



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 26, 2018

**LONG-TERM CLOSURES SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK ON BRIDGES
OVER THE REAGAN MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-88) IN DEKALB AND KANE COUNTIES**

Extended closures needed through July for local crossroad bridge repairs

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway is scheduled to begin repair work in April on three local crossroad bridges carrying traffic over the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) in DeKalb and Kane Counties at Somonauk Road, Keslinger Road and Bliss Road.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the start of bridge construction.

Lane reductions at Somonauk Road and Bliss Road and full closure of the Keslinger Road Bridge are necessary because these local crossroad bridges over I-88 are too narrow to accommodate traffic while safely completing the work.

Beginning the week of April 2, work is scheduled to begin and continue through July at the Keslinger Road Bridge in Kane County and the Somonauk Road Bridge in DeKalb County. The Keslinger Road Bridge will be closed to traffic and no detour will be posted. The Somonauk Road Bridge will remain open; however, all traffic will be limited to a single lane over I-88 with traffic in both directions controlled by traffic signals during construction.

Beginning the week of April 9, work is scheduled to begin and continue through July at the Bliss Road Bridge in Kane County. The bridge will remain open; however, all traffic will be limited to a single lane over I-88 with traffic in both directions controlled by traffic signals during construction.

In 2018, the Illinois Tollway is repairing 17 local crossroad bridges carrying traffic over I-88, between Illinois Route 251 near Rochelle and Illinois Route 56 near Sugar Grove. Bridge work and closures are being staggered so that adjacent bridges are not under construction at the same time and can be used as alternative routes.

In most locations, local crossroad bridge improvements will include pavement patching, bridge deck rehabilitation, bridge joint replacement and repairs on bridge beams, piers and girders.

Bridges scheduled for repairs include: Steward Road/Main Street (City of Rochelle), Mulford Road, Locust Road, Woodlawn Road, Tower Road, Willrett Road, Shabbona Road, University Road, South First Street, Peace Road, Somonauk Road, Hinckley Road, Keslinger Road, County Line Road, Watson Road, Dauberman Road, Main Street (Kane County) and Bliss Road.



All work 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.

Maps and construction information about I-88 local crossroad bridge construction is available on the Tollway’s website at illinoistollway.com via the Interactive Tollway Map and under “Projects Overview” in the Explore Projects section.

The local crossroad bridges are being repaired to extend the life of the structures and the repairs are being done in coordination with the of the resurfacing of I-88, between Illinois Route 251 in Rochelle and Illinois Route 56 in Sugar Grove. The work is funded by the Illinois Tollway’s 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

Work Zone Safety

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring those local roads and the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) remains 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. Illinois State Police have zero tolerance for drivers speeding in work zones. 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.

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.
- [Travelmidwest.com](#) – Real-time travel times.
- [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 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-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 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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