



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 10, 2018

## OVERNIGHT LANE CLOSURE SCHEDULED AS WORK CONTINUES TO MOVE TRAFFIC INTO WINTER CONFIGURATION ON REAGAN MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-88)

Temporary closure will cut off access from westbound I-290 to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL –** Work to move traffic into its winter configuration on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) between I-290 and York Road is scheduled to continue this week on the I-88 Reconstruction Project in Oak Brook with the removal of the westbound counterflow lane.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to closures and traffic shifts. Temporary lane closures and traffic shifts are necessary to provide a work zone and safely accommodate traffic. All work is weather dependent.

Weather permitting, at 10 p.m. on Tuesday, December 11, one westbound lane on I-88 from westbound I-290 to York Road is scheduled close leaving only the counterflow lane traveling on the eastbound side of I-88 open. As a result, traffic exiting from westbound I-290 will be unable to access cash lanes at the York Road Toll Plaza, as well as the ramp to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street during this time. All lanes are scheduled to reopen by 5 a.m. on Wednesday, December 12, and all westbound traffic will be returned to the westbound side of the road.

Cash customers driving through the York Road Toll Plaza during this time will have seven days to pay their toll online at <a href="mailto:illinoistollway.com">illinoistollway.com</a>

Once the westbound shift is complete, work will begin to remove the eastbound traffic shift, including daytime work behind construction barriers and temporary overnight lane closures. All work to move traffic into the winter configuration is expected to be complete by December 15.

Over the winter, a portion of the westbound I-88 shoulder in the work zone will remain closed for median barrier wall work. In addition, the eastbound shoulder on the bridge carrying I-88 traffic over Roosevelt Road will remain closed for ongoing bridge work.

Traffic will remain in this configuration until the spring of 2019, when work will begin to reconstruct the eastbound side of I-88.

#### **Work Zone Safety**

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that 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. On I-88, a 45 mph work zone speed limit will be in place.

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.

#### I-88 Reconstruction Project

The I-88 Reconstruction Project will extend the life of the roadway, increase traffic capacity and provide safe and convenient travel for Tollway customers. In addition, to rebuilding and widening I-88, the two-year project also includes rebuilding and widening the York Road Bridge, repair and widening of the I-88 bridges over Roosevelt Road, improvements on the ramps connecting I-88 and I-294 and noisewall construction adjacent to residential areas.

The project is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Village of Oak Brook, the City of Elmhurst, Village of Hillside, York Township and DuPage County, as well as local fire and police departments. The project is funded by the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion *Move Illinois* Program.

#### 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 six years of *Move Illinois* are on schedule and within budget, delivering the new Illinois Route 390 Tollway and a rebuilt and widened Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) with its new SmartRoad corridor, as well as 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 new I-490 Tollway Project and reconstruction of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and planning for emerging projects.

### **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.