



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 13, 2018**

**CLOSURES SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK FOR BRIDGE REPAIRS  
ON THE CENTRAL TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294)**

*Lane reductions on I-294 and closures on Wolf Road in Indian Head Park, Joliet Road and I-55*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Beginning next week, traffic on Wolf Road in Indian Head Park, Joliet Road and I-55 under the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) will be reduced to prepare for repair work in May on the Central Tri-State Tollway.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the closures. The closures are necessary to provide a work zone that safely accommodates the construction. All work is weather dependent.

Weather permitting, on Monday, April 16, lane reductions on Wolf Road will be needed between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. to prepare for work on the I-294 bridge above. Work at this location is expected to last several days. Once complete, similar closures are scheduled at Joliet Road.

During the week of April 23, overnight closures on northbound I-55 are scheduled between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. to prepare for work on the I-294 bridge above.

Once advance work is complete, traffic on I-294 is scheduled to be reduced to two lanes at these locations for mainline bridge repair work. Work is scheduled for the nighttime hours, generally 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. on weeknights, 8 p.m. to 10 a.m. on Fridays into Saturdays and 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. on Sundays into Mondays. Work is scheduled to be complete this fall.

In 2018, the Illinois Tollway is working on I-294 bridges at eight locations including 87<sup>th</sup> Street, Roberts Road, I-55, Wolf Road in Indian Head Park, Joliet Road, Flagg Creek, Salt Creek and Roosevelt Road. Work at all locations includes bridge deck and approach slab patching and bridge joint repairs.

The project is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County and local fire and police departments.

Repair work on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) is necessary to maintain and extend the life of the roadway and provide safe and convenient travel for Tollway customers. The work is funded by the Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

Maps, construction and detour information about the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) repairs is available on the Tollway's website at [illinoistollway.com](http://illinoistollway.com) 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 Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) 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. On I-294, 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.

### **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 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.

# # #