Surveying Qualifications-Based Selection Act), which requires state agencies to select professional architects, engineers and surveyors on the basis of demonstrated competence and professional qualifications, rather than low bid. Contract services staff from the Engineering Department checks statements of interest to ensure that specified pre-qualifications and documentation requirements are met. Tollway engineers and managers then review and scores statements of interest based on the advertised selection criteria service. Tollway Diversity Department staff also reviews the statements of interest for compliance with advertised diversity criteria. Executives from the Engineering Department then review the scoring, as well as each firm's capacity, and identify the top recommended firms per project. To complete the selection, a committee of Tollway professionals and independent engineering officials considers the top recommended firms and finalizes the top three firms in ranked order. The Tollway then seeks to negotiate a final contract price with the top-ranked firm. The award of a professional engineering services contract is dependent on approval by the Tollway Board of Directors.

Construction contracts for Illinois Tollway projects are competitively bid under the rules of the Illinois Procurement Code. As part of the process, contractors' bid submissions for construction work advertised by the Tollway are opened and read aloud during public bid opening meetings, which are also broadcast live on the Tollway's website. Following an agency review process, the lowest, responsible and responsive bid is presented to the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors for review and approval.

The Illinois Tollway provides detailed information about current Tollway construction contracts through the Construction Contract Tracker on the Tollway's website at illinoistollway.com. 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 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 interstate tollways 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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