



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 20, 2018

## REAGAN MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-88) ROADWAY RESURFACING SCHEDULED TO BEGIN THIS WEEK BETWEEN ROCHELLE AND SUGAR GROVE

Single lane closures required for the duration of the resurfacing work

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Work to prepare for the start of roadway resurfacing on the segment of the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) in Kane, DeKalb and Ogle counties is beginning this week with lane reductions and shoulder closures. Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place to alert drivers to scheduled lane closures, traffic patterns and work zone speed limits.

In 2018, the Illinois Tollway is scheduled to resurface 37 miles of I-88, between Illinois Route 56 in Sugar Grove and Illinois Route 251 in Rochelle, to extend the life of the roadway and provide a smoother riding surface for the traveling public. Roadway work is scheduled to be complete by the end of the year. More than 40,000 vehicles use this stretch of roadway daily.

Construction on this segment of I-88 this year will also include interchange ramp reconstruction and repairs, repairs to local crossroad bridges, as well as shoulder reconstruction, construction of crash investigation sites and guardrail, median, drainage, landscaping, fencing and lighting improvements.

Weather permitting, during the week of March 19, advance work is scheduled with shoulder closures and off-peak lane closures in both directions between Illinois Route 56 in Sugar Grove and Annie Glidden Road in DeKalb and between Main Street in Elburn and County Line Road to remove rumble strips and prepare to shift traffic for construction.

Once advance work is completed, roadway resurfacing and shoulder reconstruction work will begin, with all traffic between Peace Road and Annie Glidden Road in DeKalb and between Main Street in Elburn and County Line Road reduced to one lane in each direction. Similar work is also scheduled to begin in March between Shabbona Road and Illinois Route 251 in Rochelle.

Throughout construction in 2018, traffic in work zones on I-88 will be reduced from two lanes to one lane in each direction. The shoulders on this segment of I-88 are too narrow to safely accommodate traffic shifts and provide for work zones.

In addition, in April construction work is scheduled to begin at the Annie Glidden Road Interchange in DeKalb. Ramp closures will be needed to complete work at this location.

The Illinois Tollway is coordinating construction work with the Illinois Department of Transportation, City of DeKalb, City of Rochelle, DeKalb County, Kane County, Ogle County, Dement Township, Malta please Township, DeKalb Township, Pierce Township, Kaneville Township and Cortland Township, Village of Sugar Grove, as well as local fire and police departments and Northern Illinois University.

The improvements are funded by the Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future.* 

Maps and construction information about the I-88 Roadway Resurfacing and Repair work is available on the Tollway's website at <u>www.illinoistollway.com</u> 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. Visit the Tollway's Work Zone Safety page at <u>illinoistollway.com</u>.

## 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 five 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-theart 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 planning for emerging projects, including 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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