



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 7, 2018

LONG-TERM CLOSURES SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK ON ATKINSON ROAD BRIDGE OVER THE NORTH TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-94) IN LAKE COUNTY

Extended closures needed into July for local bridge repairs

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Full closure of the Atkinson Road Bridge carrying traffic over the North Tri-State Tollway (I-94) in Lake County is scheduled to begin Monday, May 14, for bridge repair and resurfacing. The bridge is scheduled to remain closed into July.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the bridge closure and posted detour.

The detour route will direct Atkinson Road traffic along Saint Marys Road, Buckley Road and Waukegan Road. Up to 1,800 vehicles use this roadway daily.

The full closure of the Atkinson Road Bridge is necessary because the local crossroad bridge over I-94 is too narrow to accommodate traffic while safely completing the maintenance and repair work. Work will include bridge deck and joint repairs, bridge deck overlay and concrete pier and abutment repairs.



Maps, construction and detour information about the Atkinson Road Bridge repairs are available on the Tollway's website at illinoistollway.com via the Interactive Tollway Map and under "Projects Overview" in the Explore Projects section.

The Atkinson Road Bridge repair work is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation and Lake County, as well as local municipalities, school districts, fire and police departments.

These repairs are necessary to extend the life of the bridge 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 North Tri-State Tollway (I-94) and Atkinson Road remain safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency's overall commitment to roadway safety.

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:

- illinoistollway.com – 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.
- 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.