



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 11, 2018

WEEKEND RAMP CLOSURES SCHEDULED FOR REPAIRS AT U.S. ROUTE 6 INTERCHANGE ON THE VETERANS MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-355)

Detours will be posted for ramp repair work scheduled over consecutive weekends in April

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway is scheduled to begin repair work this weekend at the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) U.S. Route 6 Interchange, including weekend ramp closures with posted detours throughout the month of April.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers in advance to scheduled ramp closures, detours, traffic patterns and work zone speed limits. All work is weather dependent.

At the U.S. Route 6 Interchange, ramp pavement repair work is scheduled to be complete by the end of April. In addition, bridge deck and structure repairs and sealing, as well as approach slab and bridge joint replacement on the U.S. Route 6 Bridge over I-355 is scheduled for summer.

On Friday, April 13, the ramp carrying traffic from U.S. Route 6 to northbound I-355 is scheduled to close 10 p.m. until 5 a.m. on Monday, April 16. A detour will be posted directing traffic to the 159th Street Interchange using Cedar Road, 167th Street and Gougar Road to enter northbound I-355. In addition, traffic shifts will be in place on the ramp carrying traffic from southbound I-355 to U.S. Route 6 from 6 p.m., Friday, April 13, until 3 p.m. on Monday, April 16.



On Friday, April 20, the ramp carrying traffic from northbound I-355 to U.S. Route 6 is scheduled to close at 10 p.m. until 5 a.m. Monday, April 23. A detour will be posted directing traffic from I-80 to Lincoln Highway (U.S. Route 30), to Gougar Road to reach U.S. Route 6. In addition, traffic shifts will be in place on the ramp carrying traffic from southbound I-355 to U.S. Route 6 from 6 p.m., Friday, April 20 until 3 p.m. on Monday, April 23.



On Friday, April 27, the ramp carrying traffic from U.S. Route 6 to southbound I-355 is scheduled to close 10 p.m. until 5 a.m. on Monday, April 30. A detour will be posted directing traffic to Gougar Road and Lincoln Highway (U.S. Route 30) to reach I-80.



In 2018, the Illinois Tollway has scheduled roadway, bridge and ramp repairs over the length of the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355), including interchange repairs at U.S. Route 6. In addition, roadway lighting, electrical, signage and guardrail improvements are scheduled.

Repair work at the U.S. Route 6 Interchange is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Will County, Village of New Lenox, City of Lockport and Silver Cross Hospital, as well as local fire and police departments.

These interchange 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*.

Work Zone Safety

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) and U.S. Route 6 remain safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency's overall commitment to roadway safety.

A variable work zone speed limit from 45 to 55 mph will be in effect in areas with construction on I-355. Work 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.

In addition, 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.

Getting Tollway Construction Information

The Illinois Tollway has a variety of ways customers can get the latest travel information, including:

- <u>Illinoistollway.com</u> Explore Projects section, live roadway images and real-time roadway incident information.
- Daily construction alerts Daily and long-term lane and shoulder closure schedules.
- Travelmidwest.com Real-time travel times.
- <u>Twitter.com</u> 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.