



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS MORE THAN \$147 MILLION IN CONTRACTS
FOR CONSTRUCTION AND PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN MARCH**

More than \$6.4 billion invested since start of Move Illinois Program

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved 12 new construction and professional engineering service contracts totaling more than \$147 million at its March meeting, including \$74 million in contract awards to advance the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project in 2019.

The \$4 billion Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) is being rebuilt and widened between Balmoral Avenue and 95th Street to provide congestion relief, update old infrastructure to meet current and future transportation demand and address regional needs. The Central Tri-State Project also includes reconfiguring the I-290/I-88 Interchange at I-294, rebuilding the Mile Long Bridge and the BNSF Railway Bridge, as well as integrating Flex Lanes and SmartRoad technology. More than 220,000 vehicles use the Central Tri-State Tollway daily.

The Tollway's March contract awards also mark the first Board action for the eighth year of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*. Overall, more than \$6.4 billion has been invested by the Tollway since the *Move Illinois* Program began in 2012, including nearly \$1.9 billion of that total committed to small, diverse and veteran-owned firms. In addition, the capital program has created or sustained an estimated 67,520 total jobs as of February 2019.

The contracts approved today include one prime consultant, two subconsultants, two prime contractors and 27 subcontractors that are certified as disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms and one subconsultant, as well as five subcontractors that are certified veteran-owned firms. Commitments for D/M/WBE participation range from 21 percent to 65 percent per contract and commitments for veteran participation range from 1 to 3 percent per contract.

March construction contracts awarded include:

- A \$55.4 million contract to Plote Construction Inc./Dunnet Bay Construction Co. joint venture for roadway and bridge rehabilitation on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project between Balmoral Avenue and the O'Hare Oasis.
- A \$37.9 million contract to Lorig Construction Co. for roadway and bridge reconstruction on the Edens Spur Tollway (I-94) between the Union Pacific Railroad and the Edens Expressway.
- An \$18.8 million contract to D. Construction Inc. for roadway median reconstruction and widening on I-57 as part of the Tri-State Tollway (I-294)/I-57 Interchange Project.
- A \$14.2 million contract to Walsh Construction Co. for connector ramp reconstruction between the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) and the Tri-State Tollway (I-294).
- A \$9.1 million contract to Aldridge Electric Inc. for temporary intelligent transportation systems (ITS) and fiber optic cable relocation on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) from 95th Street to North Avenue.

- A \$1.9 million contract Sumit Construction Company Inc. for bridge rehabilitation on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) between Roberts Road and the Canadian National Railroad.
- A \$1.1 million contract to Fox Excavating Inc. for building removal for the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project.
- A \$1.1 million contract to Schwartz Excavating Inc. for building removal for the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project.
- A \$1.1 million contract to Western Remac Inc. for property maintenance for the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project.
- An \$868,198 contract to Hecker and Company Inc. for intelligent transportation systems (ITS) procurement on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) from 95th Street to North Avenue.
- A \$723,227 contract to Foundation Mechanics for drainage and environmental repairs and improvements on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) between Rockford and Des Plaines.

March professional engineering services contract awards include:

- A \$5 million contract with Terra Engineering for design service upon request on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294).

Illinois Tollway professional engineering services contracts are selected in accordance with the qualifications-based selection process (Illinois Public Act 87-673 (30 ILCS 535/1-535/80) Architectural, Engineering and Land Surveying Qualifications-Based Selection Act), which requires state agencies to select professional architects, engineers and surveyors on the basis of demonstrated competence and professional qualifications, rather than low bid. Contract services staff from the Engineering Department checks statements of interest to ensure that specified pre-qualifications and documentation requirements are met. Tollway engineers and managers then review and score statements of interest based on the advertised selection criteria service. Tollway Diversity Department staff also reviews the statements of interest for compliance with advertised diversity criteria. Executives from the Engineering Department then review the scoring, as well as each firm's capacity, and identify the top recommended firms per project. To complete the selection, a committee of Tollway professionals and independent engineering officials considers the top recommended firms and finalizes the top three firms in ranked order. The Tollway then seeks to negotiate a final contract price with the top-ranked firm. The award of a professional engineering services contract is dependent on approval by the Tollway Board of Directors.

Construction contracts for Illinois Tollway projects are competitively bid under the rules of the Illinois Procurement Code. As part of the process, contractors' bid submissions for construction work advertised by the Tollway are opened and read aloud during public bid opening meetings, which are also broadcast live on the Tollway's website. Following an agency review process, the lowest, responsible and responsive bid is presented to the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors for review and approval.

The Illinois Tollway provides detailed information about current Tollway construction contracts through the Construction Contract Tracker on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com. Contractors and consultants can also access resources online to help them learn about how to do business with the Tollway, including construction bid-letting schedules, professional service bulletins, manuals and construction bid calendars. These resources can be found in the "Doing Business" section of the Tollway's website.

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 seven 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.

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