



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 25, 2018

# ROADWAY RESURFACING WORK SCHEDULED TO BEGIN THIS WEEK ON THE VETERANS MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-355)

Shoulder closures scheduled to prepare for a long-term traffic shift later this spring

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL –** Work to prepare for the start of roadway resurfacing on the north end of the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) in DuPage County is scheduled to begin this week.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the start of road work, traffic patterns and work zone speed limits.

Weather permitting, on Thursday, April 26, between Army Trail Road and Butterfield Road, shoulder closures in both directions will be scheduled over the next two weeks to remove rumble strips and make shoulder repairs to prepare for traffic shifts during roadway resurfacing.

During the resurfacing work, traffic on I-355, traffic will be shifted to provide room for a work zone and safely accommodate traffic. Whenever possible, the Tollway uses traffic shifts and shoulders to keep as many lanes open during peak hours as were available before construction.

Roadway resurfacing work will include milling off four inches of asphalt pavement in both directions and replacing it with a new, four-inch asphalt overlay. Traffic will intermittently be driving on rough surfaces throughout the duration of construction.

In 2018, the Illinois Tollway has scheduled roadway, bridge and ramp work on throughout the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355). Between Army Trail Road and I-55, work includes resurfacing to provide a smoother riding surface for the traveling public, including widening of the roadway between Butterfield Road (Illinois Route 56) and Roosevelt Road (Illinois Route 38). In addition, roadway lighting, signage and guardrail improvements are scheduled, as well as retaining wall and noisewall work. All work is scheduled to be complete in summer 2019.

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-355 Roadway Resurfacing and Repair work is available on the Tollway's website at <u>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 Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) remains 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.
- <u>Daily construction alerts</u> 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 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.