



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 18, 2020

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY REOPENING EDENS SPUR (I-94), COMPLETING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Traffic scheduled to shift into final configuration Thursday and Friday

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway plans to reopen all lanes and restore eastbound and westbound traffic to its permanent configuration this week as completion nears on the \$109.1 million Edens Spur Tollway (I-94) Improvement Project.

During the afternoon of Thursday, November 19, all westbound lanes on the Edens Spur Tollway between the Union Pacific Railroad and Edens Expressway are scheduled to reopen to traffic and will be followed by the reopening of the eastbound lanes during the afternoon of Friday, November 20. Up to 57,000 vehicles use the Edens Spur daily.

Electronic message signs will be put in place in advance to alert drivers. All work is weather dependent. Additional temporary lane and shoulder closures may be scheduled as needed through winter and into spring to complete landscaping and other minor work for the project.

The Edens Spur Improvement Project, which began in 2018, removed and replaced all existing mainline asphalt pavement and replaced or repaired mainline bridges. Additional work included replacing the Pfingsten Road Bridge, repairing the Waukegan Road Bridge over the Edens Spur, constructing the barrier separated median with stormwater improvements and upgrading ITS and roadway lighting.

Planning and construction of the project was done in coordination with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County and the Villages of Northbrook and Deerfield.

In coordination with local communities, replacement of the Pfingsten Road Bridge over the Eden Spur included improvements for pedestrian and bicycle access with a wider sidewalk on the northbound side of the bridge and a new barrier-separated path on the southbound side of the bridge to tie into a future multi-use path. In addition, a new water main was constructed under the Edens Spur at Pfingsten Road to provide a future connection between the Villages of Deerfield and Northbrook.

Originally constructed in 1958, the Edens Spur consists of two lanes in each direction with 4-foot wide inside shoulders and 11-foot wide outside shoulders and an open grass median.

These repairs are necessary to extend the life of the roadway and provide safe and convenient travel for Tollway customers. This work is part of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

Maps and construction about the Edens Spur Improvement Project are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at www.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. 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 eight 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 21st 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.